

## ABOUT MENOCCHIO WE KNOW MANY THINGS.

From 26 September until 22 December 2012

Opening 25 September, 6pm-9pm

Etel Adnan, Mohammed Aïssaoui, Mounira Al Solh, Anahi Alviso-Marino, Dineo Seshee Bopape, Michèle Firk, Michel François, Olivier Hadouchi, Pierre Joseph & Jacques Rivet, Carole Roussopoulos, Larisa Shepitko, The Berwick Street Collective, Eric Watier, Peter Weiss

*About Menocchio we know many things. About this Marcato, or Marco — and so many others like him who lived and died without leaving a trace — we know nothing.*

Carlo Ginzburg, *The Cheese and the Worms: The Cosmos of a Sixteenth-Century Miller*, 1980 (1976)

In *The Cheese and the Worms: The Cosmos of a Sixteenth-Century Miller* (1976), the historian Carlo Ginzburg recounts the story of a miller's life in the XVIth century who was arrested and executed by the Church because of his radical ideas about Christianity. Through an investigative study of archival material, Ginzburg examines and interprets the signs and traces left by this metaphysician miller's thought, revealing the popular culture of the time. This narrative is a symbolic example of Ginzburg's notion of *microstoria*: by reducing the scope of observation, one can expand the field of History towards unique stories.

The exhibition «About Menocchio we know many things.» uses the micro-historical method of Carlo Ginzburg to shed light on individual paths, specifically drawing attention to those little considered by traditional historiography. Gathering works by artists, writers, sociologists and activists from 1960s until today the exhibition tries to make visible diverse forms of resistance to the formatting of a globalised world. In giving particular attention to details, clues or fragments, «About Menocchio we know many things.» explores the potential of agency and empowerment of these singular positions through art and narrative.



Mounira Al Solh, *Moment 4*, photography from the project *The Sea Is A Stereo*, 2007- now. Courtesy Sfeir-Semler Gallery, Hambourg/ Beyrouth

# IMAGES



Dineo Seshee Bopape, *Long live the immaterial effect no 55*, documentation of the installation, Stevenson Gallery, Johannesburg, 2012. Courtesy Stevenson Gallery, South Africa.



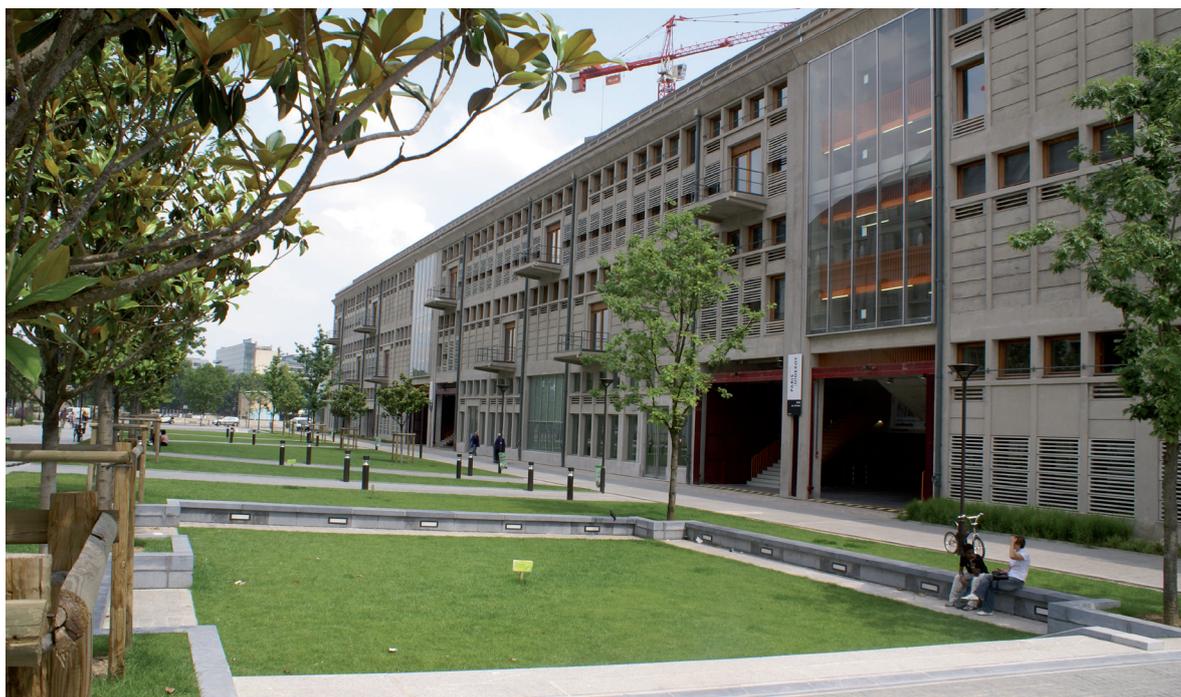
Carole Roussopoulos, « Lip 1 : Monique », copyright «Association Carole Roussopoulos», [www.carole-roussopoulos.com](http://www.carole-roussopoulos.com)

# ABOUT BÉTONSALON

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Bétonsalon is a non-profit organisation created in 2003 and turned into a centre for art and research in 2007. Located within the premises of Paris 7 university at the heart of a neighbourhood currently undergoing reconstruction, Paris Left Bank Development Zone in the 13th arrondissement, Bétonsalon proposes a programme that is context-sensitive and engages the daily meeting between cultural practitioners, researchers, students, teachers, locals and the general public.

Bétonsalon has been particularly committed to developing a space of reflection and confrontation at the confluence of art and academic research, giving expression to various discourses – whether aesthetic, cultural, political, social or economic. Over the years, Bétonsalon has experimented with various formats including exhibitions, workshops, lectures, seminars, publications, neighbourhood tours, festivals and residencies developed on processual, collaborative and discursive levels according to different time scales and in cooperation with a variety of local, national and international organisations.



# PRACTICAL INFORMATION

## TEAM

Mélanie Bouteloup, director

Marie Bechetoille, projects' coordinator  
in charge of production and education

Flora Katz, projects' coordinator  
in charge of administration and communication

Chloé Even, intern

Claire Porcher, intern



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## ADVISORY BOARD

Bernard Blistène, president

director of cultural development of the Centre Pompidou

Marie Cozette, treasurer

director of the art centre La Synagogue de Delme

Mathilde Villeneuve, secretary

in charge of external development at ENSAPC

Eric Baudelaire

artist

Guillaume Désanges

curator

Laurent Le Bon

director of the Centre Pompidou-Metz

Sandra Terdjman

director of the Kadist Foundation

Françoise Vergès

political scientist

The Mayor of Paris

Île-de-France Regional Board of Cultural Affairs

President of the University Paris Diderot

Opening times: Tuesday-Saturday, 11am-7pm

Free entry

Access: metro line 14 or RER line C stop Bibliothèque François

Mitterrand

Website: [www.betonsalon.net](http://www.betonsalon.net)

## OUR PARTNERS

*Bétonsalon is supported by the City of Paris, the Department of Paris, the Paris Diderot University, the Île-de-France Regional Board of Cultural Affairs – Ministry of Culture and Communication, Conseil régional d'Île-de-France and Leroy Merlin (quai d'Ivry).*



Bétonsalon is a member of  
TRAM, a contemporary art  
network in Paris/Île-de-  
France



Exhibition's partner