MAISONNEUVE

24-32 r des amandiers f-75020 paris t/f +33 1 4366 2399 mar.-sam. 14h-19h métro père lachaise cinquième étage www.galerie-maisonneuve.com contact@galerie-maisonneuve.com

JAN KOPP

press release 31/01/04

Monsters and Ghosts

31/01/04 - 27/03/04

Jan Kopp was born in Germany in 1970 but has lived in France for the last ten years. Very early on, he started thinking about public space and came to see the city as a possible place of artistic activity. With this in mind, he proposed projects to be finalised or experimented with in a collaborative way. Jan Kopp's artwork-events are context-based. He is, therefore, equally interested in the art space itself, which allows us to discover and question the world around us. Since the year 2000 the artist has created some large architectural constructions. Recently, he has also been preoccupied by questions concerning the transmission and distortion of information in a series of installations, videos and performances.

"Monsters (rep.)", 2003, DVD, 22 mins., colour, sound.

Ten actors (five men and five women) dine around a long table. They react oddly, accelerating, slowing down or reversing their movements. They speak in a strange dialect with phrases phonetically uttered in reverse. The film (which is also edited in reverse with accelerated, slowed-down and frozen passages), amplifies, disturbs or cancels out the acting. This results in a constant distortion and a discrepancy between the reality of the scenes filmed and their representation.

The actors : Marco Berrettini Jean Paul Bourel Jérôme Brabant Valérie Brau-Antony Carine Charaire Anne Delahaye Bruno Faucher Chiaria Gallierani Gianfranco Poddighe Anja Rottgerkamp Editing : Guillaume Robert

"Ghosts", 2003, installation (21 ceramic sculptures, video loop)

At the back of the room a suspended monitor, transmitting a succession of images, gives out an unsteady light which falls on a group of ceramic sculptures placed in the space. The subliminal images (24 images per second) are made up of drawings and photos cut out from newspapers. The hybrid forms, strewn over the floor and animated by the stroboscopic light, roughly echo the shapes of the press clippings. In this disturbing and almost timeless atmosphere the artist once again exhibits information which has been distorted and transformed.

Clay modelling : Christina Christensen

This exhibition by Jan KOPP launches the new space of the gallery. After two years, Maisonneuve has moved in to a 130 m2 space in the same building.