

Arthur Grosjean,

A promising young artist, practicing sculpture, video, photography, installation, programming and 3D printing is currently working at the Media Art Fructidor School in Chalon-sur-Saône, France.



He tries to situate his personal projects in the contemporary context of art, placing his research between the automation of globalization and a new and poetic relationship to the scientific field. His questions are linked to creation in space and the need to make decisions about the choice of materials.

Currently, his main research topic and work is on the boundary between the real and the virtual. For him, what we call reality is a system of control that exploits our basic need to feel real. In the first place, we have the need to possess and control all things, inert or animated, for this purpose we have created a multitude of machines, symbolic and physical forms. Today, it seems to him that possession and control have turned against us, we have become prosthetics of the machine, and the prey of our media. We have the culture of our tools. But the most important tool that emerges in the 21st century is undoubtedly computer simulation. A new dimension thus appears between observation and theory: it is the 2D visualization on screen, it is the 3D modelling of virtual objects.

We lend a mythical power to this simulacrum: when computers and robots can create a representation encompassing reality, when this representation can mingle with reality and soon replace it, when what manages to simulate reality actually manages to produce this reality.

It is true that today no one can understand the world in which he lives without an awareness of the nature of the technological control to which we are subjected and also without a better understanding of our relationship with machines.

As curator, and Chalon-sur-Saône being a constantly changing city, I propose to carry out one of Arthur Grosjean's projects. This project, called (in French) "Lotissement Utopique" ("Utopean Housing Estate" in English), exists for the moment only in the form of a model made with a 3D printer. However, it should be built in the course of next year with the support of the town of Chalon-sur-Saône, in order to revitalize local town planning. The place chosen for the construction is kept secret for the moment, but will undoubtedly become a must for all the curious and urban dwelling lovers.



Here the artist has created a housing estate with a modern and neutral aspect in color - white . All around it, in front of each pavilion, he has inscribed the name of a thinker or an artist, who had an impact on urban planning from far or near. With this project, the artist invites us to reflect again on our living spaces, and there is no doubt that this project, once realized, will integrate the pantheon of utopian constructions such as the Royal Saltworks of Arc and Senant, Realized by Claude Nicolas Ledoubs in his time, to cite only one example.

Elie Scholer