

# I

EXHIBITION

# A

# DANIEL STEEGMANN MANGRANÉ

*NE VOULAIS PRENDRE NI FORME,  
NI CHAIR, NI MATIÈRE*

20<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY - 28<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2019

# C

INSTITUT  
D'ART CONTEMPORAIN  
Villeurbanne/Rhône-Alpes

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The IAC presents the first significant solo exhibition in France of the work of artist Daniel Steegmann Mangrané. The artist, born in Barcelona (Spain) in 1977, who today lives and works in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) has presented his work in numerous solo and group exhibitions all over the world, and more recently during the 14th Biennial of Lyon, *Mondes flottants*.

Daniel Steegmann Mangrané has created a polymorphous work (drawing, sculpture, film, installations, etc.). His arrival in Brazil in 2004 was motivated by his fascination for the Amazonian forest – as a child he wanted to be a biologist, an entomologist or a botanist – as well as his discovery of Brazilian artists, Lygia Clark and Hélio Oiticica. Beginning at end of the 1950's, for the founders of the Neo-Concrete movement, intuition, subjectivity and public participation managed to reconcile outdated dualisms, starting with the commonly acknowledged opposition between object and subject.

Also nourished by anthropology and the poems of Stela do Patrocínio, one of which inspired the title of this exhibition; in his work Daniel Steegmann Mangrané mixes natural and cultural forms. He explores how the living is entangled with its environment, experimenting with space as an area of the sensitive and of relationships.

Impregnated by the Amerindian perspective of anthropologist Eduardo Viveiros de Castro – who blurs the distinction between human and non-human – and by the thinking of Philippe Descola who strives to go beyond the Nature-Culture dualism, Daniel Steegmann Mangrané intends to totally and profoundly transform the space of the IAC. And so, the path of the exhibition generates new vanishing lines, changing perspectives which open out towards the exterior. Defined by a sensitive geometry, driven only by rays of natural light that penetrate the gloom, it encourages exploration and groping and fumbling, as if willing visitors to rediscover the essence of the living itself. This path through the exhibition also translates the artist's fascination for the notion of dissolution, a dissolution of the subject which is likely to lead to an awareness of its surroundings.

The environment proposed here by Daniel Steegmann Mangrané begins with and spreads out from his artwork *Phasmides*. Falling somewhere between a modernist and anthropologist framework, this film is centered on the Phasmid (taken from the Greek, meaning “ghost”), more commonly known as the stick insect. The artist's unexpected encounter with this phasmid, in 2008, was decisive, as it allowed him to engage in long term research around the idea of moving beyond Western dualisms. Stretched out like a stick, unmoving like a plant, this mimetic species is a master of camouflage, blending in so well with its surroundings that it almost completely disappears. In his text “*Mimétisme et psychasthénie légendaire*” (*Mimicry and legendary Psychasthenia*) (*Minotaure* n° 7, 1935), Roger Caillois defines mimicry not as some kind of mechanism for hiding from predators but rather as an intention to melt into one's environment.

