

DAUWENS & BEERNAERT
GALLERY

PRESS RELEASE

Côte Cour: CIGARETTE
MAXIM FRANK
23.04.2015 - 06.06.2015



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Press preview: 22.04.2015, 11 AM - 9 PM and by appointment

Opening reception: 23.04.2015, 6 - 9 PM

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I. Press text

Dauwens & Beernaert is proud to present '*Cigarette*' a single work project by Maxim Frank at *Côté Cour*, the gallery's project place.

Maxim Frank(°1985) graduated from *Ecole de Recherche Graphique (ERG)* in 2009. He lives and works in Brussels. Maxim Frank's sculptures, videos and installations question the teleology of objects, their initial and intrinsic purpose. Each project challenges and investigates the customs and conventions that are inherently related to everyday objects. Maxim Frank's works are an exploration and investigation of the utilitarian limits of, and our conventional attitudes towards these objects.

'*Cigarette*' is a videoloop with a duration of 9 minutes and 20 seconds'. This is exactly the time that it takes to consume a cigarette via the rotations of an electric screwdriver. Smoking a cigarette and using a screwdriver are two actions that can be performed together, but the direct symbiose between the cigarette and the screwdriver results in an unconventional visual neologism that questions the teleology of both objects. The cigarette and screwdriver perform an alienating, yet very poetic and subtle courtship dance. Like a ballerina in a music box, the body of the smoldering cigarette is wearing a tutu composed of smoke particles. The smoke evokes layers of a dress that occasionally cover the screwdriver. The smoldering cigarette and screwdriver perform an elegant, almost erotic yet toxic and finally lethal dance.

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II. About Dauwens & Beernaert

Dauwens & Beernaert is a contemporary art gallery founded by Laurence Dauwens (MA Art History) and Joris Beernaert (BA philosophy & MA in laws). The gallery is located in a former bank building built in 1876. The location has a rich history hosting high profile shows, including artists such as Andy Warhol and Donald Judd. Dauwens & Beernaert covers a broad spectrum of contemporary artistic practices, from figurative paintings to video work and conceptual to narrative work.

III. Pictures



Maxim Frank - Cigarette - 2014 - Video loop (still) Ed. 1/1.