

[platform]

Artist 2 Artist

Saturday the 18th of July 2009 at 7 pm.

Platform arranges an artist talk with Mattias Olofsson, based in Umeå (SE) and Jimmy Kuehnle based in St. Louis (US).



Mattias Olofsson is the resident artist at Platform during July-August.

I investigate questions involving identity in relation to the sense of belonging and of being an outsider.

My work are inspired by roles, masks and cases of mistaken identity, that is to say, situations in which one's identity comes into being because one is assigned a role, or assumes a role, in a larger structure.

Jimmy Kuehnle is the resident artist at Ateljé Stundars during June-July. Ateljé Stundars is part of the international Artist in Residence programme hosted by KulturÖsterbotten.

The simultaneous proximity and distance of people in urban centers motivates the core of my art practice. Members of society are disconnected from one another despite almost daily contact in a monotonous cycle of daily tasks. I seek to challenge the public in order to break it out of its repetitive cycle. Humans are very adept at assimilating the world around them to the point that unusual experiences quickly become commonplace. Many wonders and sublime experiences are overlooked.

I make sculpture and performance props using materials ranging from heavy steel to light inflatable fabric to create novel experiences for the viewer. The work is a hybrid of sculpture, performance, new media and interactive practices. My recent inflatable suits have allowed me to take the work into the streets for direct contact with the public. My sculpture and performances are intentionally absurd to the point that traffic stops, pedestrians gather, and interactions occur.

