

Maxime CAVAJANI

Born 28th of October 1988, in Fort-de-France, Martinique, France

ART PRACTICE, EXHIBITIONS, AWARDS, PUBLICATIONS, PEDAGOGY

Exhibitions/ Screenings:

2023 - Exhibition: AFTERMATH _ group show at WORTHLESS Studios, Brooklyn, NY.

- *grounds (chapter1)* _ 2022-2023, two-channel video, (color, sound, 32min & 37min), dimensions variable, each channel on loop asynchronously. Resin sculpture, self-standing, dim. 26 x 14,6 x 2,5".

2023 - Exhibition AWAY FROM CENTER _ UPenn MFA thesis group show at Atelier gallery, Philadelphia, PA.

Curated by Tiona Nekkia McClodden

- *grounds (chapter1)* _ 2022-2023, two-channel video, (color, sound, 32min & 37min), dimensions variable, each channel on loop asynchronously. Resin sculpture, self-standing, dim. 26 x 14,6 x 2,5".

2023 - Exhibition: 4 artists show at Past Present Future gallery, Philadelphia. (April 2023)

Curated by Hilde Nelson & Jocelyn Garcia as part of **The Incubation Series.**

- *red red* _ 2023 - two-channel video, (color, sound), dimensions variable, on loop.

- *broken mirror, steel, brass, flux, hardware* _ 2023, dimensions : 14 ¼" x 46" x 9 ½".

- *συν* _ 2023, 2023, archival inkjet color print, mounted on steel plate, fold, lexi, Maxime. dimensions : 12" x 18".

2022 - Hotwork: group show at UPenn, Philadelphia, PA, USA.

presented works:

- *all the gaze* - 5 minutes video animation, self-standing monitor leaning against wall.

- *safe safe* - ready-made sculpture, red bulbs for photo dark room light, scattered and installed in existing ceiling fixtures in the gallery space.

2018 - Dans le Blanc des Œufs: 6min video/ritual - directed by Maxime Cavajani, editing Simon de Dreuille & Maxime Cavajani, voice-over : poem by Maxime Cavajani, voice by Gaël Kamilindi from *La Comédie Française*. Screened at l'EHÉSS, Paris.

Fellowships:

2023 - 2024

Movement Lab Fellowship at RISD : 10 months long art research residency + 1 course teaching both hosted by the **FAV dept.** at RISD.

Prizes:

2020 - 2nd Place in the Tom of Finland's International Emerging Artist Competition in the "Multiple" category with the work: *perfection - a study of*, hand drawing, graphite on paper, 8" x 11,5".

Awards/Grants:

2023 - Sachs Foundation Grant supporting the production and publication of *grounds (chapter 1) – a publication*, inviting contributors from various disciplines to reflect on the themes of queer death, memory and landscape addressed in the eponymous artwork/installation.

2022 - Susan Cromwell Coslett Fellowship supporting the development of *grounds (chapter 1)* a two-channel video installation and sculpture and prints shot in Rome and Ostia Italy.

2022 - Center for Experimental Ethnography supporting the development of *grounds (chapter 1)* a two-channel video installation and sculpture and prints shot in Rome and Ostia Italy.

2021 - Center for Public Art and Space Chair's award.

Publications:

2023 - *grounds (chapter 1), publication.*

In this book **Tess Brown-Lavoie (poet-writer), and Galaad Van Daele (architect-researcher)** respond to the invitation to think through the 2-channel video installation: *grounds (chapter1)* and its themes of memory, memorials, remembrance and how the landscape itself functions as a palimpsestic record of traces, erasures, and absence. *grounds (chapter1)* revolves around and departs from the site of the murder of Pier Paolo Pasolini, its monument, the landscapes of Ostia and Rome.

Editorial role, design, and introduction essay by Maxime Cavjani,

2020 - Frog International Art Magazine (Num.19) : *Le Corps de Rome* - Article & Collages, www.frogmagazine.net.

Invited by Eric Troncy, editor in chief of *Frog* and chief curator of *Le Consortium*, Dijon for a carte blanche publication. The article and collages are using Rome as a case study in which representations of the city are challenged by new technologies such as geo-localized dating applications. Through these emerges a city of sexual avatars populating queer dematerialized public spaces, a non-visible city in which bodies and sex start exist simultaneously in physical and non-physical ways.

2010 - Illustration for *Kaiserin* Magazine - Paris, FRANCE - work illustrating a text entitled *Vivre Oblique* about Claude Parent's oblique theory in architecture.

Reviews, features:

2021 - *The Dance Art Journal*: featuring: *Bernie & Anne Teresa De Keersmaecker*, digital collage posted by the Rosas Dance Company and reused in this article : <https://danceartjournal.com>

2020 - *TÊTU Magazine*: featuring: *perfection - a study of*, 8" x 11,5" graphite hand drawing on paper which received the Tom of Finland's International Emerging Artist Competition.

2014 to 2020

Multiple publications covering shows for which I did the art-direction and exhibition design, in various fashion specialized press such as A Magazine, Wallpaper, T Magazine, Dazed etc.

Teaching / Pedagogy:

Winter 2024

RISD: Teaching experimental video installation during Winter Session

A course I developed and entitled:

Video Through

Fall 2022

UPenn: Teaching Intro to Digital Photography

A course I developed and entitled:

Digital Photography: Camera's Bodies - Bodies' Cameras

It is structured in 3 chapters, following 3 relationships to the body, that guide a project-based method of learning.

