

GALERIE

HUBERT

WINTER

### Guillaume Bijl – Biography

|           |                                                                                        |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1946      | Born in Antwerp; lives and works in Antwerp, Belgium                                   |
| 1962–1969 | Self-taught painter (works were never exhibited)                                       |
| 1969–1970 | Brief studies of theater and film (which yielded some experiments)                     |
| 1969–1979 | <i>Project Pleasures</i> on paper (basis of later <i>Situation Installations</i> )     |
| 1969–1991 | Narrative photo series                                                                 |
| 1975–1978 | <i>Treatment</i> series on paper (basis of later <i>Transformation Installations</i> ) |
| 1990      | Venice Biennale 44                                                                     |
| 1992      | Kassel documenta 9                                                                     |
| 2007      | Münster, skulptur projekte münster 07                                                  |
| 2008      | Gent, S.M.A.K., 1                                                                      |

Guillaume Bijl works in the tradition of René Magritte and Marcel Broodthaers, questioning the identity of art with striking images. In 1979 he produced a manifesto, in terms which are ambiguous about how far he was being ironic, calling for the replacement of art centres by 'useful' activities. In the first of these a gallery became a garage. At documenta 9 in 1992 he created a shop-window display of waxwork figures from the history of the exhibition. At the Münster Sculpture Project of 2007 he staged a mock excavation of a Romanesque church, the spire of which, complete with weathercock, had been uncovered and was visible from above. An exhibition in Ghent in 2008 consisted of a series of 'museums', including a collection of lederhosen supposedly belonging to deceased celebrities such as the conductor Herbert von Karajan.

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