

STRICTLY FOR THE BIRDS

Installation présentée à la galerie de Carla Garnet de Toronto.

Garnet Press Gallery is pleased to present a second outdoor site specific installation by Montreal artist Erick Desprez.

The installation quite simply is an oversized bird feeder. It is comprised of a long vertical tube filled with seeds. The tube has multiple perforations so the local birds may access the food within. A hollow pillar made out of cardboard, decorated with invitation cards taken from various art exhibitions and cut into a helical form surrounds the vertical tube, and a cone covers the pillar providing a roof for the feeders. A wire cage surround the inner structure setting up an impasse to the natural world the installation will attract.

In the artist's words "Strictly for the birds", becomes a reflection on the ephemeral meaning of art and reminds us of the fragile boundary between art and nature, the latter often calling out to and animating the former". As the title suggests, this work questions our attitude towards art and the importance we give it. The double meaning to the title and the wire fence reminds us of the exclusive and inaccessible aspect of art and warns us against excessive rationalization of contemporary art. The artist asks "Must Man, much like birds, motivated by their instinct for survival feed themselves frantically, and pursue just as frantically the race towards an ideal which is always pushed back by the ascension of the illusory cone, promise of respite".

Carla Garnet

Chaque année Carla Garnet proposait à un ou deux artistes de présenter une installation devant sa galerie de la rue Richmond au centre-ville de Toronto.

Lorsque Carla Garnet m'offrit d'installer une œuvre, j'ai accepté sans trop savoir ce que j'allais y présenter. Au tout début du printemps, je suis donc allé devant la galerie pour m'inspirer du lieu. Les arbres commençaient à verdirent, le vol et le chant de nombreux oiseaux égayaient l'espace tandis que les passants déambulaient sans trop s'y attarder.

Cela m'inspira et fut la source de mon travail.