

# Catalogue



**Benefit Auction of Fine Arts** at the

# OB Congress Dinner

Wednesday November 28<sup>th</sup> 2007  
in the Atomium, Brussels

# Auction of Fine Arts

in aid of the

## cbm eye hospital

in Kabgayi (Rwanda)

The Congress Dinner is organised by Ophthalmologia Belgica in collaboration with cbm Belgium. The funds raised at the Auction of Fine Arts will go towards completing the new wing of cbm's eye hospital in Kabgayi (Rwanda). Dr. Stefan De Smedt, a Belgian ophthalmologist, performs the eye operations – on adults as well as on children – in this hospital. In 2006, 1613 eye operations were performed, 932 of which were cataract operations. Patients come from all over Rwanda to be treated in Kabgayi.

**Philip Aguire, Jeanine Cohen, Berlinde De Bruyckere, Marie-Jo Lafontaine, Luc Tuymans, Koen Vanmechelen, Pieter Vermeersch donated a work of art to this auction.**



In the event of funds being collected in excess of those which are needed in Kabgayi, they will go towards funding other, similar projects in Central Africa.

## The OB Congress Dinner has become a great tradition in the context of the OB Congress.

This year, **the OB Congress Dinner** is being organised on **Wednesday November 28<sup>th</sup>** in the beautifully restored Atomium, in collaboration with cbm Belgium. Cbm Belgium is an international development organisation whose primary purpose is to improve the quality of life for the world's poorest people with disabilities. Cbm focuses on prevention and medical care for the blind. Several of the main projects of cbm Belgium will be presented in the OB exhibition.



Prof. Dr. Volker  
Klauss

Special guest at the OB Congress Dinner is **Prof. Dr. Volker Klauss**, Department of Tropical Ophthalmology, University of Munich (Germany) and cbm Medical Advisor for eye care. Prof. Dr. Klauss spent many years as a specialist in ophthalmology and tropical diseases in Uganda and Kenya, where he played his part in promoting the treatment and prevention of eye disease. At the Congress Dinner, he will speak about VISION 2020, a worldwide programme aiming to eliminate all avoidable blindness by 2020. In 2006 the first results of the campaign were published, and

they were promising: for the first time, the number of blind people having decreased from 45 million to 35 million. While the efforts of VISION 2020 are aimed mostly at the poorest countries of the world, it remains a very interesting exercise to see what the situation is in Europe. Prof. Dr. Volker Klauss will give some insights.

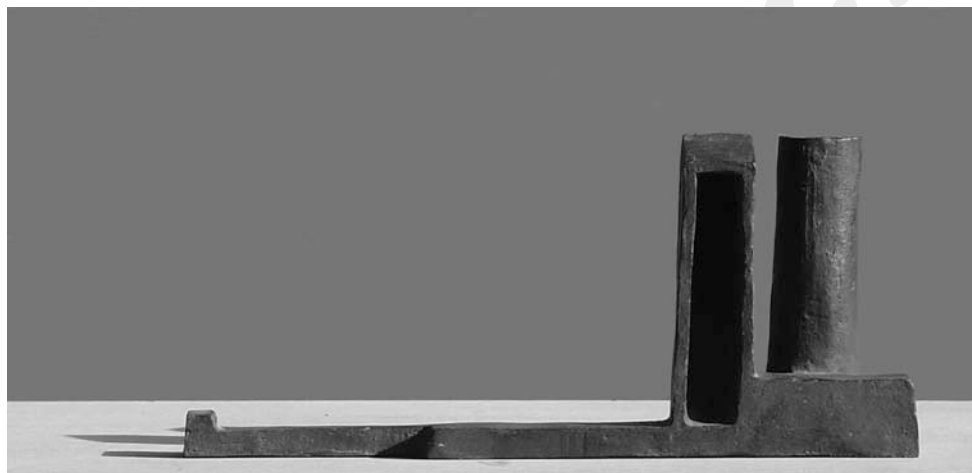
### ••• Programme

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| 7:00 pm  | guided tour of the Atomium (optional)                                     |
| 7:30 pm  | welcome drink   |
| 8:00 pm  | Prof. Dr. Volker Klauss, <i>VISION 2020: what does it mean in Europe?</i> |
| 8:10 pm  | dinner with an Auction of Fine Arts                                       |
| 11:00 pm | closing   |

