

STAVANGER SECESSION

PROJECT OUTLINES

Pernille Dybvig
George Ghon
Jonas Illing
Pierre-Alexandre Mateos
Lukas Mosser
Charles Teyssou



**SECESSION AS WILDERNESS
SECESSION AS PIETY
SECESSION AS SACRALITY
SECESSION AS FANTASY
SECESSION AS ECSTASY
SECESSION AS INTROSPECTION
SECESSION AS WISDOM
SECESSION AS CATHARSIS
SECESSION AS UTOPIA
SECESSION AS BEAUTY
SECESSION AS SPECULATION
SECESSION AS EXISTENTIALISM
SECESSION AS ART
SECESSION AS FORELSKET
SECESSION AS**

INTRODUCTION

Stavanger Secession is the first series of an international exhibition that happens twice a year in the city of Stavanger. The chapter 0 of this program will explore the core concept of Secession by examining Stavanger and its artistic history from the Viennese romantic artists at the turn of the 19th century to now. It will be curated by Pierre-Alexandre Mateos and Charles Teyssou.

From romantic utopia to dark existentialism, anti-conformist poetry to techno-ceremonies, artists will examine Stavanger cultural backbones and excavate its fantasies. Stavanger Secession will reflect on these polarities, including both locals and mavericks and without sacrificing subversive ambitions. Among the key inspirations of this project is Stavanger “artiste maudit” Lars Hertervig who will play a pivotal role in the way our research unfolds. Secession is one the historical strategies used by the avant-gardes. It asks the most essential question when we consider collective action: how to break with the established order of things and invent a new reality? Secession predates the formation of a movement, a collective experiment or a utopia. It is the birth act of any transformation.

Stavanger Secession will examine the relevance of this concept from an artistic, political, scientific and philosophical point of view. Today, secession seems both increasingly difficult and dangerously popular. From the idea of an hyperconnected global village from which it is difficult to part away to the conspirationist bubbles that break away from a collective and basic understanding of reality, the potentiality of secession seems deflated. Therefore, this project will interrogate this concept, its power and its limits.

ORGANISATION

The first edition will be composed of three movements:

June - July 2023 - The prologue (research, discussion and intervention)

Summer 2024 - The exhibition (production and concentration)

Winter 2024 - The publication (conclusion and synthesis)

The prologue will take place between June 21 and July 31 2023. It will be articulated around:

- a public program (screenings, talks and performances)
- public interventions
- a research center

The main localization would be the Headquarter of the Stavanger Art Festival. In addition we are currently seeking to collaborate with Stavanger main institutions and private partners such:

- Stavanger Kunstmuseum
- Kunsthall Stavanger
- Norwegian Petroleum Museum
- Tou Official
- The Bolder Hotel

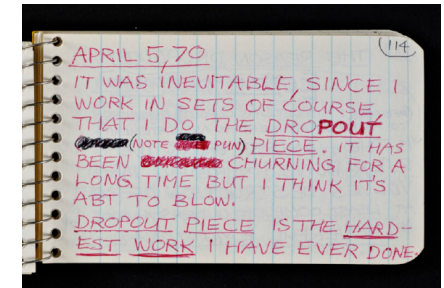
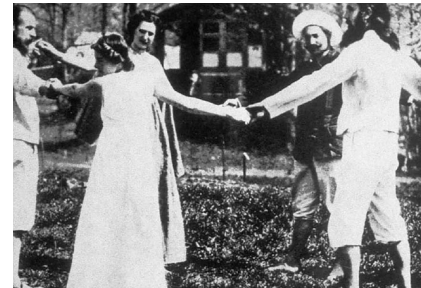
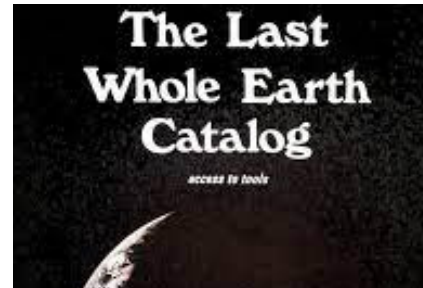
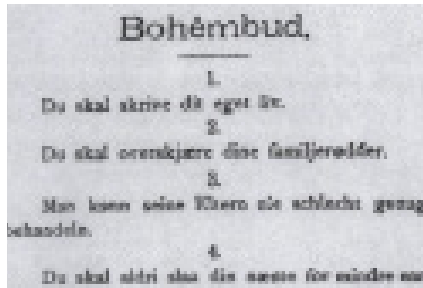
SECESSION RESEARCH CENTRE & BAR

The research centre will serve to gather and present the various exchanges held during the public program. In contrast to the live and spontaneous nature of the discussions and events, it will allow the visitors to have a step back and critically think about the concept of secession. It will be installed in Stavanger Secession HQ.

