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Everything seemed so calm

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A solo show by Jeanne Susplugas

July 1st – October 29 2023, La Citadelle, Villefranche s/mer

A carte blanche offered to the artist by Camille Frasca,

Museums director of La Citadelle



Jeanne Susplugas

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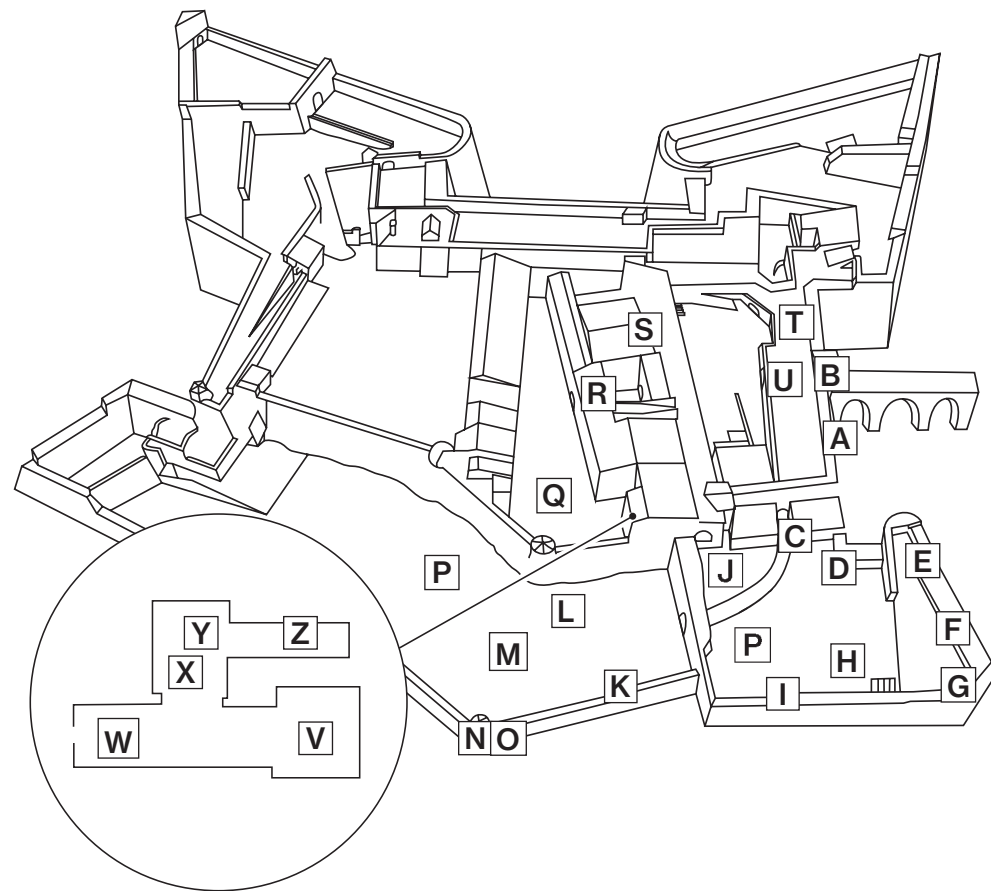
Like the beginning of a crime novel, the exhibition presenting the work of Jeanne Susplugas invites us to wander through the nooks and crannies of the Citadelle. At once retrospective and forward-looking, the exhibition features earlier works by this French artist, born in 1974 and based between Paris and Montpellier, as well as new pieces expressly designed for the venue.

The starting point is an observation of the building and its history: a citadel, an impregnable fortress, difficult to access, enclosing and enclosed in the Villefranche bay. A place of confrontation and violence, today a place of culture and exchange. Jeanne Susplugas uses a variety of media and techniques to speak of the ills of everyday life and the strangeness of our lives. The artist's works appear as the flashes of a mind in search of equilibrium, presenting images with multiple meanings, sometimes humorous, sometimes poetic, and always with a surgical vision.

Recreating the idea of a journey through the meanders of the artist's brain, the exhibition questions the intimacy of creation, which is undermined as soon as it is exposed: everything seemed so calm, and in the end, everything is chaos. Creative, organic disorder, combining exuberance and sobriety. Why are these disproportionate objects lying around? Why is a house full of drugs hiding in a courtyard? What are these hospital-covered shoes waiting for? Where do these strange engraved stones come from? What do the photographs that punctuate the tour tell us?

Beyond the obvious aesthetic pleasure, the works are presented to the viewer as visual poems, obsessively repeated in different forms, sometimes breaking the overly harmonious rhythm of the story the artist wants to tell us.

Camille Frasca



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|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Visitor route | |
| A | <i>L'aspirine c'est le champagne du matin</i> |
| B | <i>Control</i> |
| C | <i>Excuse me</i> |
| D | <i>Confused</i> |
| E | <i>Plantes toxiques</i> |
| F | <i>Tell me</i> |
| G | <i>Hair (Tribute to Gordon Matta-Clark)</i> |
| H | <i>Disorder</i> |
| I | <i>Disco ball (Chloroforme)</i> |
| J | <i>Ethanol</i> |
| K | <i>Chemin initiatique</i> |
| L | <i>Sieste littéraire</i> |
| M | <i>Light house</i> |
| N | <i>Stratégie d'enfermement</i> |
| O | <i>Disco ball (Alprazolam)</i> |
| P | <i>Pharmacie gazon</i> |
| Q | <i>Photographies</i> |
| R | <i>Distorsion</i> |
| S | <i>Maison Malade</i> |
| T | <i>Blue Shoes</i> |
| U | <i>Corbeilles</i> |
| Chapelle Saint-Elme | |
| V | <i>Flying house</i> |
| W | <i>Flying house (dessins)</i> |
| X | <i>Peeping Tom's House</i> |
| Y | <i>All the world's a stage</i> |
| Z | <i>There is no place like home</i> |