

## DAVID CLAERBOUT

The Annet Gelink Gallery proudly presents the first solo exhibition in the Netherlands of Belgian artist David Claerbout (1969). David Claerbout's work is a unique mixture of photography, film and painting. Originally schooled as a painter and draughtsman, Claerbout uses digital tools to alter photographs by moving shadows around, adding in walls or changing the positions of objects or figures. He makes the leaves move in an old photograph of a motionless tree, lights up the hand-held torch in a group portrait or makes a chair rock. By digitally editing old photo material, he explores the boundaries between moving and static images while playing with perception and experience of time.

Claerbout's new installation, *The stack* (2002), which is presented at Annet Gelink Gallery, was shot in Houston. The film presents an enormous cloverleaf against the background of a sunrise. At this spot, an architectural construction where several roads cross, Claerbout filmed the changing of sunlight for thirty minutes in real time. While the piercing sun slowly moves from left to right, the presentation changes subtly, yet intrinsically.

The foreground reveals a figure in pitch-dark shadows. He's a homeless person, lying unseen beneath the crossover. Initially, he's invisible, but as time passes his presence becomes more and more noticeable. For just a few seconds, the man is lit up by the sunlight. Even then, the figure is hard to make out due to the brightness of the sun. In the video installation *Violetta* (2001), also presented in the gallery, spectators stand inside a small, dark room in front of a portrait of a woman's face. A fan seemingly brings the static image into motion, blowing her hair gently about in the wind.

David Claerbout graduated at the Nationaal Hoger Instituut voor Schone Kunsten in Antwerp in 1995, and at the Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunsten in Amsterdam in 1996. His work has been shown in various galleries and exhibitions, including TroubleSpot Painting in the MUHKA in Antwerp and in the S.M.A.K. in Ghent. He recently did an online project for the Dia Center in New York (see [www.diacenter.org](http://www.diacenter.org)).

## The Bakery; CLAUDIE DE CLEEN *One Fine Day*

Claudie de Cleen (1968) cannot be captured by any single medium. She finds the term 'artist' a cumbersome burden to bear: she rather refers to herself as a draughtswoman. De Cleen draws in various styles, which she masters down to the smallest details: from girlishness to delicate little landscapes and hilarious cartoons.

The drawings are often dominated by a sense of discomfort. A woman shopping for groceries naked, while carrying two plastic shopping bags. A landscape with a sign in the distance bearing the enticing legend 'CLUB INFERNO'. '*For dead people only*' is written in parentheses at the bottom of the drawing. Colourful birds, their pupils silver dots that rob them of their sight, with the text '*Modern birds in modern life*'. At the moment, De Cleen has a six-month occupancy of the Parijs Holsboer studio in Paris, which belongs to the Institut Néerlandais and the Fonds BKVB. Besides older drawings and commissioned work, the exhibition also displays work she produced in her first month in Paris.

Claudie de Cleen graduated at the Rietveld Academy in Amsterdam in 1992, at the Jan van Eyk Academy in Maastricht in 1996, followed the one-year course for art directors 'Hello', at the Academy for Creative Communication in Amsterdam and did an internship at Dutch advertising agency KesselsKramer. Her drawings are featured regularly in magazines such as *Carp*, *BLVD* and *De Avenue*.

During the exhibition, a limited edition set of serigraphs titled '*Secrets du Coeur*' will be available for purchase. The set was made by De Cleen commissioned by the Grafisch Atelier Amsterdam, and consists of six images of various sizes, all picturing the attempt to enter into contact with 'desire'.

The exhibitions are held from May 25 until June 29, 2002. The opening is on Saturday May 26 from 7 to 9 PM. Annet Gelink Gallery opening hours are Tuesdays through Fridays from 11 AM to 8 PM, and Saturdays from 1 to 5 PM. For additional information, please contact Danila Cahen or Floor Wullems.