## Philip Aguirre

**Philip Aguirre's** work is typified by a very self-willed dealing with classical sculpture for which he seeks inspiration in actual and political themes. The human figure is not surprisingly a constant. Much of his work can be found in public places and in important public collections, like for example his 'Man with matress' in the Brussels Airport. Aguirre currently has a show at Mercator, Antwerp in which he mainly shows landscapes.

[www.philipaguirre.be](http://www.philipaguirre.be)



His gift to the auction is a small and delicate, almost abstract, landscape in bronze. 'Landscape' (1994), bronze, *épreuve d'artiste*, 28 cm x 12 cm x 8,5 cm

## Jeanine Cohen

**Jeanine Cohen** carefully deconstructs the structure of her canvasses frame to investigate our way of looking. Although her work has a sculptural feel to it, she is definitely a painter as her use of a broad palet of colours demonstrates. Cohen has designed an artwork for the façade of the new Museum of Photography in Charleroi that will be inaugurated in 2008.

[www.jeaninecohen.net](http://www.jeaninecohen.net)

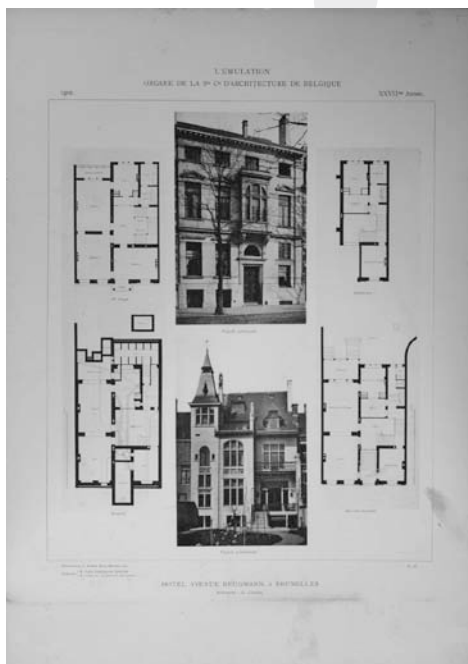


Her gift to the auction is a large work that plays optical games with the viewer, thereby typifying her work method. The black canvas is bordered by a frame of brightly coloured reflective paint which encompasses the wall behind as part of this painting that thus almost becomes a sculpture.

'Untitled' (2004), acrylic on cotton, 70 cm x 65 cm x 6 cm

## Berlinde De Bruyckere

**Berlinde De Bruyckere** has a varied oeuvre in which her famous horses and women under blankets play an important role. Her central question can be defined as “What bears and what is bearable?” Her work has been on show in various international venues like the Venice Biennale, Maison Rouge in Paris and Hauser and Wirth, London.  
[www.hauserwirth.com/artists](http://www.hauserwirth.com/artists)



Her gift to the auction is a twosided facsimile that shows one of her famous humanoid figures with is stitched together. This is an allusion to the construction of the human being. The fact that she drew this figure on the backside of a page out of a book on architecture stresses this allusion.

'Aanééngenaaid' (Stitched together), twosided facsimile, 2/100, 45,4 cm x 32 cm

## Marie-Jo Lafontaine

**Marie-Jo Lafontaine** uses texts, photography and video as a means to express her love and concern for the world in which people, their environment and nature are always the centre of attention. She is well-known for her Sky Arena Project "I Love the World" for the Opening of the World Football Cup" in Frankfurt, Germany in 2006.

