

MUSÉES DE LA VILLE DE STRASBOURG

Strasbourg, March, 21st 2018

Press Release

FAILE, *From The Air We Share*
Strasbourg Museum of Modern & Contemporary Art (MAMCS)
5 May 2018 - 26 May 2019

To mark its 20th anniversary, the MAMCS has extended a groundbreaking invitation to occupy the museum's facades to the FAILE collaboration, an artist duo based in Brooklyn NY. Their artistic intervention will offer visitors and passers-by a unique view of a 1000 m² fresco, with cross-influences going from ornamental art to pop art and including typographical research and the influence of comics and zine culture.

The members of the internationally recognized duo FAILE are Patrick McNeil (born 1975 in Edmonton, Canada) and Patrick Miller (born 1976 in Minneapolis, USA). Childhood friends Miller and McNeil together designed serigraphs and collages under the name "FAILE" (an anagram of the title of their first collective work, *A Life*). What brought them widespread recognition was their monumental interventions in public spaces: the Tate Modern in London in 2008, the Restauradores Square in Lisbon in 2010, New York City Ballet in 2013 and Times Square in New York in 2015. Devotees of words and images from art history as well as pop culture (cinema, comics, advertising), the FAILE duo create vast murals and installations in urban space, their field of action going beyond mere Street Art.

FAILE's first French invitation of this importance, the MAMCS project will showcase the museum building, designed by Adrien Fainsilber in 1998. For the museum, the FAILE duo have conceived a series of new compositions originating in their encounter with the city. In December 2017, Miller and McNeil discovered Strasbourg for the first time and with fascination observed a city that was completely unknown to them, focusing on the heritage, history and legends that had forged its identity. Back in Brooklyn, using pictures and memories of their stay, they wrote a poem to serve as an outline for their project. This poem, entitled *From The Air We Share*, relies on metaphors and symbols and forms the framework of an epic narrative. Between the lines there appear figures related to the history and culture of Strasbourg, figures as diverse as Marie-Antoinette and Hans Arp, or Father Rhine and a devil-haunted cathedral.

Exhibition Curator: Estelle Pietrzyk, Chief Heritage Curator, Directress of MAMCS

Project organized in partnership with the Danysz Gallery

Exhibition organized as part of "Happy 20", a program of events organized by the City of Strasbourg, on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art in Strasbourg, celebrated in 2018.

VISITOR INFORMATION

Location: Musée d'Art Moderne et Contemporain (MAMCS)

1 Place Hans-Jean-Arp, Strasbourg / tel +33 (0)3 68 98 51 55

Opening times: Tuesday - Sunday 10 am - 6 pm, closed on Mondays

www.musees.strasbourg.eu

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