

malte martin

october > december 2009

make me a sign!



Underground poster for the Athénée Theatre 2007 season



Underground poster for the Malakoff Theatre 2007 season



Installation for "blanche neige" (snow white) at the Galeru, Fontenay-sous-Bois, 2002



"le feuillet du boulevard de Magenta" (the soap opera of Magenta boulevard), Paris 2007



"neige poétique" (poetic snow) during "onze délires!" (eleven ravings!), Paris 2003

Malte Martin, graphic and visual artist, shakes up our visual, sensory and sound environment

Malte Martin has chosen not to surrender to the mindboggling cacophony of commercial and advertising signs and feels the urgent need of seeking out open spaces. He worships the dazzling whiteness of paper, like the whitewashed and sensitive skin of walls that waits to be conquered by the imagination.

Graphic artist, typographer and fully committed, Malte Martin prefers by far the words, roughness and colour of straightforward formulas, which are more easily found in the streets than in offices.

These signs that you have seen in the hallways of the underground or strolling down the street.

He makes the Athénée theatre speak, signs hum for the Malakoff-71 theatre or on Magenta boulevard and transforms the buildings of Saint Blaise (district of Paris) into a giant reading screen.

Born in 1958 in Berlin, Malte Martin studied fine arts in Stuttgart and Paris. He has taught visual arts and the history of art in Stuttgart, the concepts of images in Paris and written the educational programme in graphic design for the first visual art school in Marrakech.

In 1986, he moves to Paris, joins the Grapus studio in 1988 and then founds his own graphic studio in 1989 and Agrafmobile in 1999.

From the graphic studio to Agrafmobile

For Malte Martin, Agrafmobile is an artistic experiment and fundamental research space. It is a complement to the graphic studio where he works with a team of two graphic artists, Adeline Goyet and Vassilis Kalokyris, as well as a production manager, Cédric Andrzejczak.

Agrafmobile creates multi-form artistic events where visual arts, sound creation and living shows blend.

The city is at the heart of this approach.

"What I want is to recreate a public area through this visual theatre, a public area that lets things other than administrative signs and commercial messages be seen and be read. An attempt to retake the public area as if it were a space where imagination rules and that belongs to the ones that live there."

Sponsors: Georges Pompidou Center, the Avignon festival, the Athénée theatre, Cartier, the Théâtre de la Commune, the Malakoff-71 theatre, the Fashion Museum of Paris, Éditions Nathan, the CENTQUATRE Bookshop,...

Installations: Paris Nuit Blanche 2008/"ici je suis ailleurs"/ (here, I am somewhere else), Paris 2007 "mots publics à Saint Blaise" (public words in Saint Blaise), Paris 2006 "le feuillet du boulevard de Magenta" (the soap opera of Magenta boulevard), Paris 2005 "une nuit" (one night), Chaumont 2004 "sonocité" (sonocity), Paris 2003 "onze délires!" (eleven ravings!), Chaumont 2002 "le theatre des questions" (the theatre of questions),...

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► An ephemeral night ► an exhibition ► a book

“Lèche vitrine” (window-shopping)

3 October 2009 | **Nuit Blanche** * | Sedaine street 75011 Paris.

During the *Nuit Blanche* project, **Malte Martin takes over rue Sedaine and lets wandering insomniacs do some window-shopping.**

“At night, when I stroll through the streets of a city, the signs tell me their stories. In *rue Sedaine*, those of apparel stores show me a sign. The lit windows attract me. Each one sets the stage for a text, a texture : of bodies and its regalia, of the pleasure of textures and the tissues of lies, of beautiful linen and dirty sheets...”

rue Sedaine is strewn with a multitude of ready-to-wear boutiques. These professional showcases, which Malte Martin transforms into literature and are often ignored by the public, become, for one moonlit night, a travelling theatre for the ghost stories of their signs.

Each window is a stage where words rule, where the glass becomes the medium and is crossed by letters that are cut, glued, painted or given volume...

An invitation to embark on a strange literary and typographical trip.

* **Nuit Blanche** (Sleepless Night) is a celebration of contemporary art from 7 pm until dawn. It is the perfect opportunity to discover artistic talents from France and abroad, free of charge.

Malte Martin “**Double Vie**” (Double Life) exhibition

From 2 October to 23 December 2009 | **Galerie Anatome** - 38 rue Sedaine 75011 Paris - Tuesday > Friday / 2:00 pm > 7:00 pm

For the first time in France, **a retrospective of Malte Martin’s work** is on view in the **Galerie Anatome**. It is difficult to walk unseeingly by its posters on display in the Metro, where a play on black typographies contrasts with the immaculate white of the paper, punctuated by pink fluorescent dots... Welcome to the Athénée Theatre. You may have crossed paths with the words projected on his travelling visual theatre *Agrafmobile* on Magenta boulevard or elsewhere in the urban space?

The exhibition, called “double life”, proposes to go over his entire oeuvre, from commissions for visual artworks to experimental spaces.

The *Galerie Anatome* has taken this opportunity to invite Malte Martin to take over *rue Sedaine* for a Sleepless Night.

malte martin **book-dvd** | agrafmobile

Éditions de l’Œil | release planned for 1st October 2009

A 272-page book reveals Malte Martin/Agrafmobile’s works over the last ten years.

Three chapters present the approaches and themes that are dear to Malte Martin’s heart:

“Espaces Publics” (Public Spaces) includes his approach to conceptual art,

“Espaces Fragiles” (Fragile Spaces) opens a field of visual and performance art, experiments

“Espaces Sonores” (Sound Spaces) is the fruit of the meeting between visual and sound creations.

These three fields weave ties by going back and forth among themselves.



Preview of the “lèche vitrine rue Sedaine” (window-shopping on Sedaine street) installation for the *Nuit Blanche* (Sleepless Night) 2009 october the 3rd



Installation for “blanche neige” (snow white) at the Galeru, Fontenay-sous-Bois, 2002



Underground poster for the Athénée Theatre, 09/10 season



Book cover, excerpt from the “instants mobiles” (moveable moments) performance

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