

*Philip
Ortelli*

Philip Ortelli

*1991 Bern, CH

is an artist working with film and sculpture, oscillating between concept and intuition. He is a lecturer at the F+F School for Art and Design in Zurich, and a member of the Art Commission of the Canton of Berne since 2023. His work practices are highly contextual, taking inspiration from the everyday occurrences of our digital era. His recent works reflect queerness and its complicated history of representation, and how the internet changes historiographical mechanisms for social minorities.

Philip Ortelli uses archives to construct a queer political history; one that is not only limited to material objects, but also includes personal stories of experience and understanding. By extracting, but also by placing material in public archives, Ortelli establishes a tension between the scope for interpretation of documents and the truth aspect of a speculation. He cares about how a silent past can be reanimated by new technology and through new social configurations.

He initiated the Crash Club, a subversive exhibition project that collaborates with commercial galleries, and he co-founded the Schwobhaus in Bern, an autonomous and non-hierarchical artist house hosting transdisciplinary cultural events that influenced the city's cultural politics. After he concluded his MFA at the Sandberg Institute in Amsterdam in 2018 he has been showing his work internationally in several institutions. He lives in Warsaw and Zurich.

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@philiportelli
@CrashClubProjects
philiportelli.com
crash-club.com
schwobhaus.ch

CV

- 2024 Director of Crash Club Projects, Warsaw (PL)
- 2023 Member of the Art Commission, Canton of Berne (ongoing)
- 2022 Lecturer and Mentor (ongoing) at F+F School for Art and Design, Zurich (CH)
- 2016 – 2018 MA Fine Arts, Sandberg Instituut at Rietveld Academie, Amsterdam
- 2016 UDK Berlin, Hito Steyerl's class: workshop with Oleksiy Radynski
- 2015 Sommerakademie im Zentrum Paul Klee: Springtime with Dora García
- 2011 – 2015 BA Fine Arts, Bern University of the Arts

AWARDS, GRANTS + NOMINATIONS*

- 2023 ProHelvetia, Werkbeitrag
- 2022 ProHelvetia, Werkbeitrag
- 2022 Kanton Zürich, project grant
- 2022 Fonds Respect, project grant
- 2022 Oertli Stiftung, project grant
- 2022 Gwaetler Stiftung, project grant
- 2022 Stadt Zürich, Arbeitsstipendium Covid-19
- 2021 Kanton Zürich, Werkbeitrag
- 2021 Swiss Moving Image Award*
- 2021 Kanton Zürich, Freiraumbeitrag
- 2021 Stadt Zürich, Arbeitsstipendium Covid-19
- 2021 Kultur Stadt Bern, project grant
- 2020 Kiefer-Hablitzel | Göhner Art Prize
- 2020 Kultur Stadt Bern, project grant
- 2020 Kultur Kanton Bern, project grant
- 2020 Heinrich Hössli Stiftung, project grant
- 2020 Fonds Respect, project grant
- 2019 Burgergemeinde Bern, project grant
- 2019 Kultur Stadt Bern, 3 project grants
- 2019 Kultur Kanton Bern, 2 project grants

COLLECTIONS + ARCHIVES

- 2021 Schwulenarchiv Schweiz im Schweizerischen Sozialarchiv, Liberty Love and Loneliness I+II
- 2021 Kunstsammlung der Stadt Zürich, Miss Lure

CURATION + TALKS + TEACHING

- 2024 Basel Social Club: co-producer of performing arts program with The Performance Agency, Paris
- 2024 Le Foyer in Process: Artist-Archivist-Artist Talk with Philipp Gufser and Yasmin Afschar
- 2024 Crash Club during Warsaw Gallery Weekend a collab with 35 galleries and 100 artists
- 2023 Crash Club during Warsaw Gallery Weekend a collab with 26 galleries and 63 artists
- 2022 Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Talk with Joel Otterson moderated by Ian Wooldridge: Queer Aesthetic?

