



Ben Kinmont  
*Prospectus: Paris*

April 2 – May 1, 2011  
Opening reception : April 2, 2011  
from 6 pm to 9 pm



KADIST  
ART

FOUNDATION

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## Ben Kinmont *Prospectus: Paris*

A survey show on the work of Ben Kinmont in Amsterdam, Paris, New York and San Francisco

April 2 – May 1, 2011

Opening reception: April 2, from 6 pm to 9pm

Since the late 1980s, **Ben Kinmont** (Born 1963 Burlington, Vermont, USA) has been interested in interpersonal communication as a means of addressing the problems of contemporary society. His sculptures and actions attempt to establish a direct, personal relationship between the artist and the viewer, using the work as a mediator. If art is supposed to be an agency of intellectual and emotional challenge, then the artist concludes that the audience should also be addressed beyond the institutional frame of the gallery and the museum, and that contact should be more direct.

Kinmont's practice is primarily made up of various projects which occur outside of art institutions. From these projects he makes an archive that contains everything related to the organization and development of a given project including letters, contracts, sketches, photographs, video, watercolors, and sculpture. If an archive is acquired, the purchaser signs a contract which stipulates that he or she must make the archive available to the public and add relevant future material. As such, the collector becomes an archivist as he or she helps to make transparent the project itself.

*Prospectus* is a traveling survey show (in Amsterdam, Paris, New York, San Francisco) in which a selection of works from the past twenty-two years are exhibited and (re)activated. For each location, Kinmont has worked together with a different curator to conceptually develop the premise of the show. Each exhibition is intended to be different and to reflect each curator's interest in the projects. The source material includes project descriptions and archives, past curated projects, publications from the Antinomian Press, and various photographs and sculptural objects.

**At the Kadist Art Foundation, the exhibition will concentrate on the notion of exchange and economy through the presentation of six projects from 1992 to the present.**

As a preview of the antiquarian book fair at the Grand Palais, Kadist presents Kinmont's on-going project in the form of a bookselling business *Sometimes a nicer sculpture is to be able to provide a living for your family* (begun 1998). This project will be contextualized by earlier works such as *The Materialization of life into alternative economies*, a curated show from 1996 and *I need you*, a project conducted in dialogue with passersby on the street in New York in 1992.

The works selected for the Kadist show investigate different modes of economy developed through an artistic practice. In some cases Kinmont redistributes the art market value of a project to participants and in other cases he adopts other economies as an alternative mode of exchange with people. The works also consider how artists develop a sustainable economy as an art project and when they decide to stop their practice to become something else. With all of these strategies at stake, art becomes a visible part of the social fabric towards a "materialization of life."

Within the context of his investigations into various business and social economies, Kinmont will activate his *Digger Dug* project. This project looks at the possibility of helping others through an artistic practice and the ethi-

cal concerns surrounding project art. As part of the *Digger Dug* and for the show at Kadist, Kinmont will issue a new edition of "ethical considerations in project art," a text he wrote with his graduate students in 2005. The new edition will include commentary by Laurel George, a cultural anthropologist teaching at NYU and be issued as a broadside to be posted in the streets of Paris during the time of the show.

Different perspectives on Kinmont's work will be presented in the form of an interview with artist **Emilie Parnedeau** and two lectures, one by art historian **Sébastien Pluot** on the artist group Parasite of which Kinmont was a member (13 April) and the other by curator **Krist Gruijthuisen** on gastronomy, self-cannibalism and the art market (26 April). Artist **Hugo Bregeau**, Kinmont's former assistant, will be available to assist the public in handling the archives for the duration of the show.

In addition, an updated version of *Prospectus*, the collection of Kinmont's project descriptions published earlier by JRP in 2002 (the original edition is out of print), is also being issued. Entitled *Prospectus 1988-2010 forty-two works by Ben Kinmont*, the new book is co-produced by Kadist Art Foundation, Kunstverein, Air de Paris Fales Library New York University; published by the Antinomian Press; and distributed by JRP Ringier. A French version of *Prospectus*, published by les éditions Mix, will also be available.

