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Press release

Draftsmen's Fest

March - May 2013

**# 4: Linus Bill & Adrien Horni (CH) feat.
Lorenzo Senni (IT)**

**Live set: Wednesday 22 May 2013
10 pm**

A project by Francesco de Figueiredo and
Massimiliano Bomba

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The **fourth and last appointment** in Milan of the Draftsmen's Fest completes the musical program that began on 28 March, with a new display and live set by the visual artists **Linus Bill & Adrien Horni** and the sound artist **Lorenzo Senni**. Together for the first time, the three artists will activate a device that expands the idea of specificity of the medium. Senni will mix his background – based on noise and digital music – with analysis of the styles and archetypes of trance/hard trance music, combined with an investigation of the Hardstyle genre, the dance movement in vogue during the 2000s on the European clubbing circuit. Starting with the same musical references, Linus Bill & Adrien Horni, the Swiss duo, both born in 1982, will develop a wall painting inspired and influenced by the musical subgenre, interpreting the visual display that will accompany the musical performance of Lorenzo in an abstract, personal way.

Draftsmen's Fest is a *display in progress* that associates **drawing** – seen as direct gestural expression – with the **production of sound**. During each of the 4 events of the program in Milan, projects will be presented by Swiss and international artists and musicians, specially developed for the Swiss Institute in Milan.

Previous appointments: #1 Giorgio Di Salvo *feat.* Primitive Art (28 March); #2 Lorenzo Bernet *feat.* Jan Vorisek (19 April); #3 Dennis Tyfus *vs* Canedicoda (3 May).

Another part of the project, totally new, will take place at the Istituto Svizzero di Roma in June, as part of the program of the **Secondo Congresso dei Disegnatori** (10 May - 30 June, Istituto Svizzero di Roma and other venues).

Draftsmen's Fest examines the syncretic relationship between drawn imagery and sound, with particular focus on the intimate, confidential rapport that happens when the spectator is engaged in a frontal way: in a literal sense, and as a metaphor of the immediate impact the sound/image pairing can bring about. The artists and musicians invited to participate return to a practice that puts sound and sign into direct relation, full of mutual

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exchanges and references. This practice comes from a shared source of inspiration, namely the so-called **Providence school** and the successive episodes in the late 1990s and early 2000s of what was to become the symbolic place of a transnational movement, from the East Coast to the West Coast, Canada and Europe, by way of Japan: Fort Thunder, an abandoned industrial complex in Providence (Rhode Island, USA), occupied until 2001 by avant-garde musicians and artists, including Brian Ralph, Jim Drain, Brian Gibson and Brian Chippendale of Lighting Bolt, and Hisham Akira Bharoocha of Black Dice.

Artists who straddle the settings, places, persons and project that, over time, have consolidated on the international cultural scene: starting with this scenario, Draftsmen's Fest attempts to reveal a precise expressive hemisphere, occupying the spaces of the Swiss Institute in Milan with sound and signs.

Linus Bill & Adrien Horni (*Switzerland, 1982*), live and work in Zurich. Their first collaboration, for *Turbo – the magazine* founded by Horni – happened in 2011. Bill and Horni work with traditional practices like screen printing and painting, and expand their specific concepts through experimentation. Besides publishing projects, they have participated together in group shows in institutional spaces like the *Helmhaus* in Zurich, the *Kunsthalle* of Bern, and *CentrePasquArt* in Biel. They will present a new project at *Villa Bernasconi, Lancy, Switzerland*, in 2014. Linus Bill studied photography at the *Zürcher Hochschule der Künste (ZdHK)*. Adrien Horni graduated in 2003 at the *Ecole Cantonale d'Arts Visuels* of Bienne.

Lorenzo Senni (*Cesena, 1983*) is an artist and composer. In 2008 he founded *Presto!?*, the independent experimental music label that has worked with international artists like DJ Stingray, Marcus Schmickler, Carsten Höller, Florian Hecker, John Wiese, Lasse Marhaug, Greg Davis, Werner Dafeldecker, EVOL and Lawrence English, among others. More recently, he participated at the *Donau Festival* in Krems, Austria, and the project in progress "Sound Spill", on the 7th and 33rd floors of a skyscraper in Manhattan. His recording *Quantum Jelly* was released by *Editions Mego* in 2012. Senni has participated in international festivals like *CTM 13 Golden Age*, *Supersimetria*, *Club To Club*, *Donau Festival*. His performances have taken place in institutional spaces like *Centre Pompidou* in Paris, *Zabludowicz Foundation* in London and *S.M.A.K.* in Ghent, and in non-profit galleries and alternative spaces like *SPACE*, London; *Gasconade*, Milan; *Galerie IM3*, Lausanne. Lorenzo Senni lives and works in Milan.

The curators:

Francesco de Figueiredo is the Art Director of *Nero*, a magazine of contemporary culture and a publishing house specializing in artists' books, of which he is co-founder. With Valerio Mattioli, he is part of the music project "Heroin in Tahiti," begun in Rome in 2010.

Massimiliano Bomba is an artist who works with video and installation. In 2006 he founded *RAWRAW Edizioni*, a publishing project for contemporary art. Since 2009, together with Francesco de Figueiredo and Valerio Mattioli, he has worked on the graphics and production of *Rainforest*, a music project and series of artists' publications, which began in Rome in 2008. He lives and works in Milan and Rome.

Media partner

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