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 upcoming: Gunia Nowik Gallery, Warsaw (PL), with Public Transport Project
- 2022 Flat Markus, Zürich (CH), CLOMP CLOMP: Putting A Foot On The Spot Where The Sun Sets. With a side program at Eva Presenhuber Gallery
- 2021 KRONE COURONNE, Biel (CH), in collaboration with Sandar Tun Tun Casting Shades at New Moon
- 2020 Palazzina, Basel (CH), in collaboration with Catherina De Nicola and with a text by Mitchell Anderson, Surgeons and Gluttons
- 2019 Neverneverland, Amsterdam (NL), Grumpy Grump Corny Corner
- 2019 Grandpalais, Bern, Sommer-Video: Liberty Trapped On a Moebius Strip videokunst.ch feat. DOOMSDAY DOUGHNUT
- 2019 at Showroom PROGR Bern, Houdini Kino Zürich in collab. w/Julian Zehnder
- 2017 Magic Almond, Allmend Bern (CH), Videospaziergang
- 2017 Budhia Foundation, Amsterdam (NL), Politicians are steady colours
- 2016 sic! Raum für Kunst, Luzern (CH), The edge is the best part of the hole*

GROUP EXHIBITIONS & PERFORMANCES*

- 2025 Steirischer Herbst, Graz (AT), with Public Transport Project (PTP)
- 2024 Les Urbaines, Lausanne (CH), Performance + exhibition with PTP
- 2024 Embassy of Switzerland in Beijing (CN), Swiss Art Pool
- 2024 Kunsthalle Schaffhausen (CH), Who Cares?, curated by Sarah Merten
- 2023 Flatmarkus, Zürich (CH), consolidation
- 2022 Helmhaus, Zürich (CH), Kunstkäufe der Stadt Zürich 2018-2022
- 2022 Kunsthau Interlaken (CH), Cantonale Bern Jura
- 2022 Kunsthau Pasquart, Biel (CH), Cantonale Bern Jura
- 2022 Bienvenue.art Fair, Paris (F), booth of flatmarkus
- 2022 Centre Culturel Suisse, Paris (F), TSCHÜÜSS FESTIVAL
- 2021 Kunsthalle Bern (CH), Cantonale Bern Jura
- 2021 Kunsthau Pasquart, Biel (CH), Cantonale Bern Jura
- 2021 Museum Haus Konstruktiv, Zurich (CH), Werkschau
- 2021 Stadtgalerie Bern (CH), Galleria di Berna
- 2021 Centre d'Art Contemporaine Genève, Almusibli Panorama
- 2021 Kunsthau Langenthal (CH), Kiefer-Hablitzel | Göhner Art Prize 2020
- 2020 L23 Residency, Zurich (CH), HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL
- 2019 Stadtgalerie Bern (CH), Cantonale Bern Jura
- 2019 WallRiss, Freiburg (CH), Either it is raining or it is not
- 2018 Kunsthau Pasquart, Biel (CH), Cantonale Bern Jura
- 2018 Looiersgracht 60, Amsterdam (NL), Graduation Show
- 2018 Espace d'Art Contemporain (les halles), Porrentruy (CH), Cantonale
- 2017 Stadtgalerie Bern (CH), Basis Kunst und Bau
- 2017 Kaskadenkondensator/Dr. Kuckucks Labrador, Basel (CH), Summe
- 2017 Neverneverland, Amsterdam (NL), Every word left unspoken is the title
- 2017 Stadtgalerie Bern (CH), Schwob-Haus c/o Stadtgalerie
- 2017 Radion, Amsterdam (NL), Sorry we're late
- 2016 Kunsthau Pasquart, Biel (CH), Cantonale Bern Jura
- 2016 Neverneverland, Amsterdam (NL), If it like, like, like then it probably is

RESIDENCIES

- 2024 Swatch Art Peace Hotel, Shanghai (CN)
- 2023 Center for Contemporary Art, Warsaw (PL), by Pro Helvetia + City of Warsaw
- 2019 De Nachtegaal, Amsterdam (NL)
- 2017 Royal Institute of Art at Abisko Scientific Research Station, Abisko (SE)



Source In a Suitcase

2024, aluminium suitcase, glass plinth, pump, hose
Embassy of Switzerland in China, Beijing: «So Far So Close», 2024
Curated by Shen Chen



Public Transport Project

Public Transport Project

A project collective initiated in 2024 by Gloria Viktoria Regotz, Deividas Vytautas Aukščiūnas, Philip Ortelli

Public Transport Project is a performative investigation focusing on collaborative corporeal research into the dramaturgy of everyday life. Anonymous, fabricated bodies seeking intimacy, but fail to find it, fragmented individualities, encounters that never materialize in this modern existence of mundane realities: PTP intends to transform the public sphere and space into moments of vulnerability and warmth, through honest, raw portraits exposing the tension between collective desire and personal disconnection in a world shaped by the implacable presence of capitalism.