-Chapter 1: The body behind the camera

-Chapter 2: The body in front of the camera

-Chapter 3: Expansive bodies (of works): the image is/as a material

2021 - 2022 - 2023

UPenn: Teaching Assistantships

Spring 2023 - TA - Emmanuela Soria Ruiz's class: Video 1 - **Spring 2022** - TA - David Hart's class: Advanced Lens Based Projects - TA - Gabriel Martinez's class: Intro to Digital Photography. **Fall 2021** - TA - Ken Lum's class: Examining Spatial Production through Public Art and Markers. - TA - Demetrius Oliver's class: Intro to Digital Photography.

Dec. 2018 & Dec. 2015 & Nov. 2020

Invited Jury at ENSAV (*École Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Versailles*) - Projects of students in Masters.

Invited Jury at ESA (*École Spéciale d'Architecture - Paris*) - Projects of students in their 1st & 4th year of studies.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Art Direction - Scenography - Architecture

2014 - 2021

Freelance architect, set designer, and art-director.

More than 60 projects including several art installations, exhibitions, shows, and fashion shows detailed below.

2019 - 2020

Three collaborations with artists and choreographers Gerard&Kelly for the development of performances layouts, permanent and temporary exhibitions.

- State Of 15th of February 2020 at The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA, LA.

- Relay (first developed at Pioneer's Work NYC) windows installation in a permanent installation for a private client in Los Angeles, USA.

- Clockwork exhibition design and layout for La Bâtie, festival de Genève 2020, Switzerland.

Since Dec. 2016: Art Direction and set design for BOTH - *backofthehouse.be* - Event and Production company

Installations / shows for Thom Browne New York, Kenzo, Jil Sander, OAMC, Jean Patou.

Sep. 2017 - July 2018: Art Direction and set design for *Brachfeld* - Event and Production company

Installations / shows for Aalto, Dior, Ambush, Byredo including the design and production of the space and install of *Elevator Music* a video installation by Carsten Höller for Byredo.

June 2017 & June 2018 - *LA CAMBRE* - *Brussels School of Fashion*

Rehearsals, movement direction & live production of the 2017 & 2018 annual students show. With Thomas Warren.

Oct./Nov. 2016 & Oct./Nov. 2017 - *HEAD* - *Geneva - School of design of Geneva*

Set design, rehearsals & live production of the 2016 & 2017 annual students fashion and jewelry design show. With Thomas Warren.

May 2014 to May 2017 *freelancing for - Villa Eugenie* - *www.villaeugenie.*

Installations / shows for Kenzo - Thom Browne - Dior Homme - Moncler - Moncler Gamme Bleue - Nars x Steven Klein - Nars x Sarah Moon, etc.

Architecture/Urbanism & Scenography

Feb. 2013 to May 2014 – *Architect - Project leader, for Projectiles* - Paris, France - www.atelier-projectiles.net

-**National Cowgirls Museum** - *Fort-Worth - Texas - USA*

Schematic Design + Development Design - Design and follow up of the Exhibition Spaces and interior design.

-**French Pavilion at the Biennale di Venezia** - *Curated by Jean-Louis Cohen* :

Part of the team for the research phases for the set-design of the French pavilion of the 2014 Architecture Biennale.

Feb. 2012 - Dec. 2012 - *Architect at L'AUC Paris*, Paris, France - www.laucparis.com

-**Bordeaux 50000 Housing along transportation axes** - competition and study for the CUB (Communauté d'Agglomération de Bordeaux).

-**Exhibition Bordeaux 50000** - Scenography of the AUC work for the competition Bordeaux 50000 - exhibited at Arc en Rêve (Bordeaux Center of Architecture) Bordeaux, France between July and November 2012.

-**Cluster of Creation in Pleyel** - Urban and programmatic study - study for a new hub : bridge + metro station of the upcoming Grand Paris Metro Line as the epicenter of the new neighborhood.

Sept. 2010 - Feb. 2011 - *intern/architect at OMA: Office for Metropolitan Architecture* - Rotterdam, NL - www.oma.eu

-**TGI Tribunal of Paris** - 100000 sq.m. highrise - competition phase.

-**Viktor & Rolf corner in Harvey Nichols dept. store + space identity research** - 30 sq.m. space - London, UK
- all phases of the schematic plan

EDUCATION

2021 - 2023

UPenn MFA - Philadelphia, PA, USA - Studio-based interdisciplinary program – completed in May 2023
***with a Teaching Certificate** from UPENN's CTL (Center for Teaching and Learning).

2017 - 2019

EHESS – École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales - **Master 2** in the *Arts & Languages* program - passed with honors.

- *de Corps à Corps*: Theory in practice dissertation and works. Transubstantiations, and the use of the body and rituals as a material, subject and object in the work of the French artist Michel Journiac (1935 -1995) - supervisor: Patricia Falguières.

Additional notable works within L'EHESS :

- *Dans le Blanc des Œufs*, 6min video/ritual realized in the frame of Lara Hirzel's class : *The Film Construction : Theoretical and Practical Approach*.

- *Stressing Anthropology : an ambition, a tool and a discourse in Michel Journiac's work*. Analysis and presentation in Michael Houseman's anthropology seminar : *Ritual Practices: Contemporary and Classical Configurations*.

Sept. 2013 - Sept. 2014

HMONP degree – Superior National School of Architecture - Paris-Malaquais - Post-Masters 1 year certification program allowing architects to register to the French Chamber of Architects. Certification passed, without grades (based on a pass or fail system).

2006 - 2012

Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Versailles – **Masters in Architecture** - passed with honors.

Thesis Project: *Detroit: Building on Paradox*. Supervisors: Djamel Klouche & Ido Avissar - Passed with honors.

Study and proposal for the fabrication of an archipelago of public spaces taking advantage of the complex deconstructed morphology of the urban fabric of Detroit, Mi, USA.

Including: Exchange program at *University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) - Master 1 (4th y.) - Chicago, USA*