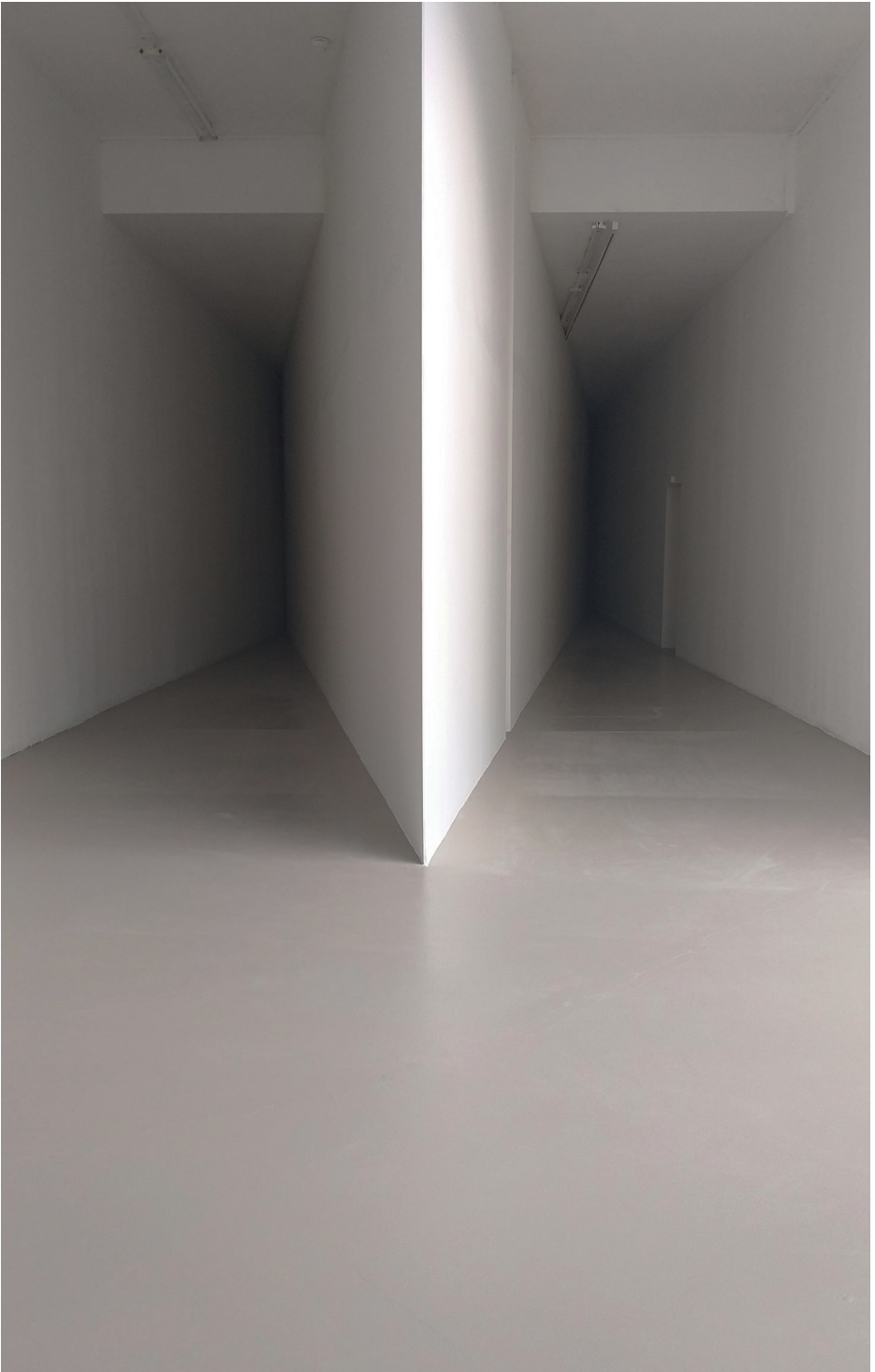
*Phasmides* shows the phasmid appearing and disappearing like some form of living paradox. The insect reveals all of the ambivalence of its being, an unsuspected affinity between animal, plant and geometrical form, in order to propose an image which is “*so very strong and so very fragile*”.

Evolving in environments which are in turn organic and geometric, it highlights the constantly evolving relationships that it entertains with its surroundings, cancelling out any opposition that might exist between the animate and the inanimate. Echoing Amerindian cosmology, background and figure, subject and object, nature and culture no longer appear for what they are but rather for the relationships that they stimulate.

By placing all of these relationships in space, the artist has provided us with a sharp and critical tool: *“if there are no more subjects nor objects, then there are no longer spectators or works of art, but rather processes of relationships of mutual transformation. Combinations of agents which influence one another”*. The path proposed by Daniel Steegmann Mangrané thus constitutes an initiatory environment for the visitor, one punctuated by the trajectory of the light. Inhabited by the phasmid, a creature *“with neither head nor tail”*, it enables one’s gaze to be shifted away from the center and allows one to play with, and test, one’s own position. The visitor is perpetually engaged in wandering along this path that has been designed for them, quite like the landscape that the artist has created for the stick insect.