Renens 2024 (PTP)

2024, Performance by Public Transport Project (60 min) featuring: Luca Büchler, Odile Fagnière, Lucie Froehlich, Gaia Del Santo, Golce, Martina Liendo and Deividas Vytautas Aukščiūnas, Philip Orтели, Gloria Viktoria Regotz. Les Urbaines, Renens, CH

<https://ggl.link/PTPpreRenens2024> (filmed by VAL)



Lausanne 2024

2024, Performance by Public Transport Project (40 min) featuring: Luca Büchler, Odile Fragnière, Lucie Froehlich, Gaia Del Santo, Golce, Martina Liendo and Deividas Vytautas Aukščiūnas, Philip Ortelli, Gloria Viktoria Regotz. Les Urbaines, Renens, CH

<https://ggl.link/PTPLausanne2024> (filmed by Ryan Trecartin)



Terminus 1

2024, 5-channel video (10 min) loop, silent, by Public Transport Project
Les Urbaines, Renens, CH



Terminus 1

2024, installation by Public Transport Project consisting of suitcase, public elements by BURRI: Spektrum classic without backrest, METRO 60 top light, 2x BULLI waste receptacle 60L on base with speaker, dissonantly playing on loop «St. Matthew Passion, 2x BWV 244 / Part Two: "Erbarme dich"» by Johann Sebastian Bach/Anne Sofie von Otter/Chicago Symphony Orchestra/Sir Georg Solti, overall dimensions variable. Les Urbaines, Renens, CH



Advertisement 2

2024, Print on adhesive foil, 480 x 215 cm5, by Public Transport Project
Les Urbaines, Renens, CH



Warsaw 2024

2024, performance (51 min.) by Public Transport Project, hosted by Crash Club during the gallery weekend in Warsaw. The piece has been developed during a one week residency at the Ujazdowski Castle Center for Contemporary Arts in Warsaw, and features Hannah Endrulat, Katarzyna Salinger, Mattia Spich, Kuba Stępień, Malka Sultan, Emma Szumias. Sound in collaboration with Hannah Endrulat.

<https://ggl.link/PTPWarsaw2024>



Public Transport Project Radio

2024, a free taxi service connected all art exhibitions across Warsaw during the Gallery Weekend. Another taxi was parked in the exhibition, both allowed visitors to sit and listen to sonic works by Julian Zehnder, Žygimantas Bernotas, Simon Balzał, 5iuk5le5, MILYMA, Elliot Fry, Rieko Whitfield, Noyus, Vera Karlsson, Lana Bub, Kuba Stępień, Malka Sultan, Hannah Endrulat, Mattia Spich, Sodomland, GOLCEKUMMER

Play list: <https://dub.sh/PTPradio2024List>

video documentation: <https://ggl.link/PTPradio2024>

A large, intense fire or explosion at night, with a fire truck visible in the background. The fire is bright orange and yellow, with a thick plume of smoke rising. The fire truck is red and has the number '304-22' on its side. The scene is dark, with some distant lights visible in the background.

**This video shows a rainbow
art installation**

Liberty, Love and Loneliness II

2024, 3-channel video installation, colour, sound, 39 min.

Music composition by Golce, animation by Alfatih, AI material by Alex Tarek,
with Dasha, Golce, Dorota Gawęda + Eglė Kulbokaitė

The experimental film's continuation revolves around the lives of queer individuals who create content reflecting their intricate realities. These portraits intersect with an extensive array of online materials, documenting themes related to fear and welschmerz. This amalgamation of queer existence and digital despair captures the essence of its time.

