

FROM EUROPE TO ELSEWHERE

A solo presentation, research and working period by Mitchel Breed at Lokaal.

*Lokaal // Jan van Galenstraat 83 // Utrecht.
June 8th to July 15th // Thursday to Saturday // 13:00 to 18:00
Opening: the 8th of June from 19:00 to 22:00 //
Zine release: 15th of July from 15:00 to 18:00.*

Welcome to 'From Europe to Elsewhere': a solo show by visual artist Mitchel Breed at exhibition space Lokaal, as well as a research and working period by the artist that marks the beginning of the research leading up to the third edition of "An Architecture of Encounters". The first edition of the ongoing series was initiated and developed as a collaboration between Breed and his friend and fellow artist Peter van der Horst, revolving around the question "How to Defy the Pressure to Perform?"; the second edition continued this trajectory in another close collaboration with Breed's artist-friend Pim Tieland, who introduced the concept of 'Lazy Action' as a possible solution. The forthcoming third edition will dive into the notion of gLEAP or (g)Locally Embedded Art Practice, a concept by artist, researcher, and educator Reinaart Vanhoe*. At the invitation of Lokaal, Breed will use their exhibition space/copy shop as a platform that allows him to explore and investigate this concept in relation to his own artistic practice.

As an artist, Breed is as local – or "locally embedded" – as one can get. He was born in the Utrecht neighborhood of Overvecht in 1989, more specifically on the Cleopatrareef 35, on the seventh floor of a high rise apartment building. He grew up in the nearby town of Montfoort, went to secondary school in Woerden, studied painting at the HKU University of the Arts in Utrecht, participated in an Erasmus exchange program in Prague, took part in the postgraduate program 'de Ateliers' in Amsterdam, traveled through Europe (windsurfing and visiting major museums), and then returned to Overvecht to join the artist-initiative/studio building Das Spectrum. He currently lives at the Bangkoldreef: only minutes away from the

house where he was born and again on number 35 and on the seventh floor.

Since his graduation, Breed's practice shifted from producing largescale paintings towards a practice that is grounded in drawing and collage. In tandem with his individual artistic production he also started to experiment with curatorial and educational projects. Working with Das Spectrum in particular turned out to be the perfect platform for this development. Especially exhibition projects like 'Ship of Fools'; 'Parasite Lottery' with local institution Casco and Indonesian artist Wok the Rock; 'Let us meet and let us meet again (Casco invites Das Spectrum)'; and - most recently - the collective work under the Das Spectrum moniker that resulted in the 'An Architecture of Encounters' exhibition series turned out to be of major significance.

Unfortunately, the members of the collective had to abandon the cherished studio building of Das Spectrum in the fall of 2017. It has since been taken down to make way for more apartment buildings. Since then Breed has been without a studio. Apart from incidental external locations, it is Breed's seventh-floor home that has turned into the base of his practice. He placed one of his custom drawing tables amid his personal art collection and started to work on the series of drawings 'From Europe to Elsewhere', which will be the focal point of this current solo presentation. For this he does not only wants to present the original drawings, but also to experiment with their reproductions as well. By offering these reproductions at reasonable prices, he wants to make them accessible to people like the neighbors in his flat, emphasizing both the local orientation of Breed's life and practice and his ongoing search for alternative encounters, modes of action, and ways to (commercially and socially) defy the pressure to perform.**

* *The concept of gLEAP is elaborated in the book Also-Space, From Hot to Something Else: How Indonesian Art Initiatives Have Reinvented Networking, by Reinaart Vanhoe.*

***Both this text and the exhibition signage are conceptualized and written by the artist, with editorial input from art historian and researcher Niek van der Meer.*

For more information you can check www.mitchelbreed.nl and www.lokaal.center