

COMMUNIQUÉ

2017

JULIACKS

ARCHITECTURE OF AN ATOM

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Librairie Ouvrir l'œil

18 rue des Capucins Lyon 1 - France

COMIC BOOK

LAUNCH

05.12.17

8PM

Exhibition in Résonance
program of la Biennale d'Art
Contemporain de Lyon 2017.

LA BIENNALE
DE LYON
RESONANCE



Architecture of an Atom
(comic book), 2017.

37,90€

296 pages, 7 × 10.9 inches,
smyth-sewn, hardcover, black
fore edge printing, full
color offset Publisher :
2dcloud, Minneapolis, USA.

Photo : 2dcloud, 2017.

Book trailer :

<https://vimeo.com/218643594>

With *Architecture of an Atom*, internationally recognized multi-disciplinary artist Juliacks brings her trans-media project to the print realm. Characterized by critics as a member of the immersive school of cartooning, she has sought to trouble the boundaries between fine art and comics throughout her career. A socially conscious, layered work in every sense of the word.

Excessive, mysterious, wonderful, Juliacks work takes the graphic novel to a new and more plastic dimension.

— Chris Kraus, *I Love Dick*, *Torpor*, *Summer of Hate*

Juliacks is a comic artist whose work—crude, ornate, subjective and dreamy—is not for those who prefer their narrative crisp and tidy.

— The New York Times

Juliacks is an artist, filmmaker, performer-choreographer, cartoonist, and playwright who splits her time between New Jersey, where she recently received a 2016 Fellowship from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, and the Netherlands. She's been published and performed in various cities across North America and throughout Europe, her most recent project being the trans-media story *Architecture of an Atom*.

Architecture of a Atom is a long, deep breath before a dive. It's a Piscean tale of survival, harrowing and surreal, a dreamlike escape, a delight. Dive into this pool of misfits and watch how wreckage becomes magic, hunger becomes adventure, and human questions about love, intimacy, and community unravel and manifest in beautiful washes of color. The language matches the vibrancy of the drawings and paintings that describes a cast of characters surviving on the brink of a disaster, in the end forming a magnificent poetic experience.

— Sally Wen Mao, *Mad Honey Symposium*

Juliacks is an American artist, born in 1986 in Los Angeles, California. After studying art in the United States, Finland and Sweden, in 2012 she took part in a post-graduate degree at the National School of Fine Arts in Lyon. She was then resident at Néon for a few years. She now lives between New Jersey and Amsterdam.

Fiction and its layered construction is the basis of Juliacks' work, which takes the form of books, films, theater, performance, installations, paintings, tapestries and comics. She creates narratives that unite, divide and perform themselves through the interweaving of mediums, cultures and time. Her stories touch upon social-cultural issues such as the denial of death, the quagmire of naturalization, and the construction of conflict, memory and belief.

Neon worked with Juliacks for three years on the elaboration of his great multimedia project *Architecture of an Atom*, notably in the co-production of the film *nucleus* * which was shot in the Auvergne Rhône Alpes region in 2013, then in its diffusion, notably at the MAC Lyon in 2015.



Architecture of an Atom
 (preparatory painting for
 comics), 2015.

© Juliacks, 2015.



Architecture of an Atom
 (preparatory painting for
 comics), 2015.

© Juliacks, 2015.



Architecture of an Atom
(preparatory drawing for
comics), 2015.

© Juliacks, 2015.



Architecture of an Atom
 (preparatory painting for
 comics), 2015.

© Juliack, 2015.

We are happy today to invite you to the launch of the comic book that closes this adventure, in a nearby bookstore that we particularly like, the Bookshop Ouvrir l'œil (Lyon 1).

