

# **Camille Dumond**

Geneva - May 5th-June 4th, 2022

> Palais de l'Athénée -Salle Crosnier Geneva, Switzerland

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Instagram (Exhibitor): <u>dumondlcdx</u> Instagram (Place of exhibition): <u>salle.crosnier</u>

## 1. EXHIBITION & CONTEXT

#### PARALLEL QUARRY

The exhibition is the result of a dialogue between different works by Camille Dumond from the last few years, including sculptures with the use of ceramics predominantly, but also floor and hanging installations, as well as an animation.

If «quarry» refers to the double career produced by an interdisciplinary practice of film and exhibition, it is also a term related to the clay quarry, where the minerals are found to produce the glaze of the sculptures. Some of them are created from the ashes of trees such as willow and cedar.

In PARALLEL QUARRY, the artist reflects on the principle of symmetry and parallelism, between the symbolism of the sphere and the loop, and decides to show only what happens around the construction of her fictional films, without showing one.

All of the works in the exhibition can lead to various avenues, such as her upcoming fiction film «Prospect Center» (2023), which is about the last place where filmmaker Derek Jarman lived.

The host sculpture, like a tie-ghost, comes a long way from her film «The Escape» (2019), which tells the story of three uniformed airport workers.

PARALLEL QUARRY draws invisible connections between the works, all of which refer to a notion of double, reflection, symmetry.

OPENING : MAY 05TH EXHIBITION OPEN UNTIL JUNE 4TH ADDRESS : Rue de l'Athénée 2, 1205, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

### 2. FOREWORD / EXHIBITION TEXT Parallel quarry

BGY5 — Glazed stoneware suspension with cedar and willow ash, 180x70x70cm, 2022

In the center of the sculpture in **Room 1** is a ball like a disco globe, glowing red and green like an apple. The uniform, tie-like shape, comes from those of the employees of my 2019 film called <u>The Escape</u>. The characters of this 17 minutes film are wearing oversized ties, except for the heroine at the very beginning, because she has attempted the «escape» of the title.

The book <u>Plane planet</u>, artist's edition released in 2022 {available at the exhibition reception}, traces the anonymous testimonies of some of my former colleagues at Geneva airport, where some still work. The interviews were conducted in late 2018. The dialogues of <u>The Escape</u> are inspired by these interviews and also from various readings: «You have to invent a life here. (...) When I smile at you, is it really me? Do you believe it? Do you think I'm interested in you?»

The series of sculptures inspired by the characters of the film started in 2020 and became a set of ghosts that populate the exhibition spaces where I exhibit with an organic presence. This puppet is glazed with natural ashes: willow, thuja, lavender. The two shadows that appear behind it tell about the symmetry that unfolds throughout the exhibition **PARALLEL QUARRY**.

The parallel effect in **Room 2** comes with the mirrored floor where one sees oneself a little, and walks a lot. Shifting the initial room into another dimension, the floor mirrors as well the hanging spheres corresponding to different production periods since 2019. In his book series «Spheres» the philosopher Sloterdijk traces the different formal, symbolic and historical connections between forms, from the bubble to the seed, from the motorcycle helmet to the Colosseum. These spheres containing feelings evoke the question of the collective, the work group, the social sphere, the film crew, the artistic community. Voluntarily split in two and assembled, the gesture of joining is visible, it must be done to close the form.

The Managed Heart (ft. Mirror line) — Glazed earthenware, various elements, 50x50x50 cm, 2021 takes the title of Arlie Hochschild's book, which questions the authenticity of emotions in the smiles of airport stewardesses.

At the back of **Room 2**, a half-arch covers a part of the space's only window: Disco (Office) — Installation — Metal arch, blinds, glazed earthenware, approx. 150x175x60cm ; Aluminium tiles, 400x700cm, 2022.

The pastel colors of the blinds are perhaps reminiscent of a sampled trade show display.



The escape, 17 minutes, 2019. {Starring: Salber Lee Williams; Director: Camille Dumond. DOP: Romain Rampillon.} https://vimeo.com/332678910 password: sunrise

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Publication <u>Plane Planet</u> by Camille Dumond. Design: TM. Atelier Berlin Editions - Soft cover, 80 pages, 400 copies ©FCAC, OCCS, DCS.



<u>BGY5</u> — Glazed stoneware suspension with cedar and willow ash, 180x70x70cm, 2022



The Managed heart, Glazed earthenware, approx. 45x45cm, 2020.



