

In 1964, Bob Dylan wrote the song *My back pages* on the album *Another side of Bob Dylan*. In the fifth verse, third line he sings: “My life led by confusion boat, Mutiny from stern to bow”





Nicolas Valckenaere

confusion boat (2016)

Confusion boat (ERG gallery, 2016) is part of an installation that tells in prose the story of a class of art students who leave for the woods after orchestrating the destruction of their own workplace. At the edge of a stream, they take advantage of the scenery to shoot the last scene of a B-series film with a wooden camera. The hand-hewed canoe, with the bow and the stern covered with skins of crêpes, appears in the installation like a shedded snake skin, he ghost of the shooting. It is the second reading of the experience, testifying to the conceptual geology of the place.

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Nicolas Valckenaere (1991) is an interdisciplinary Belgian artist who graduated from ERG in Brussels in 2016. Since, he did residencies at AIR Antwerpen and RAVI Liège and purchased a barn in the woods which he has been using as live- and work- space. During his work in the barn, every improvement or repair becomes a work in itself.

‘It’s been a year since he moved into this barn. It’s raining inside, the electricity is weak and you have to get water from the well in the cellar. It’s dark inside. Apart from the surrounding woods, gleaming, bushy, pearly with creamy lights and neighbors who are passionate about dead animals, there is nothing. It has been a year since this barn appeared in the landscape, that it sucks it, that it overturns it, that it defeats it, that it recovers it, that it brings together the landscape and turns it into a collection. That it is creating a silent carnival, that it animates him. Without this barn, one wonders what this landscape would have become. This barn is the project of Nicolas Valckenaere.’
-David Evrard