

PRESS RELEASE

MARRES



EXHIBITION

12.12.2009 - 13.02.2010

**WE WERE EXUBERANT AND STILL
HAD HOPE**

**ETTORE SOTTASS: WORKS
FROM STOCKHOLM, 1969
NOTES: GUY KEULEMANS,
CRISTINA RICUPERO AND
PAUL ELLIMAN**

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**NEW YEAR'S OPENING: SUNDAY
10.01.2010 OM 17:00 UUR**

MARRES

**CENTRE FOR
CONTEMPORARY
CULTURE**

With this exhibition of several works by Ettore Sottsass (Innsbruck 1917 - Milan 2007), all dated 1969, Marres presents a new position in the investigation of the 20th century and the idea of avant-garde. After *The Russian Schizorevolution*, which focused on an avant-garde from St. Petersburg in the period 1985-1995 and *Depression*, which reflected on the 20th century from an economical and psychological perspective, this exhibition presents several specific objects by an architect and designer who represents the idea of avant-garde par excellence. Time and again, Sottsass broke with an existing value system in order to formulate alternative concepts originating in a radical approach to the social and cultural function of objects.

Central in ***We Were Exuberant and Still Had Hope*** are three variations of the Superbox, an object that came into being between 1965 and 1967. The Superbox is special in that it was never actually produced and only exists as a photographed model and as an exhibition prototype. The Superbox resembles a closet that rests on a base, completely fitted with a striped surface of plywood, a material that was introduced for the first time with the Superbox. Marres presents three Superboxes, coming from the exhibition *Miljö för a ny planet* (Landscape for a new planet), which took place in the National Museum in Stockholm in 1969. ***We Were Exuberant and Still Had Hope*** is reminiscent of this exhibition, from which next to the Superboxes also the monumental ceramic 'altar' is presented.

Notes

From January 10, 2010 onwards, the exhibition will be accompanied by a number of notes - a series of posters, an essay and a soundscape by Guy Keulemans, Cristina Ricupero and Paul Elliman respectively - that reflect on the ideas inherent in the Superbox by Ettore Sottsass.

Curators

Lisette Smits and Guus Beumer

This exhibition is realized in cooperation with The Gallery Mourmans, Maastricht/Lanaken.

Marres receives structural support by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science and the City of Maastricht.

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