

# THALiE

ART FOUNDATION



Photo : Lucile Adam 2013

## **ARTISTIC AND PEDAGOGICAL RESIDENCY IN SOUTH INDIA**

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## 1- BACKGROUND AND THE FOUNDATION'S WORK IN INDIA

The foundation supports a school with a programme inspired by the Montessori method in South India in the state of Tamil Nadu. Created by the local association the Human Uplift Trust (which has been active for 30 years), the school serves 700 Dalit children (between the ages of 3 and 15) from the caste known as the Untouchables, as well as running an orphanage for some 100 children affected by HIV. The school's mission is to overcome the social forces that await these children born into disadvantaged farming communities, the majority of whom would have no access to any education as they have to leave the school system at age of 11 in order to join their illiterate parents working the fields. Thanks to the work of the foundation, these children now have access to teaching in English and can go on to university, the key to jobs and a better future.



Photos : Raja Venkatesh

## 2- THE RESIDENCY

For this first residency, seven artists have been selected through an open call for projects. They will be expected to run workshops on various subjects (photography, sculpture, writing, etc.) at the Manachanallur school (in the state of Tamil Nadu) in order to build an environment that will allow the children's creativity.

A space of 120 square meters has been specially built for these artistic workshops and will be officially opened during the residency. It will also be used to display the results of all the projects during a closing exhibition.

All the works created during these workshops will be exhibited as part of an auction event at the ThalieLab in Brussels in 2017.



Photo : Lucile Adam

### 3- PRESENTATION OF THE ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE

#### LUCILE ADAM

##### Photo workshop

How can you depict a person without taking a picture of them? Starting with this question, the project will explore photographic portraits. By collecting objects from the subject's daily life that tell something about the chosen person, the artist will invite the children, (ages 6-9) to become more aware of the notion of representation and identity, with an introduction to various famous portraitists such as Arcimboldo and Ingres (painting), Man Ray and Seydou Keïta (photography).

*Born in 1972 in France, Lucile Adam graduated from Central St Martins College of Art and Design. She is an independent graphic designer and photographer.*

[www.lucileadam.com](http://www.lucileadam.com)



Lucile Adam – Photo : DR

## LIONEL ESTÈVE

### A workshop on adornments

Inspired by the jewels worn by the Maharajah. With a group of 15 children aged 12 to 14, the artist will create jewellery inspired by the famous jewels of the Maharajahs and the British crown. The jewellery will be made from local materials collected around the school: pebbles from the river, organic materials, etc. The goal of this workshop is to challenge the notion of value by confronting two visions of India: opulence and poverty. The children will be given complete freedom in creating their jewellery. The creative process will start with gathering stones from the river nearby the school. The aim is to focus the young people's attention on the beauty around them and to awaken their creativity. To further enhance this process of discovery and to improve teamwork, the workshop will include visits to the magnificent villas and palaces of Tamil Nadu.

*Born in 1967 in Lyon, France, Lionel Estève lives in Brussels (Belgium). His work has been exhibited in 2011 in Belgium, as well as in Seoul, Florida, Barcelona, etc. In Paris, he is represented by the Perrotin gallery and in Brussels, by Albert Baronian. Lionel Estève favours working with minimal materials, barely anything, worthless materials and insignificant items that he transforms, without any preconceived plan and following his instinct.*

[www.perrotin.com](http://www.perrotin.com)



Lionel Estève - Photo : Claire Dorn

## STÉPHANE GUIRAN

### Sculpture workshop

A project built up around the creation of a crystal wall sculpture representing a lotus blossom. Working from a pixelated drawing, children (10-14 years) will arrange small polished crystals on a wood panel in order to form a lotus flower. This work will symbolise their personal development since arriving HUT. "In India, the lotus has deep symbolic meaning. I have chosen this aquatic flower as it represents the idea of blossoming and spiritual fulfilment of being which leads to inner peace. The little recycled crystals can also be viewed as a way of transforming waste in order to build a sustainable future (...) I truly believe that education enables us to rise to a higher level of awareness, opening the way to success and integration."

*Born in 1968 in France, in the Var region of France, Stéphane Guiran is a sculptor. He lives and works in Eygalières, near Avignon. In 2001, he abandoned the world of starts-ups to devote himself to sculpture. He perfected his metalworking skills during a one-year residency in Barcelona which became a gateway for him to monumental sculpture. His refined works suggest an imaginary writing applied to the public space. Inspired by Japanese calligraphy and haikus, he works in a range of media, combining glass, drawing and photography.*

[www.guiran.com](http://www.guiran.com)



Stéphane Guiran – Photo : DR

## **RACHEL MONOSOV & LISA LAPIERRE**

### **Photo and video workshop**

#### *Constructing Utopia*

Part 1: A theoretical introduction to photography and video through a history from Nadar (1820) to the American fashion photographer David LaChapelle (1963). Part 2: learning how to use a digital camera and creating a photo and video exhibition. The goal of this workshop is to teach children technical skills in photography and video at the same time as giving them insights into the history of the art of photography.

