

# FRANK HAVERMANS

## INFRA # MACAU_ARTIFICIAL LANDSCAPES

**Site-specific installation at Impromptu Storefront**

**22.09 > 31.12.2021**

PRESS

IMPROMPTU PROJECTS AND EPHEMERA PUBLIC SPACE COOPERATIVE ARE PLEASED TO INVITE YOU FOR AN UNPRECEDENTED CULTURAL EXHIBITION BY INTERNATIONAL DUTCH ARTIST FRANK HAVERMANS.

## Frank Havermans: Infra # Macau_Artificial Landscapes



This site-specific installation showcases an ongoing observation of infrastructure. Being mankind's largest built structures, infrastructure comprises an international network that supersedes national borders. Inspired by harbour maps from Macau, Shenzhen, Hong Kong and connecting them to Portugal (Lisbon) and the Netherlands (Rotterdam), the project became a way to convey the overseas relationships that have existed for hundreds of years between these cities. The author has a personal or professional relationship with the chosen territories. If infrastructure connects people, this storefront is a three-dimensional map that collides a post-geographical affection. The spatial language of folded black harbour maps manifest uncanny views of an otherwise straightforward flat and generic typology. It proposes an imaginary transnational enterprise, in which the white voids are merely temporary gaps that are soon filled as the built environment never ceases to expand. Hypothetically, the ultimate iteration of this window would be an uneasy dense, black picture.

## Creative Process



This work done remotely was a special collaboration between Impromptu Projects studio and Studio Frank Havermans. A study model was developed and then replicated on the other side of the world by means of computer aided drawing to ensure the fine tuning of the full-size installation. Laser-cut plywood of different thicknesses was applied to the designated shapes, spray painted and installed on site by a local carpenter.

The artist is not present due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic; nevertheless, his work has emerged for the first time in Macau and has been commissioned specifically for the storefront. As in all of Frank's work–unique in his spatial approach to form and site conditions–there is a limited time frame to experience and enjoy a glimpse of this international Dutch artist's manifest. Metaphorically speaking, the storefront is the tip of the iceberg, with his latest monograph "Transitional" made available for consultation. Those who are intrigued and curious can further visit his website: *https://frankhavermans.space*

## Studio Frank Havermans

The studio for architectural art, design and urban space was founded in 1999 in the Netherlands and creates strategic interventions, as well as commissioned and self-initiated projects. The work derives from a combined fascination for architecture, urban dynamics, constructions, gravity and tangibility.

The futuristic, alienating constructions are literally redefining public space as we know it. These interventions invite us to experience space in an alternative way, challenging us to consider the identity of a particular location. Appearing rational, their geometric structures signal a latent mechanical intent. Studio Frank Havermans depicts an exhilarating style of shape and form in which objects have a distinct appeal, somewhere between archaic and futuristic.

Studio Frank Havermans' architectural innovations always provoke interactions and can be considered as proposals for architectural and urban change.

## Institutional Support

This event has the generous institutional support of the Consulate General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands for Hong Kong and Macau SARs and the Institute of European Studies of Macau. An upcoming webinar co-organized by the Architects Association of Macau is scheduled for 20 October 2021 (CPD).

## Date and Time

Opening will take place on Wednesday, 22 September at 6.30pm in Macau, at Impromptu Storefront and will be officiated by representatives of the supporting institutions. The installation will be on display until 31 December 2021.

## Impromptu Storefront

This unorthodox cultural space is a non-profit concept gallery, open 24 hours, 7 days a week, based on an innovative exhibition model to showcase commissioned interventions by invited foreign artists. The aim is to provoke and stimulate public awareness, addressing local and global issues, as well as personal and universal values. It is intended to encourage and contribute to the discourse of critical thinking by hosting screenings, roundtables and book presentations. Stay tuned and watch our website and Facebook page for further notice of events.

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