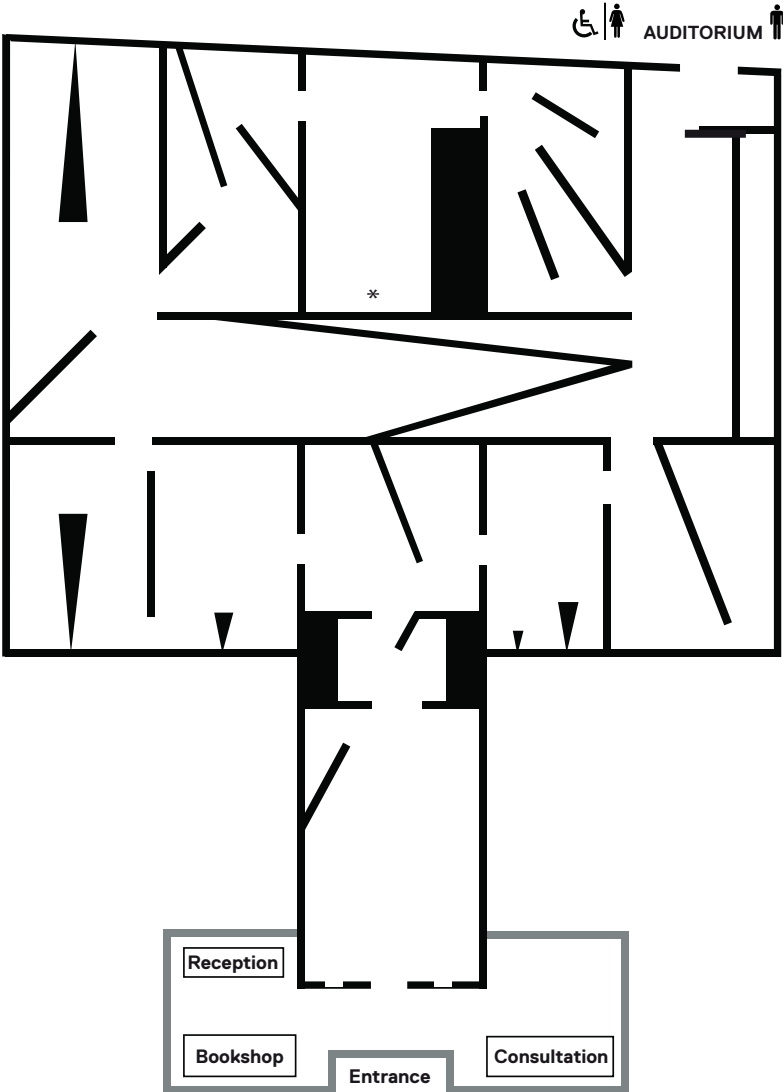
Daniel Steegmann Mangrané invites us to experience our own presence, telling us that: *“I am always seeking the moment where the visitor no longer observes the work but rather his or her own experience; the moment where they observe themselves”*. An experience of self, conducive to metamorphosis.

**Curator : Nathalie Ergino**  
**Assisted by Elli Humbert**



# exhibition rooms

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\* *Phasmides*  
16 mm film transferred in HD video, color,  
silent, 22'41 (130 x 95 cm), 2012  
Courtesy Mendes Wood DM, São Paulo  
and Esther Schipper, Berlin.

## FEBRUARY

For Daniel Steegmann Mangrané's project, the IAC has extended the limits of its capacity to adapt itself to the artist's project by disrupting the conditions of the exhibition, communication and mediation, all the way to the very day to day operation of the Institute.

And so, the opening hours of the exhibition will change each day. As the length of the day grows longer, exhibition opening times will also increase symbolically, keeping pace with a natural rhythm. This original and unique experience will emphasize an alchemy which exists between the project and the artist and the place which hosts them both. Buy an entry and return as many times as you like !