<u>Disco (Office)</u> — Metal arch, fabric blinds, glazed earthenware, approx. 150x175x60cm, 2022

The sculpture transposes the room of reflections into an office universe - carpeting, corridors, squares, hatchings - from which the set of aluminum tiles covering the floor is sourced.

In **Room 3**, the vertical stripes of Disco (Cottage) — Metal arch, blinds, glazed earthenware, approx. 300x400200cm, 2022 are covering the large door of the main room, limiting access to it from the entrance. Its colors are those of a black house with yellow windows, a place of collective reunion and a mineral garden. Prospect cottage is made of wood and its window frames are bright yellow. Located in Dungeness, England, the house and garden belonged to the director Derek Jarman.

<u>Prospect Center</u> is a short fiction film (20 min, to be finished in the end of 2022) whose story is inspired by this specific house and the way creation happened around it. The script appears in the booklet to take away in the exhibition room. The film was filmed in the residence of La Becque (Tour-de-peilz, Switzerland) where a copy of Jarman's house and garden was created.

Following the disappearance of DJ, his friend and director, DARYL stays at the Prospect Center to see him again in pictures. This place with very particular codes is supposed to gather the archives of several disappeared artists and activists. There she meets HB, DJ's last close friend, who has improvised himself as a gardener. Both of them try to reconnect with their common friend. DARYL's thirst for images will lead her to discover an unexpected archive.

In the large **Room 3**, Shooting sets series – Glazed earthenware, various size, 2022 are hanged on the walls. These are painted earthenware plates that represent sky views from 2 film locations : the planes and tarmac of <u>The Escape</u> (2019) face the pavilions and lake of <u>Prospect Center</u> (2022). Each half operates in symmetry, and the failure of the gesture of copying leads to reconsider the links between the two films. Both projects are adressing heterotopias, places with dual use. These ground shots become insects, perhaps.

Pantino M49 — 3d video, 5 min, sound, loop, 2022 was conceived from the modeling of two existing sculptures, animating the two puppets in front of the camera as in an eternal march.

M49 title refers to a military designation, suggesting the dual status of tool-characters in the video. Their silhouettes are made of small ceramic spheres fired with the technique of terra sigillata, then painted by hand. The two beings communicate as if by magic through the walls of a corridor, until their reunion. Pantino M49 is about the bridges built between the projects and the different mediums of the exhibition, and also tells about the history of the corridor.



<u>Disco (Cottage)</u> — Metal arch, blinds, glazed earthenware, approx. 300x400200cm, 2022



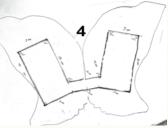
Documentation: Prospect Cottage, Derek Jarman's house in Dungeness (England).

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Publication <u>Prospect Center</u>, Classe des Beaux-arts / société des arts. Script by Camille Dumond. Design Jean-Marie Fahy.Print La Buona Stampa SA (Lugano).



<u>Prospect Center</u>, film, 20 min, fin 2022. {starring: Claude Cherel. Director: Camille Dumond. DOP: Romain Rampillon.}



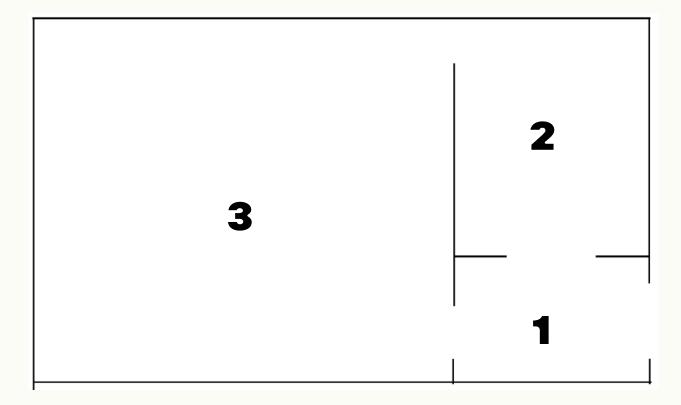
<u>Plexippus X</u>, glazed earthenware, 27 x 36 cm, aluminum back frame, 2019-22.



<u>Pantino M49</u> - 3d Animation, 5 min,sound, loop, 2022

## Parallel quarry

Floor plan and text



#### Room 1

- BGY5 — Glazed stoneware suspension with cedar and willow ash, 180x70x70cm, 2022.

#### Room 2

- The Managed Heart (ft. Mirror line) Glazed earthenware, various elements, 50x50x50 cm, 2021.
- Hyperscarcity Glazed earthenware, various elements, 50x50x50 cm, 2021.
- Parallel heart Glazed earthenware, various elements, 50x50x50 cm, 2022.
- Disco (Office) Installation Metal arch, blinds, glazed earthenware, approx. 150x175x60cm ; Aluminium tiles, 400x700cm, 2022.