Full movie: <https://vimeo.com/philiportelli/III2>
Teaser: <https://vimeo.com/philiportelli/III2teaser>



Liberty, Love and Loneliness I+II; Norm Chairs
2021+2024, 6-channel installation. «Norm Chairs» in collaboration with students at F+F School for Art
Kunsthalle Vebikus Schafhausen, «Who Cares?! Aktuelle Perspektiven auf Sorgearbeit» 2024
Curated by Sarah Merten



CLOMP CLOMP: Putting A Foot On The Spot Where The Sun Sets

2022, Solo exhibition at flatmarkus, Zurich. with a text by Mark W. Turner and a talk at
Galerie Eva Presenhuber: «Queer Aesthetics?» with Joel Otterson and Philip Ortelli, moderated by Ian Wooldridge

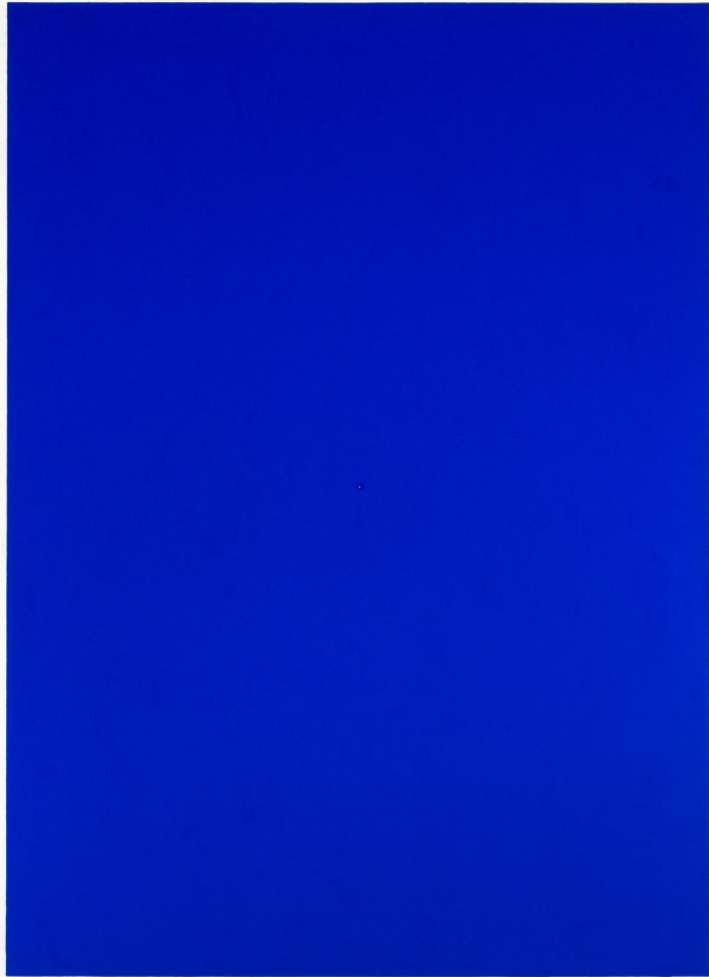


Miss Glare
2022, Plaster, bees wax, linen, pigment, ø 60 cm



Toss Bag (blue faux fur)

2022, scraps from studio floor, credit card format fine art prints on Hahnemühle paper, silver, bronze, beeswax, faux fur, straps, wood, 20x30x25 cm



A Day Is Not Only Sunlight And Shade V
2022, Plaster, aluminium, natural lapis lazuli mineral paint, one single glitter particle, 4x52x72 cm

Toss Bag (smaragd)
2022, Excess plaster from its neighboring blue series, scraps from studio floor, credit card format
fine art prints on Hahnemühle paper, pigmented beeswax, cocos rope, plastic, wood, 20x25x25 cm





Toss Bag (dog)

2022, Excess plaster from the blue series «A Day Is Not Only Sunlight And Shade», scraps from studio floor,
credit card format fine art prints on Hahnemühle paper, beeswax, steel, silver, wood, dog print on silk, 25x43x35 cm