#### Other Venues :

**Prospectus Amsterdam**  
**Kunstverein, Amsterdam**  
March 12 – May 22, 2011

**Prospectus New York**  
**Fales Library, New York University (in collaboration with Kunstverein NY)**  
New York City  
Sept. 15 – Nov. 15, 2011

**Prospectus San Francisco**  
**SF MoMA (in collaboration with Kadist Art Foundation SF )**  
San Francisco  
Spring 2012

### Talks at Kadist-Office

Wednesday, April 13 at 7 pm

**Sébastien Pluot : on the artist group «Parasite», of which Ben Kinmont was a member in the 90's.**

Sébastien Pluot, is an art historian and an independent curator. He teaches art history and theory at the University of Paris I Panthéon Sorbonne and at the Fine Arts School of Angers in which he runs with Fabien Vallos, the research program called « In translation ». His texts are published in various magazines and catalogues such as *Vides, a retrospective*, Centre Georges Pompidou / Kunsthalle de Berne, 2009. He is a curator of *Fragmentations, trajectoires contre-nature*, Villa Lemot, Clisson, February-April 2011 ; *Une traduction d'une langue à l'autre*, Cneai, Paris, March, 2011. *Double Bind, Arrêtez d'essayer de me comprendre*, on the issue of the translation, Villa Arson, Nice, 2010.

He is currently co-curating with Dean Inkster the exhibition *Christopher D'Arcangelo* for the Cac Brétigny, France; Artists Space, New York, USA; Centre d'art Montehermoso, Spain.

With Renée Green from the San Francisco Art Institute, Pluot develops « Living Archives » a research program, an exhibition and a publication on the use of documentation and archive in contemporary art.

Tuesday, April 26 at 7 pm

**Krist Gruijthuijsen : «Table for two», on gastronomy, self-cannibalism and the art market.**

Krist Gruijthuijsen is a freelance curator and co-founding Director of Kunstverein where Ben Kinmont's exhibition *Prospectus: Amsterdam* is shown. Recently he has been appointed artistic director of the 2nd edition of De Straat van Sculpturen (Bijlmermeer, Amsterdam) bearing the title *The Third Sculpture* (opening June 2011). He was curatorial advisor for Manifesta 7, Trentino/Südtirol/ Alto Adige (2009) for which he curated *Matter of Fact* and is currently advisory member for the Mondriaan Foundation, the Foundation of Visual Art in the Netherlands (Fonds BKVB) and the Artist Pension Trust.

Gruijthuijsen's currently preparing a large publication entitled *Encyclopedia of Fictional Artists + The Addition* for JRP Ringier while also developing his PhD at the Curating Contemporary Art Department of the Royal College of Art in London.

### Book launch :

*Prospectus 1988-2010 forty-two works by Ben Kinmont*

Saturday, April 23th, from 4 pm to 8 pm at JRP-Ringier

8 rue Saint Bon, 75004 Paris.

metro : Rambuteau

Co-produced by Kadist Art Foundation, Kunstverein, Air de Paris, and Fales Library New York University

JRP Ringier

[www.jrp-ringier.com/](http://www.jrp-ringier.com/)

Antinomian Press

<http://antinomianpress.org/>

Les Editions Mix.

<http://www.editionsmix.org/main.html>

### International Antiquarian Book Fair

From April 29th to May 1st 2011

Paris- Grand Palais

avenue Winston Churchill

75008 Paris

<http://www.salondulivreancienparis.fr> ; [www.kinmont.com](http://www.kinmont.com)

Set up of *Sometimes a nicer sculpture is to be able to provide a living for your family*, 1998 – present, Ben Kinmont's bookselling business. Booth C12.



