

Chloé Dierckx, *Austruweel, Beneath her Heavens*, 2014

Video installation, 24 photographs

°1990, Belgium, lives and works in Antwerp

Chloé Dierckx works with her immediate surroundings, which she often tries to translate via logical, mathematical rules. In *The Impact of My Actions* (2011) she calculated her own impact on her surroundings by literally measuring the movements caused by her presence and their influence on the path followed by passers-by in a street. Her work is characterised by a strong mathematical logic, which visualises particular invisible phenomena in an almost utopian way. For her graduation project she created an air bubble in the Swiss city of Sierre and made a documentary about it, *The Story of an Air Bubble* (2012). In *Herstappe*, together with the residents of the city of the same name, she established an ideal colour balance by painting housefronts and wearing sweaters in certain colours. One day was celebrated as the moment where the total sum of colours would turn into white.

For the exhibition *AIR Traces: Austruweel* Chloé Dierckx investigates the ghostly apparition of the former village of Oosterweel. In 1956, together with other polder villages, Oosterweel was confiscated by the government in order to create space for the expansion of the port of Antwerp. Later, in the sixties, the grounds around the church were raised with sand. The result is a rather surrealistic location. The church is still where it was built originally, but seems to be embedded six metres deep in the ground. The church of St John the Baptist is the only thing which remains from the village. However, Chloé Dierckx found an online weather website which gives accurate and recent forecasts for the village of Austruweel, the official name of Oosterweel until 1930. The village therefore appears to be alive. Chloé Dierckx researches further this ghostly apparition, through an interview with a former inhabitant of Austruweel and found footage, archival pictures and historical photographs of the village.

Chloé Dierckx graduated with a master's degree in visual arts at Sint Lucas Antwerpen. Her group exhibitions include: *Traction Avant*, CIAP, Hasselt, 2013; *Performatik*, Kaaithheater, Brussels, 2013; *These and Other Works*, Extra City Kunsthall Antwerpen, 2012; *Extra Muros*, ccStrombeek, Grimbergen, 2012; *Algemene Bepalingen*, Lokaal 01, Antwerp, 2012; *Caution, Art!*, Sint Lucas Antwerpen, 2012; *ZooArt, Art in Public Space*, Cuneo, 2011; *TILT*, De Brakke Grond, Amsterdam, 2011; *Prix Médiatime*, Brussels, 2010.

chloedierckx.org

Venue: the Customs house on Kattendijkdok – Oostkaai 21A

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