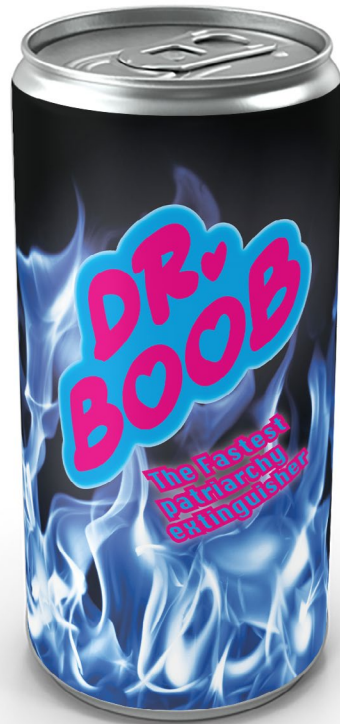
Party 1
2022 - ongoing, Performative installation with artist designed beer and prosecco cans.
The beverages can be consumed during the opening or the visit of the exhibition free of charge.
Empty cans remain piled up in the space until the end of the exhibition.

sissi juice
«Makes you 100% gay»
flatmarkus, 2022
Party 1, Beer

SUCKER SODA
«Makes you 100% gay»
flatmarkus, 2022
Party 1, Prosecco



GAY-ON
«Fast Acting Conversion Formula»
Centre d'Art Pasquart, 2022
Party 2, Beer



DR. BOOB
«The Fastest Patriarchy Extinguisher»
Centre d'Art Pasquart, 2022
Party 2, Prosecco



FAG UP
«The Gay Maker»
Kunsthau Interlaken, 2022
Party 3, Beer



BYE BINARY
«Gender Balancing Formula»
Kunsthau Interlaken, 2022
Party 3, Prosecco



Sun In A Suitcase

2022, Aluminum suitcase, acrylic glass, high performance LEDs with adjustable light temperature and brightness, 71x78x30 cm



Liberty, Love and Loneliness I

2021, synchronised 3 channel HD video, stereo sound composed by GOLCE, Animation by Alfatih, 25 min.
Installed with a selection of the series «Norm Chairs». – The experimental film orchestrates interviews, archive material and online footage into a queer symphony that negotiates the representational history and realities of LGBTIQ individuals today.

Exhibition view: «Werkchau 2021», Museum Haus Konstruktiv, 2021.
Also shown at: Kunsthau Langenthal, Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève,
Kunsthalle Bern, Centre Culturel Suisse, Paris

Full movie: <https://bit.ly/OrtelliLLL>



Norm Chairs

2021- ongoing, «Norm Chairs» is a tribute to all LGBTQ+ individuals. It is a group of chairs alternatively assembled from mass produces furniture parts. These chairs demonstrate our rigid understanding of norms and illustrate that deviations carry no disadvantage, as they carry and support the audience.