## *Materialization of life into alternative economies, 1996*

Collection of the artist

Hinmont's original show presented the work of Paula Hayes, Joseph Grigely, On Kawara, Gordon Matta-Clark, and Mierle Laderman Ukeles as examples of different notions of economy. His reasons for the show were to suggest that some artists' work, was less about a dematerialization of the art object and more about a "materialization of life" into different notions of exchange.

For the exhibition at Kadist this curatorial project will be expanded to include a new group of artists that are working with various notions of economy.

This reactivation is realized in collaboration with the French artist Emilie Parendeau and Sandra Terdjman, the director of Kadist.

### Emilie Parendeau

Emilie Parendeau, artist born 1980, has a Master's Degree in Economics and is graduated from l'École des Beaux-arts de Lyon. Her works consist in activating and interpreting performances from conceptual art. Since 2009, she has been producing «A LOUER», a protocol which aims to activate conceptual art works. «A LOUER#1» was an exhibition in which Ben Hinmont's work *I Trust You, I Take You* was reactivated. In 2010, for «A LOUER#3», she did Ben Hinmont's performance *Congratulations* (1995) in the exhibition «Résurrection» curated by François Aubart at Galerie Dohanglee, Paris.



Exhibition view at in for the Moderna galerija/Museum of Modern Art, Ljubljana during the exhibition "Worthless/Invaluable" curated by Carlos Basualdo, 2000

## *Sometimes a nicer sculpture is to be able to provide a living for your family, a bookselling business begun 1998*

Hinmont will set up his bookselling business at the Kadist Foundation for two weeks. (The business buys and sells 15th to 19th century books about food, wine, and domestic economy.) For the last week of the show, the business will relocate to the Grand Palais where it will participate in the International Antiquarian Bookfair. As part of this project, Kadist will also present Hinmont's bookseller catalogues, framed broadside lists from past bookfairs, and two vitrines displaying a selection of the book shop's inventory.



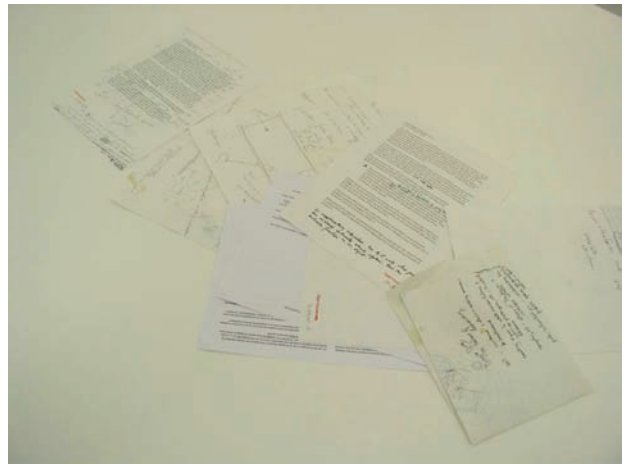
Broadsides, printed letter on Fabiano Ingres paper, framed, 2009 and 2005



## ***The Digger Dug (archive), begun 2004***

*The Digger Dug* project considers the possibilities and impossibilities of helping others as part of an artistic practice and the concomitant ethical concerns.

Sebastopol (US), San Francisco, New York City, and Sainte-Croix (FR). Various conversations and publications written with MFA students at California College of Arts, fourth and fifth year students at the École Régionale des Beaux Arts de Valence, a social worker, and l'Association Nationale pour l'Éducation de Chiens d'Assistance pour Handicapés.



Exhibition at galerie Air de Paris, 2005. Archive begun 2004.

## ***I need you (archive), begun 1992***

Caroline Bourgeois collection, Paris

Kinmont stood on the street and spoke with people about ideas of spaces in between. The conversations were recorded and when the archive was sold, the participants received the profit.

« 96th and Broadway, 16th and Eighth Avenue, and Murray and Broadway. Four hours and forty-one minutes on the street. 750 catalytic texts given. Fifty-eight people stopped and spoke with me. Sixteen gave me their signatures and addresses, each being mailed a \$40.00 check one year later.»  
Project cannot be repeated.