This comic book was published by 2dcloud, the admirable American publisher dynamic and eclectic! 2dcloud.com

Her last works have been exhibited, screened and performed at museums (MoMA PS1, Moderna, MAC-Lyon, Centre-Geneva, Kiasma) galleries (Silberkuppe, Essex Flowers, Salon de Montrouge) film and comics festivals (Cineglobe, Zinebi, Crack, Antimatter, Cine-Rebis) and alternative art spaces (Néon, Atomic Centre, GrrrndZero) in North America and Europe. Her books and editions are published by the Moderna Museum, the Musée d'Art Contemporain de Lyon, Sparkplug Comics and 2dcloud.

* : « The film **Architecture d'un Atome** seemed to be a curiosity on first view. We are told that we are going to see the adventures of a bunch of "weirdos" that we will end up liking. In the beginning, it brings to mind Idiots, the film by Lars von Trier. But rapidly, we allow ourselves to be carried along by the editing which is comparable to a process of weaving. The closed system of the minivan cedes its place to that of a swimming pool and then to an unlikely encampment in the forest, as we move from nature controlled by urban planning to a civilisation in ruins, one that must be rebuilt from these remains. The fact is, that heroes are those we have placed on the sidelines, the rejects who finish by becoming the founders of a new world.

The characters are played by a group of more or less amateur actors, who all have accents, representing the multiplicity of cultures that exist in France. Summoned by local authorities to a swimming practice with a view to improving their capacity for integration, they stumble into a wild adventure following a misunderstanding that makes them think that war is on the

point of breaking out. Fleeing the battle they find themselves in an abandoned mountain swimming pool where they experiment with community life. Symbolically, we could see traditional, established patterns that evoke cycles of birth and rebirth: the passage in the tunnel, the dive into the pool, the immersion in the river... Liberated or powerless, the individuals who make up the small group begin to organise their social existence. Power games begin to appear: rituals, the sacrifice, and even murder, of a scapegoat as a foundational act of violence, are the ingredients that make up this fable. »

From *The infinite echo of a prehistoric whistle*, Marie de Brugerolle, 2015.
Translated into English from French by Derek Byrne.

Written on the occasion of the exhibition at MAC Lyon in March 2015. See also the series of images to follow, and the video of the vernissage - concert - performance:

<https://vimeo.com/245167576>

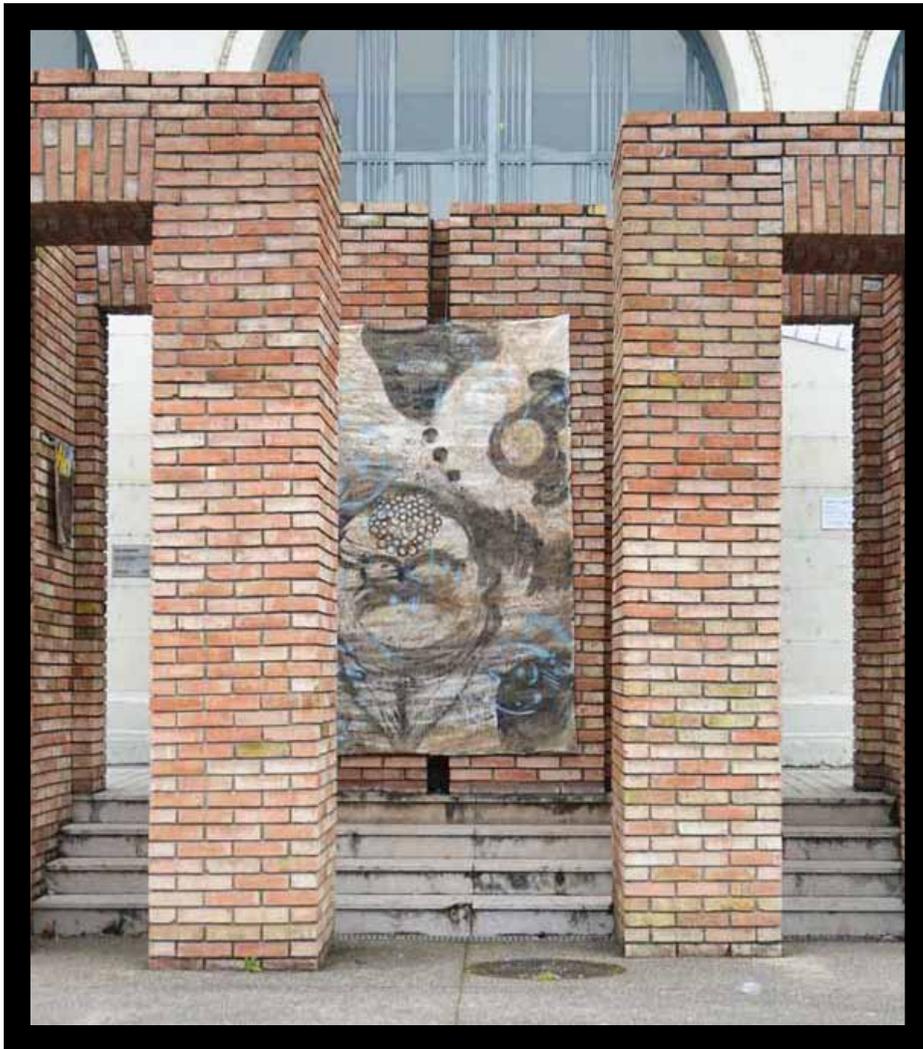


fig. 1



fig. 2



fig. 3

fig. 1, 2 et 3 :
Architecture d'un atome,
 exhibition view, Musée
 d'Art Contemporain,
 Lyon, 2015. Photo : Anne
 Simonnot / Néon, 2015.



fig. 4

fig. 4 : Juliacks, **Chapitre 1 : La Ballade de Tribulations Compulsive** (détail), 2013-2014, ink, print monotype, watercolor on paper, series of 34 drawings prefiguring the

comic strip. *Architecture d'un atome*, exhibition view, Musée d'Art Contemporain, Lyon, 2015. Photo : Anne Simonnot / Néon, 2015.



fig. 5

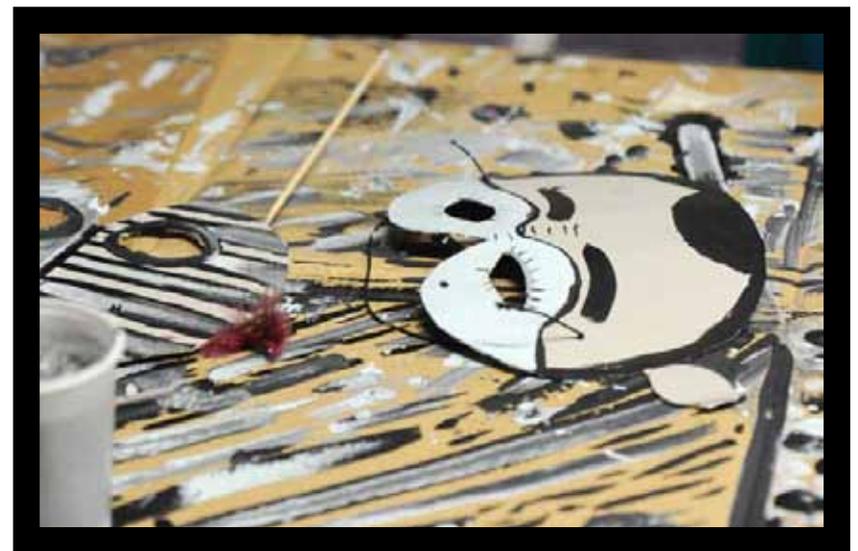


fig. 6

fig. 5 et 6 : Vernissage - bal masqué! view of *Architecture d'un atome*, Musée d'Art Contemporain, Lyon, 2015. Photo : Anne Simonnot / Néon. , 2015.