#### Room 3

- Disco (Cottage) Metal arch, blinds, glazed earthenware, approx. 300x400200cm, 2022.
- Pantino M49 3d video, 5 min, sound, loop, 2022.

#### - Shooting sets series

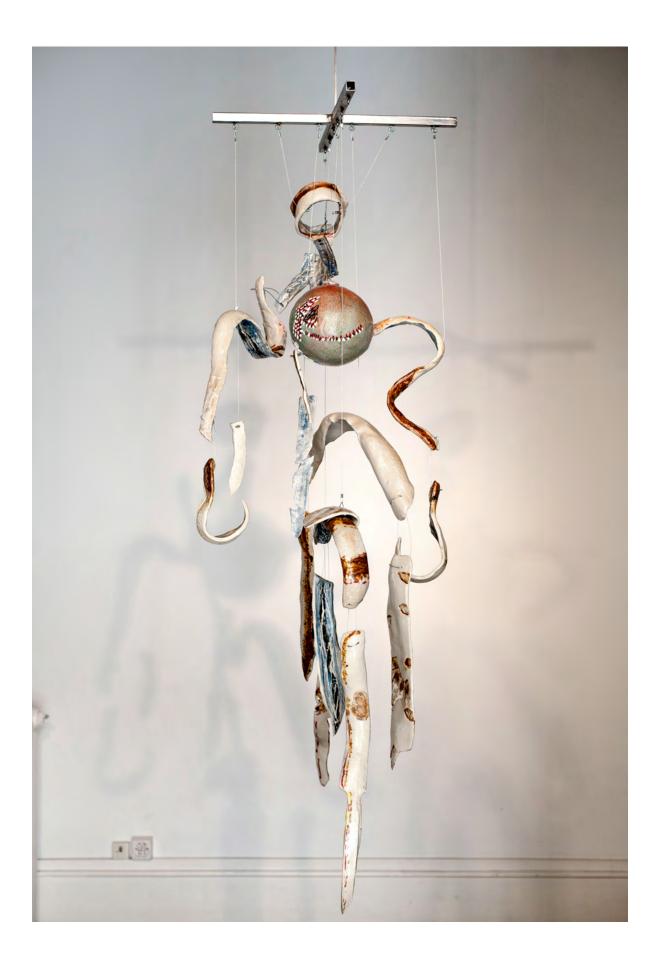
Shooting sets (Plexippus I) Glazed earthenware, 20 x 33 cm, 2019-22 . Shooting sets (Plexippus II) Glazed earthenware, 27 x 35 cm, 2019-22. Shooting sets (Plexippus III) Glazed earthenware, 27 x 30 cm, 2019-22. Shooting sets (Plexippus VI) Glazed earthenware, 27 x 36 cm, 2019-22.

