

## **Claude Rutault, *it's practical to have a title***

from January 20 to March 20, 2011

During two months, 292 canvas will be exhibited in CONTEXTS<sup>1</sup>, according to the definitions and methods of artist Claude Rutault.

**The students of Belleville and the audience of CONTEXTS are invited to come and borrow the canvas according to a specific rule: grab a canvas, freely paint on it and then return it to the place of Contexts. After a short time of exhibition the canvas will then be repainted in the same color as the walls, and then again it will be lended out to another person for the same purpose.**

During these two months, the canvas will be the object of a repeated and an unusual turn around, between the space of the exhibit and of those who took them home.

Since 1973, the work of Claude Rutault is dedicated, through its definitions/methods, to question the respective roles of the artist - who delegates part of the realization - and those of the public, which, as a taker in charge adopts a singularly active role in his relation with the work. In regards to ***it's practical to have a title***, the artist experiments each time with a public of proximity, the abandonment of the finished object by privileging the creative process and the experience to the result. This with respect and interest for the proper problematics of painting: the color, the form, the relation between the canvas and the wall.

***it's practical to have a title*** is the fruit of a request which joined, in 2007, Claude Rutault, the team of an Antenne Jeunes (Paris, 13th) and Mari Linnman, mediator of the New Patrons action<sup>2</sup> proposed by Fondation de France. This experience which lasted two years in the Antenne Jeune is today retaken by CONTEXTS, which organizes the loan of the canvas to several schools of Belleville, and to all persons who so wish.

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<sup>1</sup> CONTEXTS, structure of diffusion, production and mediation, is founded by Mari Linnman, Anastassia Makridou-Bretonneau and Pierre Marsaa.

<sup>2</sup> The New Patrons programme allows citizens facing a social problem or one relating to local development to take the step of commissioning a contemporary artist.

Its originality lies in the new configuration of the relationship between four players: the citizens commissioning the project, the cultural mediator and the artist, joined at the production phase by public and private partners.