Mrs Lafontaine has currently two shows in Angers, France: "Come To Me !" at Musée Jean Lurçat et de la tapisserie contemporaine d'Angers (November 17 2007- May 18 2008) and "Dreams are Free !" at the Musée des Beaux-Arts, Angers (December 15 2007- April 13 2008)

[www.marie-jo-lafontaine.com](http://www.marie-jo-lafontaine.com)



She generously selected two works for the auction: one shows the lovely image of a purple orchid and another the other of dark red roses. The title 'Effroi' (Horror or Dread) of the large print points to Lafontaines interest in the fact that beauty and the horrible, decay or disaster are so very close.

- 'Effroi' (2007) (see above), photographic print, 75 cm x 75 cm, edition 2/7
- 'No title', photographic print, 27 cm x 40 cm

## Luc Tuymans

**Luc Tuymans** hardly needs an introduction, being Belgium's best-known artist. The content of most of Tuymans' intriguing images is often based on historical facts or material and upon already represented imagery, ranging from drawings, photographs, found images, film-stills, polaroid's, etc. His paintings have been on show and are included in collections of the world's most famous museums, amongst which MOMA in New York, Georges Pompidou in Paris and Tate Modern in London.

[www.zeno-x.com/artists/luc\\_tuymans.htm](http://www.zeno-x.com/artists/luc_tuymans.htm)



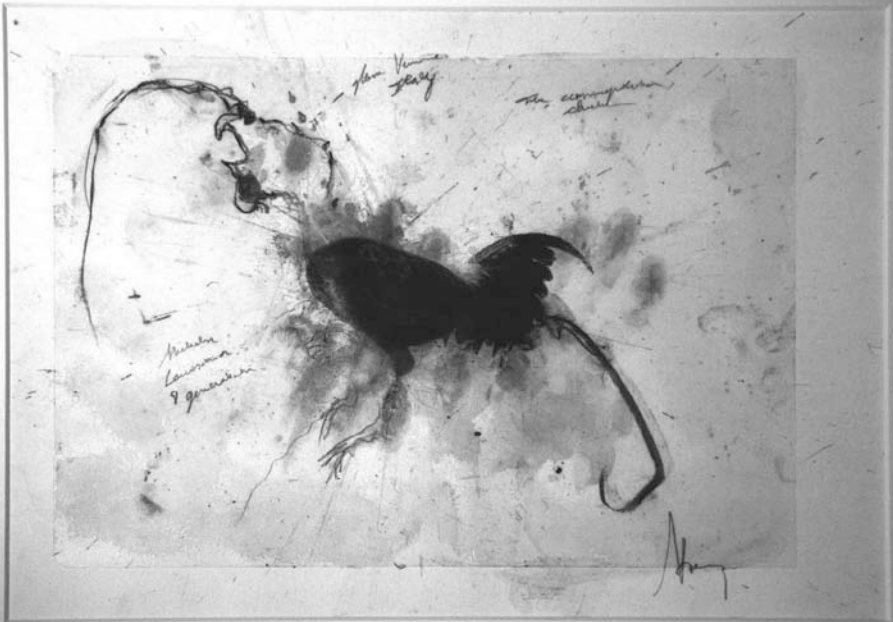
His gift to the auction is a large silkscreen print (based on a photograph) showing a dark enigmatic view of a shore that he originally made for the Museum ST Gallen (CH).  
'Shore' (2003) A.P. on Hahnemuhle paper 300 gr, 51 cm x 63 cm

## Koen Vanmechelen

**Koen Vanmechelen** has made the chicken his prime subject. His Cosmopolitan Chicken Project addresses an intricate mix of both artistic, scientific, political and philosophical issues. Through its attention for crossing borders and the importance of the bastard it celebrates the interest for the other, the importance of dialogue and collaboration. The Cosmopolitan Chicken Project has been exhibited worldwide. For the realisation of this project so far there have been collaborations with top specialists, both in science and art.

Koen Vanmechelen is currently on show at La Maison de Marijke Schreurs, Brussels.

[www.koen-vanmechelen.be](http://www.koen-vanmechelen.be)



His gift to the auction is one of his typical drawings, a highly energetic interpretation of the chicken which symbolises the intrinsic force of this animal.