*Born in Russia in 1987, Rachel Monosov is an Israeli artist. She lives and works in Brussels. Taking an interdisciplinary approach to art, Rachel Monosov explores media such as photography, video and sculpture with a focus on the notion of cultural alienation, territories and identities.*

[www.rachelmonosov.com](http://www.rachelmonosov.com)

*Born in Reims (France) in 1991, Lisa Lapierre is an independent photographer. She lives and works in Brussels. After studying photography at La Cambre, she created Foreseen, a residency project designed to encourage collaborative art. As a freelance photographer in fashion and advertising, she published a book called For What It's Worth in 2016.*

[www.lisalapierre.com](http://www.lisalapierre.com)



Rachel Monosov – Photo : DR



Lisa Lapierre

## **NATHALIE GUIOT & CLAUDIA RADULESCU**

### **Writing and artist's books workshop**

#### *The Little Prince - and a Little Bit more*

After reading the text in discussing the meaning of this philosophical fable and the ideas it inspires, children will choose a fragment of the story with which to invent a new chapter in the form of a collage or small model. Each of these fragments will become a chapter for a new book. This collective project known as *The Little Prince - and a Little Bit More*, will have some 30 chapters. It will be embellished with a text written by Nathalie Guiot.

*Born in 1969, Nathalie Guiot is a former journalist, author, curator and the founder of the Thalie Art Foundation.*

*Born in 1968 in Bucharest, Romania, Claudia Radulescu lives and works in Brussels. Through performance, drawing, sculpture, installation, Claudia explores notions of communities and identities.*

[www.claudiaradulescu.com](http://www.claudiaradulescu.com)



Nathalie Guiot – Photo : Cici Olsson 2015



Claudia Radulescu – Photo : Patricia Mathieu

## PHILIPPE TERRIER-HERMANN

### Artist film on the residency

Philippe Terrier-Hermann will film the children as they go about working on their artistic projects at the school in Manachanallur together with the guest artists. This video will take the form of a visual essay from a subjective point of view. It will be screened at the ThalieLab space in 2017.

*Born in France, in 1970, Philippe Terrier-Hermann is a photographer and filmmaker, a teacher and researcher. After completing his photography studies at La Cambre (Brussels) and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, he realised his first Intercontinental work 1996-2000 at the Rijksakademie in Amsterdam. Since 2000, he has exhibited at the Sharjah Biennale in the United Arab Emirates, at Villa Arson in Nice and the Busan Biennale in South Korea. His videos have been screened at La Fémis in Paris, De Appel in Amsterdam, the Jeu de Paume in Paris, the Centro Reina Sofia in Madrid and the South London Gallery. His published works include The American Tetralogy and La trilogie française (The French Trilogy).*

[www.terrier-hermann.com](http://www.terrier-hermann.com)



Philippe Terrier-Hermann – Photo : DR

## 4- HUMAN UPLIFT TRUST AND THE CAUSE OF THE DALITS

### A SCHOOL THAT CHANGES LIVES

- Has been in existence for 30 years
- 750 children from the Untouchable caste
- An orphanage for some 100 HIV orphans

### WHO ARE THE DALITS?

“Dalit” means oppressed in Sanskrit, they belong to the caste of the “Untouchables”. In India, this means that they are considered impure and polluting, and therefore physically and socially ostracised and isolated from the rest of society. Based on the principle of untouchability, according to the National Campaign on Dalit Human, Dalits experience some 140 types of discrimination, based on their origins, from the dominant castes. This includes the impossibility of attending the public schools in India, and as a result, exclusion from the majority of jobs that require an education and knowledge of English. All of the students are ‘first generation students’, as they are known: no one else in the family has ever attended school before. The majority of them are illiterate farmers.

[www.hutindia.org](http://www.hutindia.org)



Photos : Lucile Adam

## 5- THALIE ART FOUNDATION

Thalie Art Foundation's mission is to support various forms of socially-engaged contemporary art with artistic practice as a tool of emancipation and social link. In 2017, the foundation will open in Brussels thalielab, a residency and art center.

### NATHALIE GUIOT, FOUNDER

A collector and patron, writer, curator, Nathalie Guiot studied journalism and communication. She founded Anabet Editions in 2006, and, in 2012, created Thalie Art Project as an association offering a platform for artistic and performance activities. The association has now become a private foundation, Thalie Art Foundation. Committed to promoting education, she has created Thalie Fund (hosted by the King Baudoin Foundation), one of its mission is to support education by artistic expression for disadvantaged public in Europe and worldwide. Nathalie Guiot is the author of *Collectionneurs, les VIP de l'art contemporain* (Anabet Editions, 2008), *Conversations, Artists and Collectors*, (BlackJack Editions, 2013).

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