The research center will be an archival site gathering books, ephemeras, plans and manifestos around the various facets of the concept. In that respect it will be a work in progress that can be updated throughout the time.

It will also serve as a platform in order to activate secessionist strategies: artists, thinkers, poets, musicians, activists and performers from around the world will be invited to submit their vision of secession through plans, protocols, or any other medium.

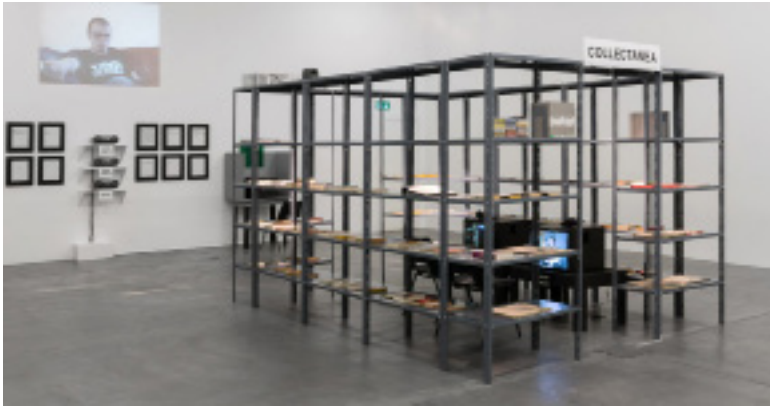
Examples of archival materials and contributions:



The research centre will also serve as a bar in the tradition of the artists bar. Discussing the various ideas exchanged during the day, socializing or simply relaxing the bar will be a gathering place for the people involved in the project as well as the persons curious to learn more about it.

As such it will be a central element of the Stavanger Secession as it will allow the project to be shared, discussed and transformed through the various discussions taking place with artists, thinkers, musicians or simply curious minded persons.

Inspirations:



Renée Green, Import/Export Funk Office, Galerie Christian Nagel (1992)



Facade of the artist's Gordon Matta-Clark FOOD which opened in NYC (1971)



Al's Café by artist Allen Ruppersberg in Los Angeles



Martha Rosler, If You Lived Here..., DIA Foundation (1989)

PUBLIC PROGRAM

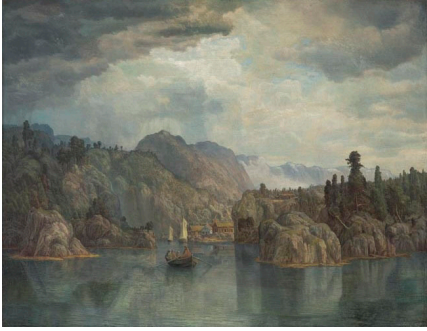
The discursive aspect of Stavanger Secession will take place this summer between June and July and will gather various artists, filmmakers, poets, musicians, activists and thinkers from all around Europe.

Please find below the main points regarding this chapter:

-Conferences, talks, screenings and readings will constitute the core of this chapter.

-It will take place during 2 days in collaboration with other institutions in Stavanger. We are currently reaching the Kunstmuseum and the Kunsthall in that regard.





DAY 1 - Lars Hertervig Dark Romanticism, Kunstmuseum Stavanger

Public Talk: Lars Hertervig and Norway dark existentialism with Hanne Beate Ueland and Matias Faldbakken, moderated by Pierre-Alexandre Mateos and Charles Teyssou

Reading Matias Faldbakken

Screening Lessons of Darkness by Werner Herzog



DAY 2 - Secession Marathon, Kunsthall Stavanger

Public Talk: Sex and secession with Bjarne Meelgard, Anette Gellein moderated by Pierre-Alexandre Mateos and Charles Teyssou

Reading Bjarne Meelgard

Public Talk: Cyber Secessionism with Cory Arcangel, moderated by Pierre-Alexandre Mateos and Charles Teyssou

Screening Cory Archangel

Public Talk: Bachelor Machines Now with Yngve Holen moderated by Pierre-Alexandre Mateos and Charles Teyssou



DAY 2 - Secession Concert, TOU Official

Concert Black Haine

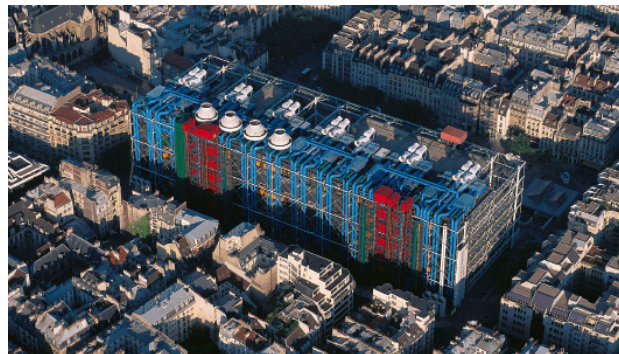
PUBLIC INTERVENTIONS

Stavanger Secession is the first edition of an international exhibition that wishes to happen twice a year in the city of Stavanger. The chapter 1 of this program will explore the concept of Secession and is curated by Pierre-Alexandre Mateos and Charles Teyssou.