Hug Norm Chair + Self Esteem Norm Chair



Juicy Butt Norm Chair
2021

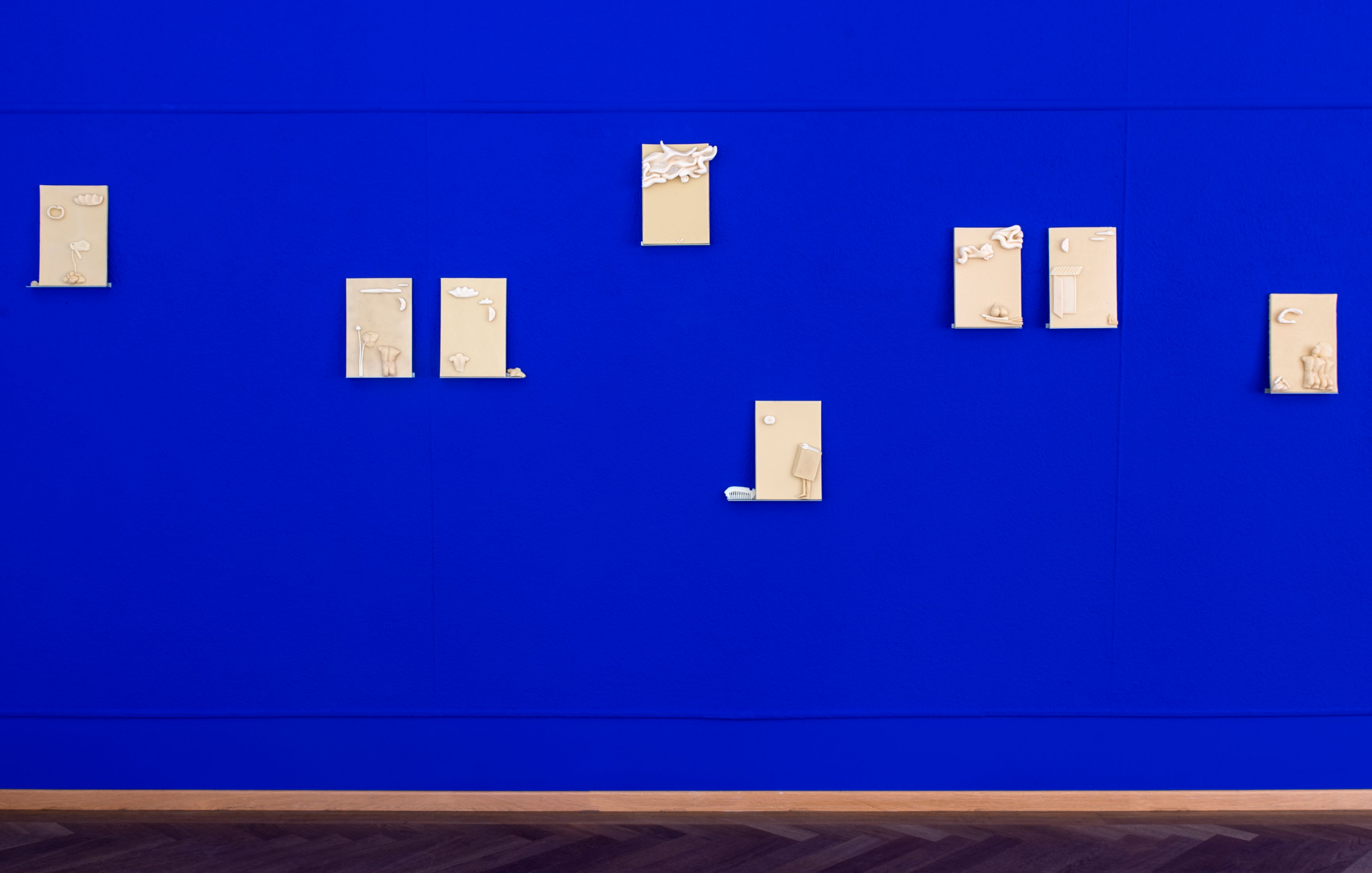
No Trust Norm Chair
2021



Casting Shades At New Moon

Exhibition view, Krone Couronne, Biel 2021.

The magenta window is a collaboration with Sandar Tun Tun, 2021. Colored plastic film, room lighting, sunlight
Curated by Camille Regli and Kristina Grigorjeva



Sending Nudes At New Moon

2021, Beeswax, carnauba wax, tree resin, lapis lazuli pigment each 3x20x30 cm
Exhibition view: «Casting Shades At New Moon» 2021



Miss Lure

2021, Beeswax, plaster, linen, pigment, ready made bag. 60x60x60 cm
Exhibition view: «Casting Shades At New Moon», Krone Couronne, 2021.
Acquired by the City of Zurich in 2021 for the public art collection.



Surgeons and Gluttons

Collaborative exhibition with Caterina de Nicola, with a text by Mitchell Anderson
Exhibition view: Palazzina, Basel, 2020



Grumpy Grump Corny Corner

Exhibition view: Neverneverland Foundation Amsterdam, 2019

Right: «Untitled (environment)», 2019, ecological ink on silk, aluminium extrusion, protections, strap, approx. 3.7m x 3m
Middle: «Liberty Trapped On a Moebius Strip», 2019, animated HD-Video on monitor, silent, 1'30", quote by Maggie Nelson
Left: «Not being straight (Aufstiegsmöglichkeiten)», 2019, aluminium ladder, hinges



Not being straight (Aufstiegsmöglichkeiten)

2019, aluminium ladder, hinges

Exhibition view: «Grumpy Grump Corny Corner», Neverneverland Foundation Amsterdam, 2019



Liberty Trapped On a Moebius Strip
2019, animated HD-Video, vertical, silent, 1'30", quote by Maggie Nelson

<https://vimeo.com/347889017/dd1bd119c3>



Doomsday Doughnut

2018, vertical 4K video, silent, 5'35"

Exhibition view: «Cantonale», Centre d'Art Pasquart, 2018. Photo by Lia Wagner

Also shown at: WallRiss Fribourg, Looiersgracht60 Amsterdam, videokunst.ch Bern/Zurich