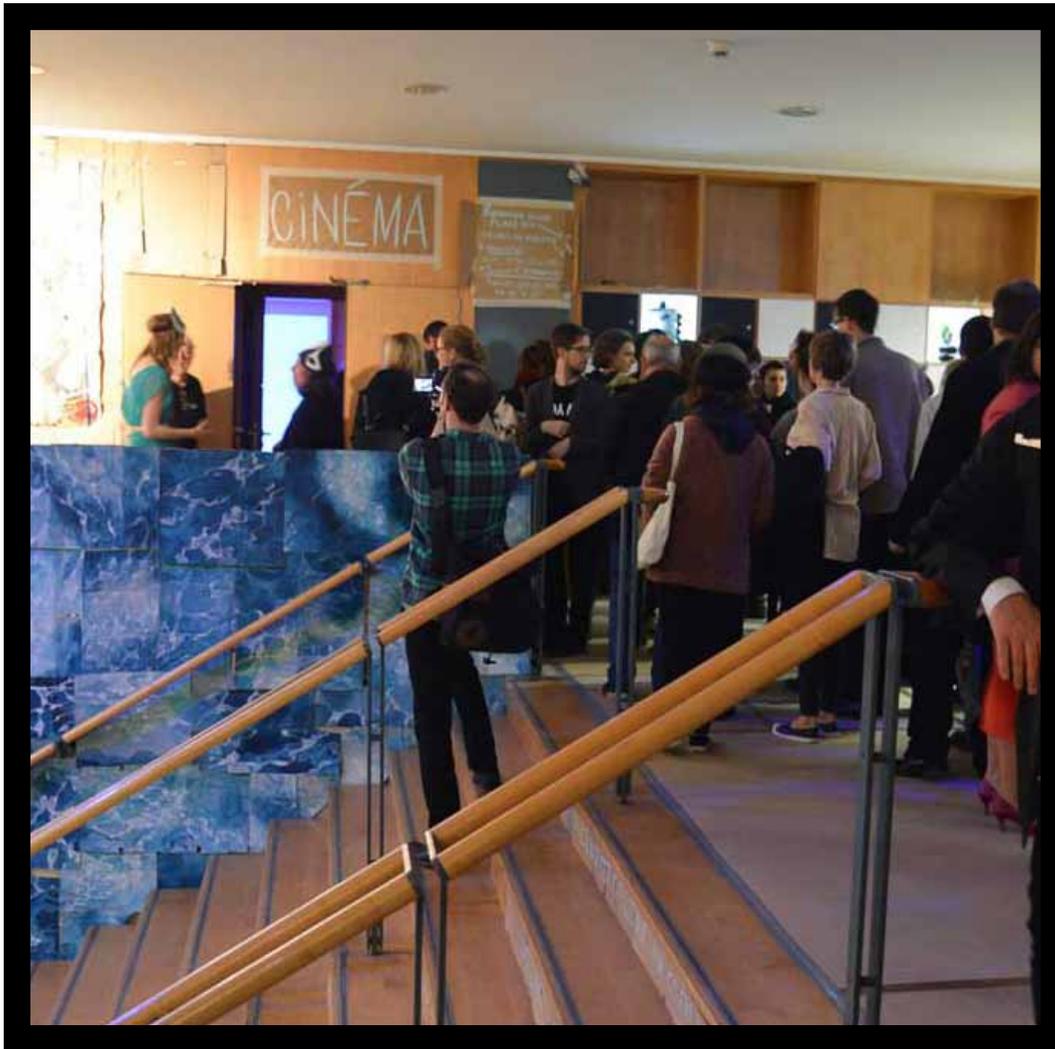


fig. 7

fig. 7 et 8 : *Architecture d'un atome*, exhibition view, Musée d'Art Contemporain, Lyon, 2015.
Photo : Anne Simonnot / Néon, 2015.



fig. 8



fig. 9

fig. 9 : Film projection view *Architecture d'un atome*, Musée d'Art Contemporain, Lyon, 2015.
Photo : Anne Simonnot / Néon, 2015.

The exposure like a way of searching and browsing, Néon shows since March 2000 an eclectic program, supporting the multiplicity of the debates that are generated by artists projects for the majority is cutting-edge.



NEON

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**Open
wed. to sat.
5pm to 9pm**

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