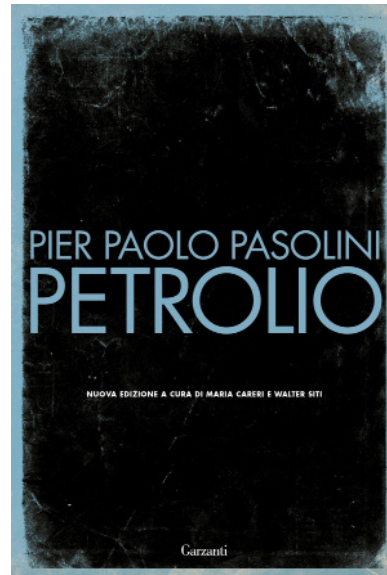
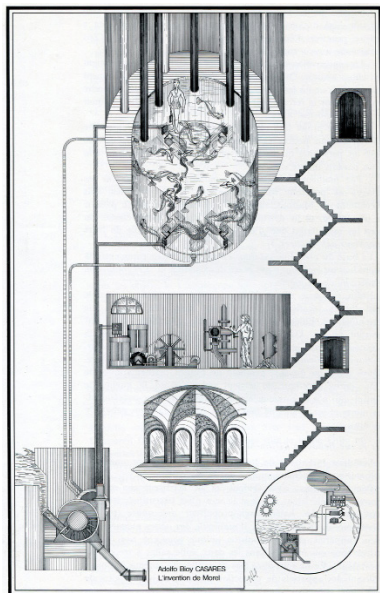
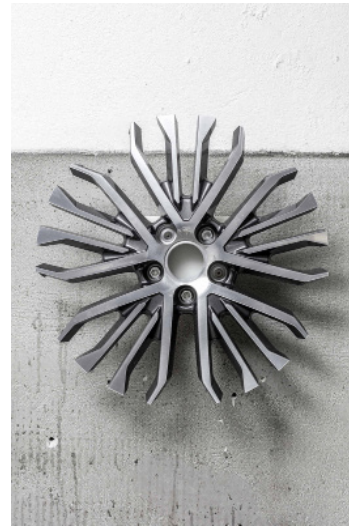
Secession is one the historical strategies used by the avant-gardes. It asks the most essential question when we consider collective action: how to break with the established order of things and invent a new reality? Secession predates the formation of a movement, a collective experiment or a utopia. It is the birth act of any transformation. Moreover, Stavanger secession's program is inspired by a seminal figure of the city, Lars Hertervig. "Artiste maudit", Lars Hertervig embodies a romantic form of secessionism in which he retreated from public life in order to focus on oneiric mental landscape.

The prologue of Stavanger secession will take place at the end of June 2023 and will be articulated around public interventions, a public program and a research centre. Each of these would take place in different institutions of Stavanger.

Regarding the public interventions, we would like to organize it in collaboration with the Norwegian Petroleum Museum by asking artists to think about small interventions for the museum display. But what is the connection between the petrol industry and secessionism? Offshore platforms and the petrol industry have fascinated artists by their remoteness and complex mechanics but also as they are a symbolic passage between geological forces and the day to day human activity. The architecture of the Centre Pompidou (French National Museum of Modern Art) is inspired by a power plant, symbolically linking art and energy production. Are museums, offshore laboratories in which artists and thinkers can experiment? Our objectives would be to highlight these connections and by putting in parallel oil, energy production and the creative process of the avant-gardes.



From left to right: Norway's offshore platforms and Centre Pompidou in Paris



Clockwork from the upper left: Lars Hertervig, Fra Hillevåg / Yngve Holen, Alloy wheel (2016) / Francis Picabia Amorous Parade (1917) / Werner Herzog, Lessons of Darkness (1992) / Pier Paolo Pasolini, Petrolio (1992) / Michel Carrouge, Illustration of Bachelor Machines (1954)

ENVISIONED ARTISTS LIST

The following envisioned artists list include both the artist and thinkers invited physically to participate to the public program and the remote contributors to the overall research project:

Anette Gellein
Matias Kiil
Sandra Vaka Olsen
Marius Engh
Verdensteatret
Anders Dahl Monsen
Kristoffer Myskja
Mathias faldbaken
Bjarne Meelgaard
Yngve Holen
Christian Blandhoel
Rob Kulisek
Ville Kallio
Andrea Angelidakis
Hanne Lippard
Frida Orupabo
Brook Hsu
Lili Reynaud Dewar
Bjarne Meelgard
Snøhetta
Yngve Holen
Lydia Ourahmane
Adam Linder
Chino Amobi
Ilja Karilampi

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Stavanger Secession Mental Map

