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Het Nieuwe Instituut presents P@W by Ceel Mogami de Haas 29 January

The One Minutes Series of January/February is P@W and is curated by Ceel Mogami de Haas. In P@W, 26 artists and filmmakers explore the relation between animals and poetry in one-minute videos, challenging the way we inhabit the world. The selected one-minute videos were sent in from Argentina, Canada, France, Germany, the Netherlands, South Korea, United Kingdom, United States and Switzerland.

Het Nieuwe Instituut will present the online premiere Friday 29 January at 8pm CEST. Ceel Mogami de Haas, Julia van Mourik (director of The One Minutes Foundation) and the participating artists will be (virtually) present. Open discussion with the public is encouraged.

“When I was asked to curate a One Minutes Series, I was reading lots of poetry, particularly ecopoetry which is poetry with a strong ecological emphasis. I strongly bonded with poets that explored the relation between animals and writing. Unlike other disciplines within the arts and humanities, poetry oftentimes goes unnoticed in the field of animal studies. A poet is not someone one would instinctively turn to in order to examine the relationships between human animals and non-human animals for example.

“Could the poet be a keystone sub-species of Homo sapiens? The poet: an
apparently useless creature, but potentially the saviour of ecosystems” extravagantly writes scholar Jonathan Bate in his book The Song of the Earth. First echoing poet WH Auden's disenchanted claim that “[p]oetry makes nothing happen”, he subsequently attributes a salvative calling to the vocation. Despite Bate's comical taxonomic revision, poetry is still often understood as something frivolous or innocent, if not “barbaric”.

I respect the somewhat underwhelming statement of Auden as much as I do admire the bold faith in Bate's hypothesis. When I read a poem, I like a little bit of both, a sense of assumed pointlessness sprinkled on audacious exuberance.

My curatorial approach for The One Minutes sits somewhere between these two feelings. When poetry focuses on nature, and with it the larger communities of living organisms, it challenges the way we inhabit the world and calls for different prospects. Can ‘poetic thinking' initiate alternative relations to animal populations inaccessible to other forms of thought? Maybe... Since poetry can speak and reach beyond the circumscriptions of reason.

Translating all these ideas to video art was challenging and I want to thank all the humans and non-humans that made it possible. This series became in my eyes (and I hope in yours too) something like an “imaginary garden with real toads in them”, as poet Marianne Moore would say in her own wonderful phrase.” Ceel Mogami de Haas

Ceel Mogami de Haas is an artist living and working in Amsterdam, Netherlands and Geneva, Switzerland. His work spans a wide range of media, from sculpture, drawing, writing, and artist’s books to installation and video art. He also co-founded the artists-run-space One Gee In Fog in Geneva and is a member of the Bookstore community program in Amsterdam. His current artistic research explores the relations between writing and animals, with a preeminent focus on wolves, literary wolves and werewolves and examine interspecies storytelling as an alternative practice of world thinking, world-building and world sharing.

Participating artists:
Florent Meng
Ceel Mogami de Haas
Juyi Mao
Manon Bachelier
Sophie Popper
Sarah Burger
Calli Uzza Layton
Heleen Mineur
In 2021, The One Minutes will focus on talent development. We start off with P@W curated by Ceel Mogami de Haas. De Haas gave a workshop to Approaching Language students at Sandberg Instituut and a number of the works produced that week are included in the series.

P@W was made possible by the generous support of Amsterdam Fund for the Arts and Pictoright Fund in collaboration with Sandberg Instituut.

The One Minutes Foundation produces and distributes one-minute videos from an artistic point of view, offering an international stage for people to create, engage and connect. The One Minutes is active at the forefront of international contemporary art, as well as in education and welfare. And has exhibited amongst others at Power Station of Art (CN), National Gallery of Iceland in Reykjavik (IS) and Whitney Museum of American Art in New York (USA).

Every two months, The One Minutes Foundation puts out a new series of 60-second films that investigate how we perceive and engage with moving image. Museums and cultural organisations around the world subscribe to the series.

Please send in your videos and participate in the project!  
http://themoneminutes.org/participate

Download the trailer: https://vimeo.com/498927904
Download the trailer announcing the online premiere: https://vimeo.com/498932626