

F o r I m m e d i a t e R e l e a s e

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MIT List Visual Arts Center

Oliver Laric

Versions

February 8–April 7, 2013

Opening Reception:

Thursday, February 7, 5:30-8PM

January, 2013 (Cambridge, MA)-The MIT List Visual Arts Center presents Oliver Laric's ongoing series of video works *Versions*. *Versions* (2009-) reflects the conditions of the digital: how original and copy, thing and thought, event and document, are collapsed in a flattened information space where everything rests a click away from everything else. Laric's sculptural and online-based practice—including the website VWork—addresses how the ontology of the digital affords new logical, epistemic, and affective patterns of experience and understanding. Described by the artist as "a series of sculptures, airbrushed images of missiles, a talk, a PDF, a song, a novel, a recipe, a play, a dance routine, a feature film and merchandise," *Versions* confronts the mutability and variation of images.

Laric's work evinces how images and objects are continually modified to represent something new, from Roman copies of Greek sculptures, to doctored and augmented images, "filmed" films, bootlegs, remixes, and gifs. The differing versions of *Versions* themselves address this ongoing history of iconoclasm and copyright. Laric's exploration of the nature of images and objects in digital space reveals the internet as not merely a space of representation, but of direct experience, as the real world is increasingly mediated by screens.

About the Artist

Oliver Laric (born 1981 in Innsbruck, Austria) lives and works in Berlin. He studied at the Universität für angewandte Kunst Wien. Laric has been the subject of a number of solo exhibitions including *50 50 2008*↓↑ *Touch My Body*, SEVENTEEN, London (2008); *Versions*, SEVENTEEN, London (2010); and *Diamond Grill*, SEVENTEEN, London (2011); Laric's first solo exhibition in Germany *Be Water my Friend* took place at Tanya Leighton Gallery, Berlin in 2012. *Versions* (2012) premiered at Art Statements, Art[43]Basel (14-17 June 2012). Additional solo and group exhibitions include: *alienate/demonstrate/edit*, Artspace, Auckland (2012); Villa du Parc Centre d'art Contemporain, Annemasse, France (2012); *In Other Words*, NGBK, Berlin (2012); *Lilliput*, High Line, New York (2012); Frieze New York (2012); Kopienkritik, Skulpturhalle Basel (2011); *Based in Berlin* (2011); *You don't love me anymore*, Westfälischer Kunstverein, Münster (2011); Frieze Projects, Frieze Art Fair, London (2011); *Music for Insomniacs*, Proyectos Monclova, Mexico D.F. (2011); *Priority Moments*, Herald Street, London (2011); *Memery*, Mass MoCA, (2011); *Frame*, Frieze Art Fair, London (2010); *Artists' Video*, Vancouver Art Gallery (2010); *The World is Flat* (curated by Lauren Cornell), *X-initiative*, New York (2009); *The Steve Guttenberg Galaxy*, SEVENTEEN, London (2008); and *Unmonumental*, New Museum, New York (2008). Upcoming group shows include: *Detours of the Imaginary* (curated by Julien Fronsacq), Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2012); *The*

Imaginary Museum (curated by Bart van der Heide), Kunstverein München (2012); *Museum of the Image*, Breda, The Netherlands (2012). Laric is a co-founder of the VVORK platform (www.vvork.com).

Versions is curated by João Ribas, Curator, MIT List Visual Arts Center. Support for this exhibition has been generously provided by the Council for the Arts at MIT, the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the Office of the Associate Provost at MIT, the MIT List Visual Arts Center Advisory Committee, and the Friends of the List.



About the MIT List Visual Arts Center

In 1950 MIT established the Hayden Gallery which was located in the Charles Hayden Memorial Library. The gallery served as a venue for a program of changing exhibitions. In 1985 the Hayden Gallery was renamed the List Visual Arts Center in recognition of a gift from Vera and Albert List that relocated the gallery to its current location on the ground floor of the Wiesner Building.

Over the years the MIT List Visual Arts Center has become highly respected as one of the most significant university art galleries in the country for its innovative, provocative, and scholarly exhibitions and publications. Just as MIT pushes at the frontiers of scientific inquiry, it is the mission of the List Visual Arts Center to explore challenging, intellectually inquisitive, contemporary art making in all media. In addition to presenting 4-6 exhibitions annually, the List Center presents a broad arrange of education programs in conjunction with its exhibition programming. The Center maintains and adds to MIT's permanent collection of 3,500 artworks that includes dozens of publicly sited sculptures and hundreds of paintings, prints, photographs, drawings and sculptures located throughout MIT's campus. The List Center is also responsible for commissioning new works for the MIT Public Art Collection through the MIT Percent-for-Art program, and organizing and administering the Student Loan Art Program, which lends over 500 works of art annually to MIT undergraduate and graduate students.

Directions: The MIT List Visual Arts Center is located in the Wiesner Building, 20 Ames Street, at the eastern edge of the MIT campus. It is in close proximity to Kendall Square, Memorial Drive, and the Longfellow Bridge.

By T, take the Red Line to the Kendall/MIT stop, follow Main Street west to Ames Street, turn left, and walk one block to the crosswalk. The MIT List Visual Arts Center, housed in a building identifiable by its white gridded exterior, will be on your left. Signage is on the building.

By car, coming across the Longfellow Bridge or from Memorial Drive, follow signs for Kendall Square. Limited metered parking is available on Ames Street. A parking garage is located at the Cambridge Center complex (entrance on Ames between Main and Broadway). Paid public parking is also available at the Marriott Hotel on Broadway.

Gallery Hours: Tues-Wed: 12-6PM; Thurs: 12-8PM; Fri-Sun: 12-6PM; closed Mondays and major holidays.

Additional Information: 617.253.4680 or <http://listart.mit.edu>

All exhibitions at the MIT List Visual Arts Center are free and open to the public.