S 17	12:16 — 15:57
● M 18	12:15 — 15:58
● T 19	12:14 — 15:59
W 20	12:13 — 16:00
T 21	12:12 — 16:01
F 22	12:11 — 16:02
S 23	12:10 — 16:03
S 24	12:09 — 16:04
● M 25	12:08 — 16:05
● T 26	12:07 — 16:06
W 27	12:06 — 16:07
T 28	12:05 — 16:08

## MARCH

F 1	12:04 — 16:09
S 2	12:03 — 16:10
S 3	12:02 — 16:11
● M 4	12:01 — 16:12
● T 5	12:00 — 16:13
W 6	11:59 — 16:14
T 7	11:58 — 16:15
F 8	11:57 — 16:16
S 9	11:56 — 16:17
S 10	11:55 — 16:18
● M 11	11:54 — 16:19
● T 12	11:53 — 16:20
W 13	11:52 — 16:21
T 14	11:51 — 16:22
F 15	11:50 — 16:23
S 16	11:49 — 16:24
S 17	11:48 — 16:25
● M 18	11:47 — 16:26
● T 19	11:46 — 16:27
W 20	11:45 — 16:28
T 21	11:44 — 16:29
F 22	11:43 — 16:30
S 23	11:42 — 16:31
S 24	11:41 — 16:32
● M 25	11:40 — 16:33
● T 26	11:39 — 16:34
W 27	11:38 — 16:35
T 28	11:37 — 16:36
F 29	11:36 — 16:37
S 30	11:35 — 16:38
S 31	11:34 — 16:39

## APRIL

● M 1	11:33 — 16:40
● T 2	11:32 — 16:41
W 3	11:31 — 16:42
T 4	11:30 — 16:43
F 5	11:29 — 16:44
S 6	11:28 — 16:45
S 7	11:27 — 16:46
● M 8	11:26 — 16:47
● T 9	11:25 — 16:48
W 10	11:24 — 16:49
T 11	11:23 — 16:50
F 12	11:22 — 16:51
S 13	11:21 — 16:52
S 14	11:20 — 16:53
● M 15	11:19 — 16:54
● T 16	11:18 — 16:55
W 17	11:17 — 16:56
T 18	11:16 — 16:57
F 19	11:15 — 16:58
S 20	11:14 — 16:59
S 21	11:13 — 17:00
● M 22	11:12 — 17:01
● T 23	11:11 — 17:02
W 24	11:10 — 17:03
T 25	11:09 — 17:04
F 26	11:08 — 17:05
S 27	11:07 — 17:06
S 28	11:06 — 17:07
● Closed	

## PRACTICAL INFORMATIONS

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# DANIEL STEEGMANN MANGRANÉ

## NE VOULAIS PRENDRE NI FORME, NI CHAIR, NI MATIÈRE

20.02.19 - 28.04.19

## OPENING HOURS

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Wednesday to Friday (details in pages 6 & 7)  
Free guided visits on Saturday and Sunday at 3 pm  
and by appointment during the week

## GETTING HERE

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● BUS C3 (stop Institut d'art contemporain)  
C9 (stop Ferrandière)  
C16 (stop Alsace)

Ⓜ LINE A (stop République)

The IAC is 10 minutes walk from Lyon Part-Dieu railway station

## PRICES

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• Full price: 6€ • reduced price: 4€ • free admission: -18 years old • IAC Pass 2018: 15€

## BOOKSHOP

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The IAC bookshop, specialising in contemporary art, is both a resource and an outreach tool for the IAC's artistic projects. **Opened during exhibitions opening hours.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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**Fridays, march 22nd & avril 12th 2019, 12:45:**

ART BREAK, lunchtime mini-visit with on site foodtruck or catering.

**Saturday, march 16th 2019, 2pm:**

EXPERIMENTAL VISIT, in line with the themes of Daniel Steegmann Mangrane's project, this visit features redefined outreach modalities to address and experience the artworks differently.

**Sunday, april 7th 2019, 3pm:**

FAMILY SUNDAY, special visit for families and follow-up afternoon snack.

**Sunday, march 31st 2019, 11:30am:**

MEETING WITH DANIEL STEEGMANN MANGRANÉ

*An IAC Friends proposal*

On the occasion of the change to summer time, discovery of the exhibition and meeting with the artist over a convivial brunch.

**Sunday, april 28th 2019:**

DIURNAL, last day of the exhibition, exceptional opening from 11:06am à 5:07pm

**Informations & reservations : [www.i-ac.eu](http://www.i-ac.eu)**

The Institut d'art contemporain is supported by the Ministère de la culture et de la communication (DRAC Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes), the Conseil régional Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes and the Ville de Villeurbanne.

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