

CURA. / Basement

DAVID DOUARD
SO

Opening March 18, 2015
until April 20, 2015

For **his first solo exhibition in Italy**, the French artist David Douard will present a **site-specific work centered around a suspended sculpture**. An anthropomorphic figure, of which we only get to glance two legs midair, caught in the moment of descending from above or jumping – but actually hanging – which the artist connects to the phenomenon of **suicide**, especially in adolescence.

The ambiguous image creates a state of uncertainty regarding the scene we are looking at, a **hybrid device called to respond to the issue of language**, the interruption of thought, but also to the possibility that word and knowledge are continually revitalized through an uninterrupted flow between the sphere of life and that of death.

Douard often works on gaps: visible and invisible, presence and absence, here and elsewhere. Whether referring to a microscopic universe, which he hints at like in many previous works related to food or water intake, and the pitfalls that they hide or, as in this case, to a space-time limbo in which different hemispheres incidentally touch, intersect, reveal themselves.

SO, the two letters which like the keys on a typewriter are printed on the soles of the hanging figure, convey such a sense of continuity. *SO* is the conjunction used in common language at the beginning of a sentence, as an expression which **suggests the subsequent processing of a thought**. But also emphasizes a break, a transition, a point between a before and an after.

The artist relates in this way the physical presence of the sculptures in **words, concepts, verses and poems** that anonymous authors have put on the web, summarizing in an imaginary **animist character** the origin of thought and of all things, in the suspended sphere that inanimate objects trigger with respect to their ability to act when giving back an image.

Through the use of multiple media including video, sculpture, sound, text, collage, Douard confirms **his penchant for creating gender hybrids**, and shortens the distance between organicity and technology, between archetypal sedimentations – windingly remodeled, reformulated and projected in an imaginary future – and the intimate sense of the present, perpetually poised.

The exhibition is the first part of a larger project that includes the publication of the **first artist's book by David Douard**, edited and produced by **cura.books**, that will be launched in April.

DAVID DOUARD è nato nel 1983 in Francia. Vive e lavora a Parigi. Tra le mostre personali recenti: Johan Berggren Gallery, Malmö, Svezia (2014); Mo'Swallow, Palais de Tokyo, Parigi (2014);)juicy o'f the nest, SculptureCenter, New York (2014). Tra le mostre collettive: Ernesto, CEAAC, Strasburgo, Francia (2014); L'Europe des Artistes, Astrup Fearnley Museet, Oslo (2014); The Great Acceleration, Taipei Biennial 2014, a cura di Nicolas Bourriaud, Tapei, Taiwan (2014); Geographies of Contamination, a cura di Vincent Honoré, Laura McLean-Ferris, Alexander Scrimgeour, DRAF, Londra (2014); Meanwhile... Suddenly And Then, a cura di Gunnar Kvaran, 12th Biennale de Lyon, Francia (2013). L'artista lavora con le gallerie Johan Berggren Gallery di Malmö e Galerie Chantal Crousel, Parigi.

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