

## STANZA DEL PROGETTO

23.06.2024 – 20.10.2024

### From industry to the cultural industry

The Moulin de Boissy testifies to industrial evolution since the Middle Ages. From the 14th century to 1789, what was then known as the Moulin de la Seigneurie was an ordinary windmill for grinding wheat. It was then a paper mill from 1833 to 1931. The 45 employees of the paper mill produced pulp that was then transported by barge down the Grand Morin to the Moulin de Sainte Marie, where it was turned into paper. From 1947 to 1969, the company SOFOM made pattern plastic objects there, then from 1971 to 2001, there was the turn of the furniture making company MAZZOLENI. The tools and fragments of furniture collected during the renovation work and presented in the exhibition testify to the work of cabinetmakers, varnishers, sanders, and assemblers. These found objects, stripped of their use, together occupy the common territory of a flat surface. Like a series of clues, they gesture to the activity that once filled the building. Since 2007, GALLERIA CONTINUA, attentiveness to this history, has used the space to exhibit, produce, stock, and host works of art.

### From one mill to the next

Beginning in 2010, MBL Architects in collaboration with architect David Apeceix, landscape designer Camille Fréchou, and project manager Soraya Chaar have been working with GALLERIA CONTINUA to develop and rehabilitate the Moulin de Sainte-Marie. Through a number of feasibility studies, the renovation of two buildings, the application of a protected area classification to dynamising this piece of the

countryside around Paris. The Moulin de Boissy has in itself been transformed, with work beginning on the building in 2019 and scheduled to continue into 2022.

### A targeted renovation

Before the renovation could begin, the existing qualities of the site and its history had to be taken into consideration. This necessary stage of investigation and observation made possible thanks to an understanding of the morphological evolution and the special characteristics of this group of industrial structures, in order to better bring them up to date. The buildings were been clustered together following changing economic conditions, the requirements of each new activity, and the different manners of construction throughout history.

The renovation of the site involves a range of targeted interventions in order to keep it dynamic. The mill will reopen on the side of the river, and the volumes of the interior spaces will be diversified, with the special character of each room brought to the fore. The buildings will undergo both technical renovations (renovation of supporting structures, of the roofs) and a rearticulation of the existing spaces in order to make them more adapt to hosting artworks and visitors. Demolishing a roof, opening a perspective, adding stairs, connected spaces and bay windows, are all part of multiplying the situations and uses that the building can support. On his striped base, a model of a shattered hut represents the volumetric purity of the

first GALLERIA CONTINUA in Via Della Rocca, San Gimignano. This project is the result of a collaboration with Daniel Buren.

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About the architects:

MBL Architects: studio founded by Sébastien Martinez-Barat and Benjamin Lafore, joined by Florian Jomain.

Teams: Véranie Jeune, Fanny Vallin, Romain Durand, Nicolas Boulben, Eugénie Palau, Roxane Laborde.

MBL Architects were rewarded by the Ministry for the Arts in the category of young architects and landscape designers.

Model on base: Project for an exploded hut, in collaboration with Daniel Buren.

Denis Sarazin Charpentier: scientific advisor for the historical aspect. He is the author of Boissy-Le-Châtel, "histoire d'un village de la Brie dans la vallée du Grand Morin", éditions Amatteis, 2000.

About GALLERIA CONTINUA:

GALLERIA CONTINUA is a contemporary art gallery founded in 1990 in San Gimignano by three friends - Mario Cristiani, Lorenzo Fiaschi and Maurizio Rigillo - and now presents in San Gimignano, Rome, Beijing, Paris, Les Moulins, Havana, São Paulo and Dubai.

GALLERIA CONTINUA aims to create continuity between eras, enhancing the link between past, present and future, in order to actively contribute to the making of art history. In over thirty years of activity, the gallery has developed a strong identity that embraces the strong themes inherent in creation and the blending of cultures. Its spaces around the world invite visitors to encounter and exchange around works of art, recounting a vision of beauty that is plural, joyful, cosmopolitan and rich in influences.

GALLERIA CONTINUA / Les Moulins is an emblematic site of the industrial heritage of the Paris suburbs, located in Boissy-le-Châtel, in the Grand Morin valley near Coulommiers. The gallery's first space in France, this monumental and unique forty-thousand square metre space has become a creative incubator, giving rise to exceptional site-specific productions and avant-garde projects, as well as a pioneering art education programme.

**GALLERIA CONTINUA / Les Moulins**