

M+B



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2011

ArtBrussels !

BRUXELLES À L'HEURE DE L'ART CONTEMPORAIN

By Céline Martin

Brussels, capital of Europe, finds itself more and more as a center for contemporary art. Because of the city's position in the heart of Europe, its affordable rent and its charming ambiance, it has started to attract numerous international artists and gallerists over the past few years. This small country now also boasts the highest number of contemporary art collectors per capita.

This marks the 29th year of **Art Brussels**, showing emerging, as well as established, galleries side-by-side.

The seduction of **Art Brussels** is the quality as well as the modesty of the fair, counter to the gigantic scale of Fiac. Walking along the sinuous path of the wall's moldings, we found the work of the alchemist-photographer, Matthew Brandt, from M+B. A few aisles away, at Galerie Meyer Kainer's booth, was the magical folly of hallucinogenic fabric projected onto multicolored clay figures, a piece by the collective of young Austrian artists, Gelatine (while waiting for "Gelatine Pavillion—Some Like It Hot" prevue for the Venice Biennale this summer).

Art Brussels, it is about meetings and sales, but it is also about the fun and festivities at the heart of the city, running through May 1st. Brussels galleries are organizing unique exhibitions for Brussels Gallery Night on April 29th.

Are you ready for the ambush this weekend? It's just a Thalys ride and a hop away!

The complete program of conferences, meetings, and performances is available on the **Art Brussels** website.

