

# GUGGENHEIM BILBAO

Press release



The Guggenheim Museum Bilbao presents on July 4, 2019

**Jesper Just: *This Nameless Spectacle***

## *Jesper Just: This Nameless Spectacle*

- Dates: July 4–October 20, 2019
- Curator: Manuel Cirauqui
- Film & Video gallery (103)

From July 4 to October 20, 2019, the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao presents the exhibition *Jesper Just: This Nameless Spectacle* as part of the 2019 programming of the Film & Video gallery, a space where the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao presents referential works of video art and video installation, and explores the moving image as a key artistic language of our time.

The exhibition features a work by the artist Jesper Just (b. 1974, Copenhagen), known internationally for his use of major cinematic formats and his ambition to rethink, visually and physically, the logic of moving pictures.

The works of Jesper Just explore concepts that are closely related to the cultural tradition of the film industry, from voyeurism to urban life and gender conflicts, challenging their conventional representations. Just combines theatrical technology and film installation strategies to create open-ended visual narratives with complex emotional resonances.

The two-channel video installation *This Nameless Spectacle* (2011) borrows its title American writer from William Carlos Williams, who praised in his poem “The Right of Way” the fascinating beauty of ordinary life events—the “nameless spectacle” of unremarked phenomena occurring anytime in a place like any other. If looked at closely, these trivial facts can convey a disarming beauty, a deeply troubling enigma, or a forgotten truth.

Split in two parallel time flows and two monumental screens facing each other, Just’s film presents an ambiguous, open dramatic act where two seemingly unconnected characters with overlapping itineraries exchange gazes in the streets of the Parisian neighborhood of Buttes-Chaumont Park. Their mutual scrutiny repeats as they look through the opposite windows of their apartments, until one of them suffers a breakdown caused perhaps by the very act of looking or being looked at, or perhaps by the reflection of the sunlight. The ambiguousness of this event is intensified by that of the film’s main character, transgender actress and singer Marie-France Garcia.

### **Jesper Just’s Biography**

Jesper Just was born in Copenhagen in 1974 and is currently based in New York City. His work has been featured in solo exhibitions in international museums and galleries, such as MAAT Museum of Art Architecture & Technology, Lisbon; Kunsthall Charlottenborg, Copenhagen; and Museo Anahuacali,

Mexico City, among the most recent examples. The video installation *This Nameless Spectacle* was originally produced by MAC/VAL, Vitry-sur-Seine, France.

**Encounters with artists: Jesper Just (July 4 at 6:30 p.m.)**

Jesper Just will talk with Manuel Cirauqui, curator of the Film & Video program and curator at the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao, about the exhibition *This Nameless Spectacle* and about his interest on reinterpreting concepts linked to cinematographic culture—such as voyeurism, urban life and gender conflicts—on July 4 at 6:30 pm, at the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao Auditorium. A colloquium with the audience will be held after the talk.

**Film & Video (gallery 103)**

The Film & Video gallery features a program of exhibitions exclusively devoted to contemporary practices of the moving image, video art, and film-based media installation. Since it opened in 2016, this space has presented work by unique artists such as Christian Marclay, Ragnar Kjartanson, Rineke Dijkstra, Kimsooja, Shahzia Sikander, Sam-Taylor Johnson, Fiona Tan, Ken Jacobs, Amie Siegel, Pierre Huyghe, Michael Snow, Javier Téllez, and Diana Thater. In spring 2019, its program presented the work of Allora & Calzadilla.

**Cover image:**

Jesper Just

*This Nameless Spectacle*, 2011

HD, Two channel video installation with two opposed screens

Duration: 00:13:00 | 00:13:00

Edition of 7

Courtesy Perrotin

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**For more information:**

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All information about the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao is available at [www.guggenheim-bilbao.eus](http://www.guggenheim-bilbao.eus) (press room).

Press Images for

**Jesper Just. *This Nameless Spectacle***

Guggenheim Museum Bilbao

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For further information, please contact the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao Press Department: tel. +34 944 359 008 and email: [media@guggenheim-bilbao.eus](mailto:media@guggenheim-bilbao.eus)

Jesper Just

*This Nameless Spectacle*, 2011

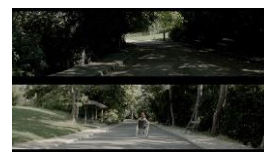
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