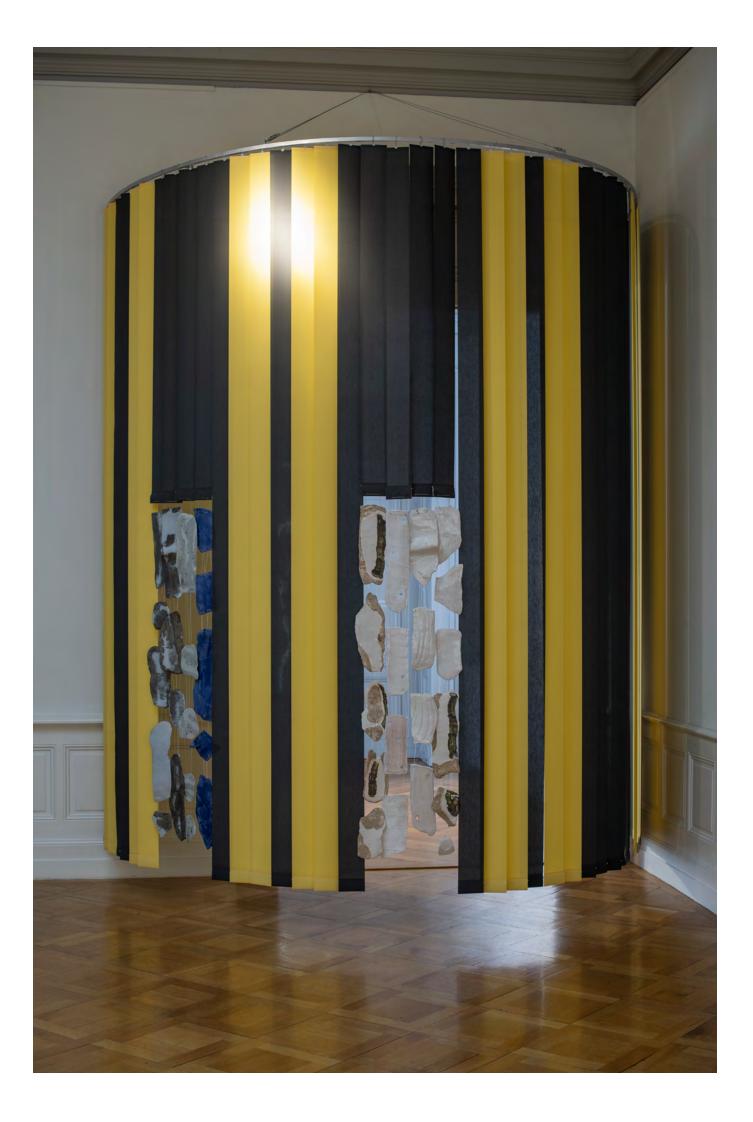
## **3. ARTIST BIOGRAPHY**

Camille Dumond (\*1988, Evreux) is an interdisciplinary artist. Her filmic projects invest narrative strategies around questions of transposition, translation, often around the motif of the huis-clos. Circulating from one genre to another, they show groups of individuals who participate in a process of re-narration of a specific context. Her practice unfolds through installations, sculptures and editorial projects. Like so many speculative extensions, these objects pose in their own way the contradictions of a narrative approach in her films. She has recently exhibited at the FRAC de Pays de la Loire (Nantes), the CAN Neuchâtel, Forde (Geneva), and Unanimous Consent (Zurich).

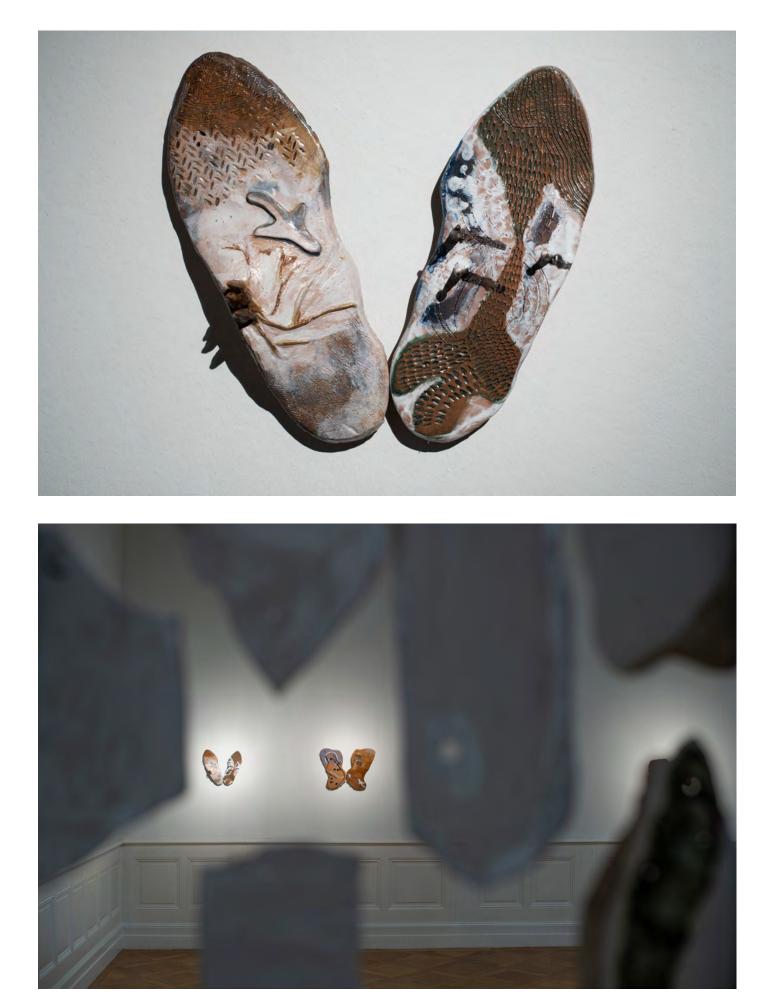
## 4. EXHIBITION VIEWS

Parallel Quarry – Geneva, 2022 all credits to ©Greg Clement











Video link (pw: crosnier) <u>https://vimeo.com/713938364</u>



an excellent instrument for managing bodies and desires.

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Video link (pw: crosnier) <u>https://vimeo.com/713938364</u>

