

Press release

# SARAH OPPENHEIMER

## S-399390

**Exhibition from February 20 to May 29, 2016**

**Curators** Marie-Noëlle Farcy, Clément Minighetti

The US artist Sarah Oppenheimer sees her interventions as catalysts for sharpening awareness of the spaces in which they take place. The works she has made since 2002 are always painstakingly prepared and executed with extreme precision. Oppenheimer is especially interested in the different conditions of the exhibition space, which are determined by architectural conventions, industrial norms and ideological tenets, but that to a large extent remain unnoticed. After a detailed analysis of the location in question based on a number of predetermined parameters, in which, for example, the architecture, the prevailing lighting conditions and visitor behaviour are examined, the artistic intervention is undertaken, which in most cases first presents itself as a negative space, as a "hole". The contingencies of the spatial matrix, which Oppenheimer calls "the array", are visibly transformed through the manipulation of architectural boundaries.

With the systematic rigour that is characteristic of her, Oppenheimer has at the same time compiled an "encyclopaedia of holes" that determines the titles of her works: a typology that had until now codified only passageways and apertures. This typology has now been expanded to include the category "S" for "Switch" for her latest work, *S-399390*, at Mudam. Here, the artist exploits the specific role of the Grand Hall within the overall architecture of the museum as a central, open, undivided space that strongly influences the flow of visitors. She sets up two "switches" that repeatedly change their position according to a precisely orchestrated scheme throughout the three months of the exhibition. These "switches" consist of two movable glass corridors whose dimensional ratios are directly derived from the proportions of the Grand Hall and that appear transparent or reflective to visitors depending on the lighting conditions. Their location within and between the entryways of the Grand Hall modifies the direction of visitor procession through Mudam's gallery spaces.

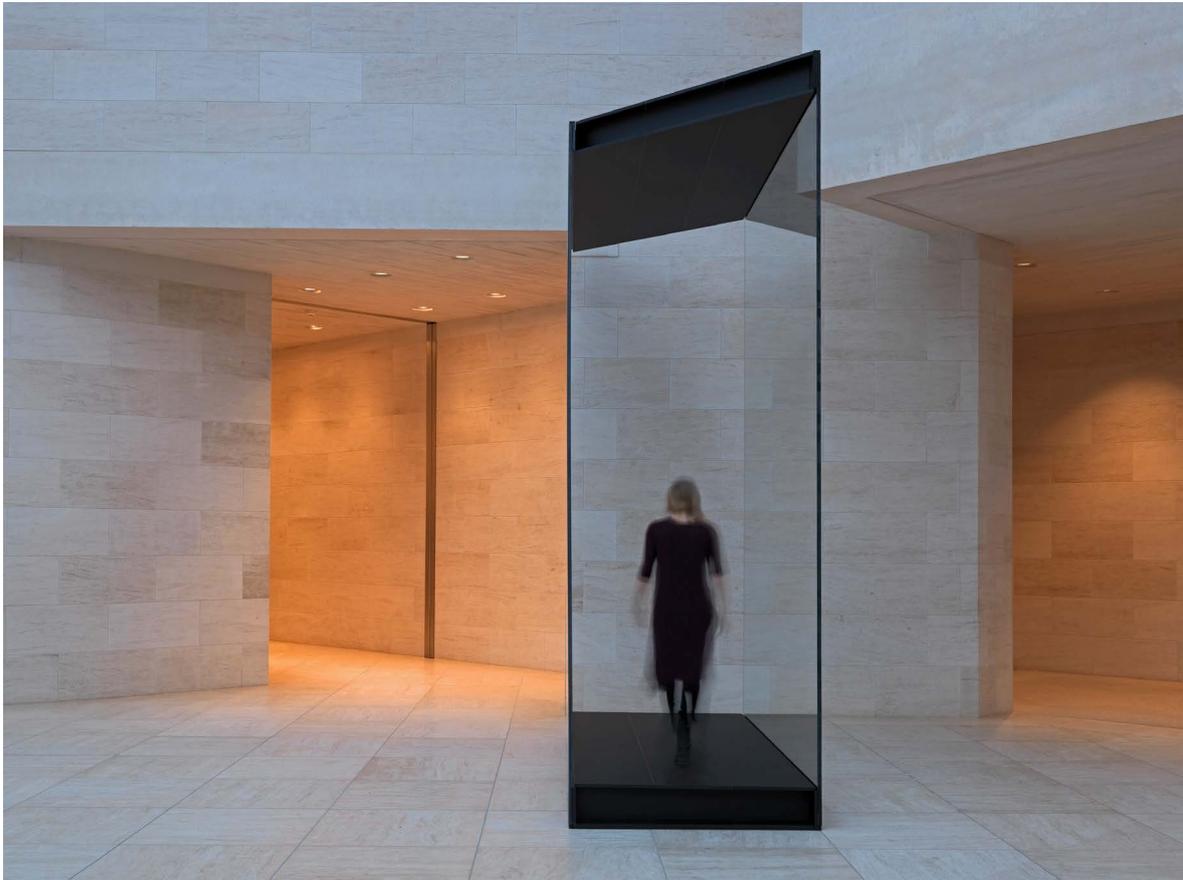
Their complex appearance, a hybrid form between parallelepiped and cuboid, contributes to a confusingly efficient perspectival conflation with the diagonal and orthogonal lines of the Grand Hall and allows visitors walking through or around them to gain not only a new and constantly changing view of the architecture, but also a deeper understanding of their own awareness.

Sarah Oppenheimer was born in 1972 in Austin (Texas). She lives and works in New York.



Sarah Oppenheimer, *S-399390*, 2016

Photos: view of the installation at the Grand hall, Mudam Luxembourg, © Serge Hasebboehler



**Sarah Oppenheimer**  
*S-399390*, 2016 (detail)  
Glas, metal, wood and existing architectur  
Variable dimensions  
Commission and production Mudam Luxembourg  
Photo: view of the installation at the Grand hall, Mudam Luxembourg, © Serge Hasebboehler

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### Address and information

Mudam Luxembourg  
3, Park Dräi Eechelen, L-1499 Luxembourg-Kirchberg  
t. +352 45 37 85 1, info@mudam.lu, www.mudam.lu

### Opening hours

Wednesday - Friday: 11am-8pm  
Saturday - Monday: 11am-6pm  
Public holidays: 11am-6pm  
Closed on Tuesday and 25.12

### Entrance fee

Adults	7 €
Under 26 years old, groups	5 €
Mudami card (valid 1 year for 2 persons)	50 €
Under 21 years old	free
Students under 26 years old	free
Wednesday, 6pm-8pm	free

### By car

Kirchberg -> Avenue John F. Kennedy -> Philharmonie -> Tunnel -> Mudam  
GPS: X 49.62 - Y 6.14

### Parking

Parking Trois Glands

### Images

Available on request

### Press contact

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### MUDAM THANKS

Mudam thanks all the donors and the sponsors, and particularly



Delfin



The Loo & Lou Foundation, Arendt & Medernach, CapitalatWork Foyer Group, PwC, KBL European Private Bankers, CFL - Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer Luxembourgeois, KPMG Luxembourg, UniCredit Luxembourg SA, SES, Prefalux, Soludec SA, IBM Luxembourg, POST Luxembourg, Kaspersky Lab, Dussmann Service Luxembourg, Indigo Park Services SA, EducDesign, Les Amis des Musées d'Art et d'Histoire

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