Kinmont with participant at Murray & Broadway, NYC, 1992

## ***Exchange (archive), begun 1995***

Collection of the artist

Anyone coming into the clothing store agnes b. could trade the shirt off his or her back for a shirt in the store. The agnes b. label was replaced by a new label signed by Kinmont and the participant. The real agnes b. label was then sewn onto the participant's old shirt, which was hung back on the racks as an agnes b. shirt for sale.

Archive begun 1995. agnes b. pour hommes, New York City, for three days. The store's seamstress and twenty customers participated. Twenty shirts worth \$2,934.00 given. Project can be repeated.



*Exchange*, Ljubljuna edition with the store «Cliché», black and white photograph, 2000

## ***Help, 1995***

Framed text and photograph

Douglas Posten Collection, Portland, Oregon

Kinmont and a collector washed the collector's dishes and then signed the kitchen wall. The price of the piece equaled the cost for Kinmont to replace a stolen video camera.



## Ben Kinmont

Born Burlington, Vermont, USA, 1963.

[www.benkinmont.com](http://www.benkinmont.com)

### Recent projects

On going

*Sometimes a nicer sculpture is to be able to provide a living for your family.*

"Antinomian Press", an on-going publication project concerning project art, begun 1996.

2009

*On Becoming something else*, private and public editions, Paris

2005

*Project Series: Christopher D'Arcangelo*. A public publishing project in front of the Louvre and then distributed inside the Louvre, with students from the Ecole nationale des beaux arts, Bourges, Vincent Romagny of CNEAI, and the team from Air de Paris.

*An Exhibition in Your Mouth*, Montpellier.

2004

*This isn't it*, Musée d'Art Contemporain Lyon, ICA London, Muzeum Sztuki Lodz.

2003

*Shhhh*, Chatou.

*This is not art*, with Jacob Fabricus, Brooklyn.

2002

*Moveable type no documenta*, Kassel.

*An Exhibition in Your Mouth*, Montpellier.

2000

*Sometimes*, Restaurant le Petit Diable, Toulouse.

*The third sculpture; or, an exhibition concerning spaces in between*, Documents sur l'art, Dijon: Le Consortium, no. 12,

2000, pp. 34-57.

### Exhibitions (selection)

2010

*Ben Kinmont, Table d'hôtes*, Lyon.

*Double Bind / Arrêtez d'essayer de me comprendre !*, Villa Arson, Nice.

2009

Le Nouveau Festival du Centre Pompidou, Centre Pompidou et sept restaurants, Paris.

*Pickpocket Almanach*, SFMOMA, San Francisco.

*On Becoming something else (diner prototype)*, Air de Paris au Restaurant Chapeau Melon, 21.09.09, Paris.

*Portrait de l'Artiste en Motocycliste/Portrait of an Artist as Biker*, Magasin Centre National d'Art Contemporain, Grenoble, France.

*The columns held us up*, collaboration with Platform Garanti Contemporary Art Center, Istanbul, curated by Vasif Kortun and November Paynter, Artist Space, New York.

2005

Air de Paris, Paris.

2004

Random Gallery, Paris.

Expat Art Centre, ICA London, Musée d'art contemporain Lyon, Muzeum Sztuki Lodz, curated by Mathieu Copeland.

2003

CNEAI, Chatou.

25th International Biennial of Graphic Arts, Ljubljana, curated by Christophe Cheriخ.

*Extra Art: A survey of artists' ephemera, 1960-1999*, ICA London, curated by Steven Leiber.

*What's the use*, Jean Paul Slusser Gallery, University of Michigan, curated by Heather Nicols.

2002

*Subtiles elegances*, La Galerie, Noisy le Sec.

*Touch: Relational Art from the 1990s to Now*, San Francisco Art Institute, curated by Nicolas Bourriaud.

*La vie devant soi/Life ahead of you*, Frac Languedoc-Roussillon, Montpellier & Centre d'art contemporain, Albi, curated by Ami Barak, Paul Ardenne, & Jackie Ruth Meyer.

