



SABINA KOHLER • LUTHERSTRASSE 36 • CH-8004 ZÜRICH  
JEVOUSPROPOSE.CH • INFO@JEVOUSPROPOSE.CH

**13 March – 4 May, 2019**

### **jevouspropose#5**

#### **A Torn-Apart Book of Myself (Ein zertrenntes Ich-Buch)**

For jevouspropose#5 François Piron (art critic, curator, teacher and publisher) proposes the artist Jules Lagrange.

Jules Lagrange consistently works with the leftovers and debris of a personal and collective history, consciously using obsolescent techniques, tools and material as a way to engage against certain modes of industrial production, and against an accelerated circulation of images and objects. Instead, he pays attention to the vernacularism of certain crafts and traditions and the emotions they convey.

The four sculptures he presents in this exhibition look like altars, cabinets, coffins and memory boxes, which have been patiently and skillfully crafted from wooden planks he has taken away from his family house. These sculptures whisper that they are the relics of a past, carefully transformed into containers of desire and dreams, standing in the limbos of time. They drive our attention toward tiny details: their lockers and drawers suggest that there is always more to guess than to actually see, while scratches, traces and torn-apart photographs stapled on their surfaces show the mark of time and childhood memories, as in the delicate glass cases once made by Joseph Cornell. A shadow puppet theatre, shot and edited in 16 mm film by Jules Lagrange together with a group of school kids, completes this ensemble.

The exhibition shows along these works two accordion folders with etchings by the late Swiss artist Klaus Lutz, a devoted admirer of the writings of Robert Walser. Hereby, Jules Lagrange and I want to pay tribute to Klaus Lutz, an underrated artist and filmmaker whose film and graphic works always bear a humble look covering an incredibly layered and complex labour, exactly as Robert Walser used to say when asked why he had stopped writing novels: “The novel I am constantly writing is always the same one, and it might be described as a variously sliced-up or torn-apart book of myself.”

François Piron

#### **François Piron**

François Piron (b.1972) is an art critic, a curator, a teacher and a publisher. He has been a founding member of several institutions in Paris, including the Laboratoires d'Aubervilliers (2000-2006) and the independent art space castillo/corrales (2007-2015). He runs the publishing house Paraguay Press and is the director of the post-graduate program at the Academy of Fine Arts in Lyon. He has worked extensively on the French writer Raymond Roussel, at the Museo Reina Sofia, the Serralves Foundation, the Palais de Tokyo and Daniel Buchholz Gallery. He was the curator of the 5th Biennial of contemporary art in Rennes in 2016, and is now an associate curator at Malmö Konsthall in Sweden, where he curates the forthcoming exhibition « Three Moral Tales », with Joëlle de La Casinière, Ana Jotta and Anne-Mie Van Kerckhoven in June 2019. His recent publications have focused on the work of Katinka Bock, Koenraad Dedobbeleer, Guy de Cointet, Alexandre Estrela, Thomas Hirschhorn, Mangelos and Robert Walser.

#### **Jules Lagrange**

Jules Lagrange (b. 1989 in Besançon, France) is a sculptor and experimental filmmaker, based in Brussels, Belgium.

He handcrafts wooden cabinets and makes films on 16mm that serve as containers for affects and political ideas.

Jules Lagrange's work has been presented in various exhibitions, most recently in the solo exhibition "Never Tear Us Apart", organized by Diametre, in Paris, France, at La Friche Belle de Mai (Marseille, France), in Le Creux de l'Enfer Centre for Contemporary Art (Thiers, France) and at the artist-run spaces Treize and Glassbox (Paris, France). His films have been screened at the International Video Art Festival in Camagüey (Cuba), at Haus der Kulturen der Welt (Berlin, Germany), La Gaité Lyrique (Paris, France) and at the Musrara Art School in Jerusalem. In 2016, he was an artist in residency at the postgraduate art program, at the National School of Fine Arts in Lyon.

#### **jevouspropose**

jevouspropose is a curatorial series by Sabina Kohler and accomplices.

Several times a year, jevouspropose invites a personality to propose an artist with a specific group of works. The works will be installed in the space of jevouspropose, celebrated with an opening and remain on view for a while. At the same time, the respective presentation is expanded and continued in virtual space: the proposer and the artist will have a chat, a visual ping-pong on the works and themes on display ([instagram.com/je\\_vous\\_propose](https://www.instagram.com/je_vous_propose))