

## ITINERANT SPACE

Two years on since I got back at being involved with exhibitions and artists by creating the “**For Rent/For Sale**” format, I can state with absolute certainty that it was worth the effort.

Using this idea of moving freely, in a nomadic and itinerant manner, transforming myself in a gallerist without fixed headquarters who only occupies spaces for the duration of the exhibit, I entrusted myself inevitably, without even realising it, to the *waves of Destiny*.

The current trend in the real estate market is very unusual, because if on one hand, due to the economic downturn, there is a significant amount of property available on the market, there is also a lot of competition, and the time frame of securing a sale or rent agreement has widened, to the detriment of landlords who have their potential sales frozen for several months on end. This situation has undoubtedly worked in my favour, and that is why my format has been widely successful. Landlords who have their property frozen out in the market thus welcome the idea of giving an ulterior, unexpected visibility to the property in question, and that is why I have always found the exact type of space I needed for each property every time so far. In spite of this, there is no absolute guarantee that once I establish the type of planning required for an exhibit, the space which matches my requirements is available, as each exhibit is tailored to a specific type of space needed in a precise moment in time.

For this new exhibit of **Delphine Valli**, two years after the one shown in an apartment up for rent in Via Bruxelles, Destiny was particularly generous with me, and for that I am grateful.

Delphine and I came up with the idea of organising a new individual exhibit back in September. We initially thought of doing it in March, since I already had another exhibition programmed in May. In January I decided to postpone it, and we therefore knew we had time to organise her exhibit between March and May. We decided to take our time to find an adequate space for it.

Taking into consideration that I had already shown her work in a house available for rent two years prior, the idea was to find the right solution to show it this time round, even if that meant postponing it for the start of the new season, because I had no intention of showing it the same way as before once again.

That is why, due to a series of incredible coincidences, everything took shape in less than two weeks eventually.

Just before Christmas I meet a person who I invite to see Renaud Auguste-Dormeuil's exhibit. He comes over to see it after the holidays and I take him to Delphine's atelier afterwards. I know he is a lawyer, and I ask him where his office is located. “Palazzo Taverna”, he says. “Where exactly?” I ask, curious.

From his answer I immediately understand the exact location and two days later I am there...

When a couple of weeks later I tell him I had planned an exhibit of Delphine Valli's work for April/May, and that I was looking for a particular space for it, not necessarily a residential property, he instinctively, and very generously offers his law firm office to organise it.

I can hardly believe what I am hearing, and quite moved I say: “That would be wonderful”...

Since this place is neither for rent or for sale, but it is a space with its own history like all others, and above all one with its own particular existence, in which an artistic discourse needs to coexist with the existing environment for a short period of time, I seized this opportunity to create a new format for new exhibits, alternatively from the "For Rent/For Sale" format. "Itinerant Space", meant as the space I symbolically carry over my shoulders, since I have decided to move about freely as a gallerist without fixed headquarters, but also as a space with precise connotations which transforms itself for the occasion into a real art gallery. A difficult challenge for the artist, who intervenes with her artwork in a space which already possesses a distinctive identity of its own, unable to move with total freedom, needing to confront herself and adapt to the decor of the place as well.

In this first meeting of "Itinerant Space" Delphine Valli very courageously put herself to the test, by confronting a space replete with history, entirely frescoed, with a strong and distinctive decor character.

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