Documenta 11, Kassel.

*Ideal Avalance*, curated by Michelle Grabner & Brad Hillam, The Pond, Chicago.

2000

*L'Oeuvre Collective/Collective Art Work*, curated by Pascal Pique, les Abattoirs, Art Contemporain, Toulouse.

*Contact*, curated by Nicolas Bourriaud, Fri Art, Centre d'Art Contemporain, Fribourg.

*Worthless (Invaluable)*, curated by Carols Basualdo, Moderna galerija Ljubljana/Museum of Modern Art, Ljubljana,



## About the Foundation

Kadist Art Foundation is a private foundation initiated in 2001. It is dedicated to promoting contemporary art through the constitution of an art collection and the organization of exhibitions and residencies in its space in Paris. Kadist's intention is to be actively involved in the promotion and international dimension of contemporary art. The collection brings together international artists and contemporary works of all mediums. It is the seminal point of involvement with artists that can thereafter expand to a residency and exhibition project.

The residencies are open to international artists and curators, invited to spend four to six months in Paris leading to an exhibition project at the Foundation. A flat, a workshop place and an allowance are provided to the resident by the Foundation.

By means of these various programs, Kadist manifests its support to a group of artists who define together its artistic identity.

Kadist Art Foundation makes collective decisions by its artistic committee which comprises, besides the founding family members, Jeremy Lewison, modern and contemporary art consultant and previously Director of collections at the Tate Gallery; Rozenn Prat, professor of Visual Arts and conference panelist, and Jean Marc Prevost, previously director of the Rochechouart museum and today Inspector of the Artistic Creation at the Visual Arts Delegation in Paris.

### Supports and thanks :

#### Ben Kinmont and Kadist Art Foundation wish to thank :

Caroline Bourgeois, Spree, Jousse Entreprise, Musée d'art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, Fabien Vallos, Air de Paris, Douglas Posten, Sébastien Pluot, Krist Gruijthuisen, Maxine Kopsa, Marvin Taylor, Sarina Basta, Emilie Parendeau, Hugo Bregeau.

#### This exhibition receive the support of :

**PHILIPS**

### Practical information :

#### Opening Hours :

From Thursday to Sunday, from 2pm to 7pm,  
or by appointment.

#### **Access**

Stations : Anvers (2), Abesses (12)

#### Contact :

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### Upcoming exhibitions:

**Ruti Sela & Maayan Amir**

Exhibition dates : from June, 11 to July, 31.

Opening reception : Friday, June 10 from 6 pm to 9 pm.

It will be the first French solo show for these two Israeli artists, whose work "Beyond Guilt", a video triptic, is part of the Kadist collection.

**Lars Laumann**

Exhibition dates : from September 24 to November

Opening reception : Friday, September 23 from 6 pm to 9 pm.

Norwegian artist, born in 1975, Lars Laumann is in residency at Kadist from January to May. For his solo exhibition, he will present a new film, in co-production with Kunsthall Oslo.

**December:**

Exhibition with works from the Kadist collection  
curated by Jean-Marc Prevost.

### Parallel Program:

***Confer, Partnership with Fine Arts School of Cergy***

This projet related to the Kadist collection, is led by the students and coordinated by Bernard Marcadé, Véronique Joumard and Mathilde Villeneuve. It will be held in 3 stages: from January 25 to March 18 - **from March 29 to May 20 - from May 31 to June 30.**

presented in Kadist-Office, 19bis rue des Trois Frères, on appointment.

### Kadist - San Francisco:

The Wednesday Series will host an eclectic range of short programs organized as informal gatherings among area artists, curators and other cultural agents. These occasional offerings in the form of performance, ephemeral installation, video screenings, and live conversations will be programmed and presented by the Kadist team, and an array of advisors including Hou Hanru, Jens Hoffmann, Tony Labat, Steven Lieber, and Larry Rinder.

Programme on : <http://kadist-sf.org/>