

PRESS RELEASE - JANUARY 2011

## **EDITH DEKYNDT**

### ***Dieu rend visite à Newton***

**13.02 - 08.05.2011**

**PRESS CONFERENCE Friday, February 11, 2011 at 3 PM**

**OPENING Saturday, February 12, 2011 at 6 PM**



© Edith Dekyndt

**From February 13, 2011, Fri Art presents Edith Dekyndt's *Dieu rend visite à Newton* - the internationally acclaimed Belgian artist's a first major Swiss exhibition.**

**Within the framework of this project, which explores shifts in perception between the visible world, beliefs and knowledge, Dekyndt presents art especially produced for the occasion, as well as other recent work.**

Edith Dekyndt focuses on elements that are difficult to perceive without targeted attention, as well as on the scale ratio between the infinitesimal and the infinite. Her approach of hypotheses leads her quite naturally towards science, a discipline where she privileges the research process to the detriment of the result. Despite her sometimes high-tech scientific approach, her work displays an intimate feel, both discreet and delicate, more of a development of a question than a real answer, and based on hypothesis rather than assertion.

For her new project, especially conceived for this exhibition at Fri Art, *ATPAPBLLEE*, Edith Dekyndt has worked with a nanotechnology scientist from the Adolphe Merkle Institute to produce new pieces that question the ethical limits of science regarding the manipulation of living creatures. The project, which is illustrated by several pieces, explores the variations between the microscopic and the nanoscopic, as well as the shifts that take place in the particle properties of the infinitesimal. Thus, objects that are perfectly distinct on human scale can encounter at the particulate level, mingle and generate a new object. Through this project, the artist seeks to amalgamate the respective matters of a table and an apple – which shares the same scale ratio with a nano-particle as the Earth and an apple.

The other pieces featured at the exhibition question the notion of perception via simple means that range from observation and fundamental science to parallel sciences, challenging the limits between belief and knowledge.

*Radiesthetic Hall*, a piece presented at the Grand Hornu (Belgium) in 2010, is a large installation that renders magnetic currents in the art centre visible via a coded colour system. It will be carried out in collaboration with a local diviner.

With *Discreet Piece*, an installation based on a simple system of light and projection, Edith Dekyndt gives life to dust particles that dance in the rays of light.

*Ground control* is a large black ball that defies the laws of gravity by floating through the exhibition space, set in motion by variations in pressure and temperature. Filled with a subtle mixture of air and helium, this object - both autonomous yet sensitive to the visitors' presence - is endowed with a singular eeriness.

*Myodesopsies* is an installation on a glass screen that reveals the opaque filaments that are naturally present within the glassy body of the eye, and which we are rarely aware of.

**Edith Dekyndt was born in 1960 in Belgium, where she lives and works. Her work was presented in several prestigious international institutions, notably with the personal exhibition *Les ondes de Love* at the Mac's du Grand Hornu in Belgium (2010) or the collective exhibitions *On Line. Drawing Transforming through the 20th Century* at the MOMA in New York (2010); *A l'ombre d'un doute* at the FRAC Lorraine in Metz, France (2010); *Silence, a composition* at the Hiroshima Contemporary Art Museum (2009). Her work appears in several public collections, amongst which the MOMA, the Rotterdam Witte de With, several FRAC in France and the collections of the Hainaut Province.**

#### **Partnership with the AMI (Adolphe Merkle Institute)**

Inspired by her interest in nano-technology, the artist's project has sprung from a collaboration with the Adolphe Merkle Institute, a hub for scientific research in Fribourg.

This partnership is a premiere for Fri Art, and reflects our profound interest in the perception of reality within the field of the visual arts and beyond. The exhibition also emphasises Fri Art's commitment regarding various poles of excellence within the Fribourg region, and its desire to develop collaborative projects.

#### **CONTACT PRESSE**

Marc Zandrini - marc.zandrini@fri-art.ch  
Renseignements complémentaires et visuels  
sur demande

#### **VISIT FOR TEACHERS**

Tuesday, February 22, 2011 at 5.30 PM

#### **GUIDED VISITS**

Thursday, February 17, 2011 at 6 PM

Thursday, March 17, 2011 at 6 PM

Wednesday, April 20, 2011 at 6 PM

School groups on appointment

#### **CAFE SCIENTIFIQUE**

Thursday, Marc 31st 2011 at 6 PM

#### **HOURS**

From Wednesday to Friday 12-6 PM

Saturday and Sunday, 2-5 PM

Late and free admission Thursdays 6-8 PM

Guided visits on appointment

#### **ADMISSION**

Regular: 6 CHF

Reduced admission: 3 CHF, under 18, students,  
seniors and unemployed persons

Free: Friends of the Art Center, under 12,  
Swiss Museum Pass, Carte Culture, artists

#### **With the kind support of:**

Loterie Romande, Agglomération de Fribourg,  
Canton de Fribourg, Adolphe Merkle Institute,  
Manor SA.