

Bio 2021

Aurélien Lepetit is an artist and designer based in Amsterdam. He graduated from École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-arts de Lyon [FR] with a DNAP (BA) in Set-, Stage- and Exhibition Design and a DNSEP (MA) in Spatial Design. S'He travelled to Shanghai to study at the School of Design of the East China Normal University [CN] where they started to work as digital media designers for Blondie Design Agency. He wrote his MA thesis about the commodification of behaviours from the FOMO phenomena and the coupling human-technology rather than human-technique from Simondon and Stiegler's perspectives (2014). S'he was hired as V-jinger during the Arm Aber Sexy events at Le Lavoir Public in Lyon before heading to Amsterdam to pursue a second MA at the Dirty Art Department, Sandberg Instituut. They have worked as ass.-, co- and coordinator of the Dirty Art Department & Producer-Project Coordinator at the Sandberg Instituut. He wrote *ALPHEMALE 001* contextualising his 400m hurdler runner practice as a base to writing movements into performance's documentations and archives diagrams and notations. S'he assisted the curation, exhibition design and application subsidy process of the curatorial program at iso, Amsterdam until 2020. Today, They currently focus on their artistic practice while curating the online interventions 'Speed Series'.

Artist Statement 2021

I am an artist and designer who attended art after running on a sprint-track for a while, which shaped the aesthetic of my artistic and design practice today.

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I have been researching about toxic masculinities and the impact of white heteronormative patriarchal schemes from experiencing them during my 400m hurdler training practices as a base for the body of work *Stamina* 2017-2020. After experiencing a burnout while being a precarious worker occupying a freelance position within art and educational institutions, I used this 'crash' to reflect, initiate, share and curate *Speed* and the online interventions *Speed Series*.

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Today, I hijack environments and situations where I am interested in performing productivity. Wellness and the destructive aspect of the human eternal search for limitless life and energies. The exploration of constant growth, stamina, bodily exhaustion and burnout are often reflected upon with a problematic: What stays when bodies cease to be visible? And to research the sustainability of material and their potentialities to be reused, mutated or left.

I would explain my artistic methodology as a process-based practice. I attempt through site-specific multi-sensorial and olfactive situations to create and generate experiences of the 'here and now', and our sense of beings. I am deeply in opposition with how to show and exhibit archives and documentations. It does come from researches of/about the history of body-art and live art performance from the 60s' until today. I use documentations as an ephemeral tool to communicate digitally about a constant practice evolving and in 'becoming'.

I come from a set-, stage- and exhibition design background I merge with IRL and VR spaces where I create ecosystem inspired by Micorrizha processes – fungus hijacking the root system of plants' rhizosphere – where the idea of mutation is evolving within- and outside the frame of institutions where I interconnect and observe their evolutions, hybridisations and disappearances, with a deep interest in their interactions with local users. I mainly work site-specific (IRL/VR) and, constantly perform the production of unproductive and ephemeral documentations and archives process live.

I am currently working on ephemeral pieces made of wax, plaster and glass-blowing elements while working with techniques such as molding, tufting and tattooing. The glass-blowing production of new artworks have been on hold since 2017 due to rejections from fundings. Glass being an important material input in my artistic vision, I have used industrially produced glass from cars' window and pieces found as leftovers in the streets of Amsterdam on my way to my studio.

Aurélien Lepetit
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