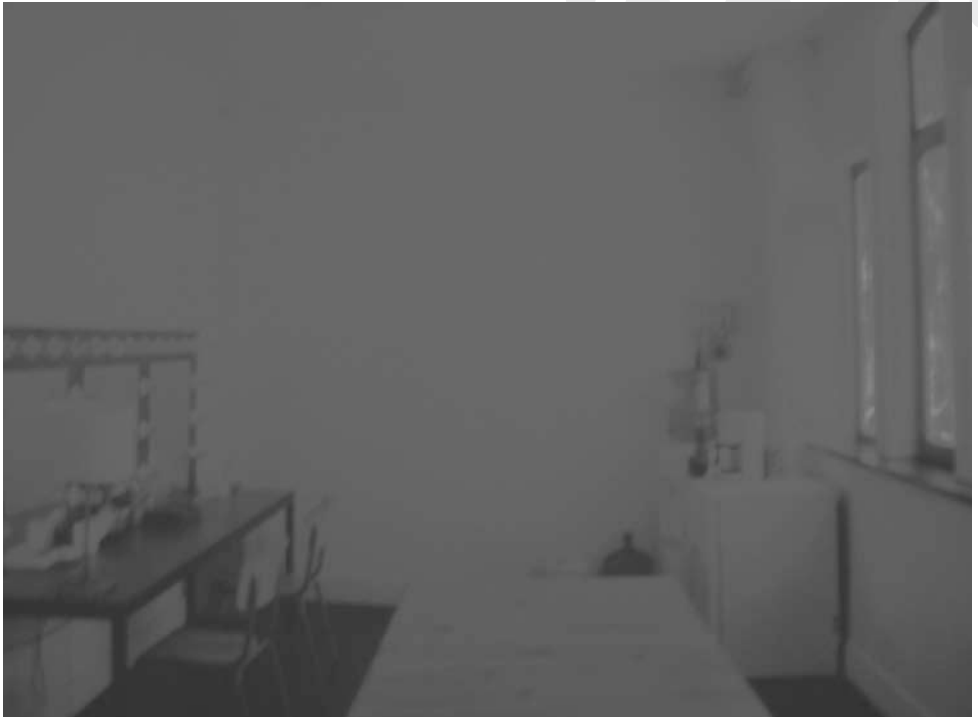
'No title' (2007), mixed media, without frame 26 cm x 36 cm, with frame 40 cm x 50 cm

## Pieter Vermeersch

**Pieter Vermeersch** has created a special edition for this evening. His work is an extensive research in colour and the creative act of painting. He was one of last year's laureates of the Jeune Peinture Belges and one of Belgium's most exciting and important young talents.

The edition shows us a blurred pink view on a room that thus asks to be studied carefully to make out the details. Like many of the artworks in this auction it stresses the importance of sight and thus becomes symbolic for the work of cbm Belgium.

Pieter Vermeersch currently has a solo show at Koraalberg, Antwerp.  
[www.pietervermeersch.be/index.htm](http://www.pietervermeersch.be/index.htm)



'No title' (2007), silkscreen print, format A2, edition 250.  
This work will be on sale at the auction for 150 euro.

# Cbm Belgium wishes to express its gratitude to

••• Prof. Dr. Philippe Kestelyn, President OB 2007 and Prof. Dr. Werner Spileers, Treasurer OB and Mrs. Marlene Verlaeckt, congress coordinator, for giving the opportunity to present the work of cbm at the OB Congress Dinner and to raise funds.

••• Lieven De Baere, Business Unit Manager of Allergan who generously sponsored the cbm stand on the expo and the dinner for the artists.

••• Prof. Dr. Volker Klauss, for sharing his experience and knowledge on the causes of blindness and the need of prevention in Europe.

••• Edith Doove who gave her professional advise on the selection of the artworks and on the organisation of the auction.

••• All the artists: Philip Aguire, Jeanine Cohen, Berlinde De Bruyckere, Marie-Jo Lafontaine, Luc Tuymans, Koen Vanmechelen, Pieter Vermeersch who generously gave their work to the benefit of cbm Belgium.

••• Mon Bernaerts for conducting the auction.

