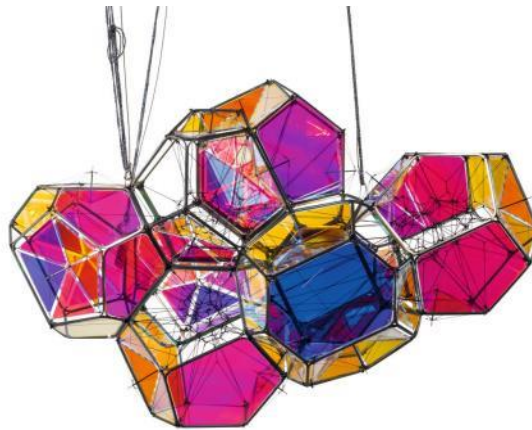


**AEROCENE**  
**TOMÁS SARACENO**  
Espace Muraille  
Curator: Laurence Dreyfus



**EXHIBITION: 17 November 2015 to 13 February 2016**

**Espace Muraille, Place des Casemates 5, Geneva**

Tuesday to Friday: 10.00–12.00 and 13.00–18.00

Saturday: 11.00–12.00 and 13.00–18.00

Access: Bus 3 or 5 to Athénée

## The dream world of Tomás Saraceno, unveiled at Espace Muraille

**GENEVA, 16 NOVEMBER 2015** –Born in Argentina in 1973, Tomás Saraceno originally studied architecture and is now internationally renowned for his installations and sculptures that combine the worlds of art and science. His projects aim to respond to problems of the modern day, whether social or environmental, in a poetic fashion. Caroline and Eric Freymond, passionate art collectors and founders of Espace Muraille, have given the artist free rein for his first solo exhibition in Geneva. *Aerocene* focuses on the re-appropriation models of space and air that lie in the core of Saraceno's artistic practice.

### *Ahead of the Paris climate conference, COP21...*

Transparent 'cloud cities,' reminiscent of bouncy castles, an experimental city suspended between the earth and sky and floating only by means of solar heat, incredible spiders' webs sparkling in the darkness... Tomás Saraceno's visionary installations have been displayed in the world's most prestigious museums: New York's Metropolitan Museum, the Biennales of Venice, San Francisco, and the architecture biennial of Chicago, the Statens Museum for Kunst (National Gallery of Denmark) in Copenhagen, the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Museum in St Louis, the Hamburger Bahnhof in Berlin, Stockholm's Bonniers Konsthall, the Palais de Tokyo and the Louvre Museum in Paris...

The 2015 edition will centre on the utopias of Tomás Saraceno. Having been invited to take part in the United Nations climate conference (COP21) in Paris, from 4 to 11 December, he will unveil a major new work, *Aerocene*, at Grand Palais in the Champs-Élysées. In advance of this event, Swiss art-lovers will have the privilege of discovering fifteen of the artist's works, most of them exhibited for the first time, in the space of Espace Muraille.

## ***Aerocene – suspended works***

Caroline and Eric Freymond are the passionate collectors behind this new venue dedicated to contemporary art, and have given the artist free rein. For his first exclusive exhibition in Geneva, Tomás Saraceno has chosen to represent the opportunity of the re-appropriation of space and air.

The title of the exhibition, *Aerocene*, refers to the Anthropocene, the geological period designating the time during which human activity has a significant impact on the Earth's ecosystem. *Aerocene* is an exemplary of Saraceno's creative work; it shows his unique take on space, articulated in his sculptures and suspended spiders' webs, and represents the artist's own veiled reference and response to the contemporary condition.

### ***In search of an 'attainable utopia'***

Born in San Miguel de Tucumán, Argentina, in 1973, Tomás Saraceno's career has followed a distinguishably atypical path, inspired by his own vigorous curiosity. As both, architect and artist, he studied in cities of Buenos Aires, Venice and Frankfurt, attended NASA's International Space Studies programme in Silicon Valley, and had a period of residency at the French National Space Agency (CNES) in Paris, also sequentially winning the prestigious Calder Prize.

The list of Saraceno's permanent installations include Oslo's *Sundial for Spatial Echoes*, featuring polygons hung above an indoor courtyard, suggesting a myriad of droplets trapped in a giant spider's web; *On Clouds/Air-Port-City*, an installation of clouds devised for the Towada Arts Center in Japan, and Munich's *Flying Garden*, featuring plastic modules floating in the lobby of a building like colossal soap bubbles.

Central to Saraceno's oeuvre are the *Cloud Cities* hovering above the roofs of Berlin, Tokyo, Rome and New York since the 2000s. These 'cloud cities' recall the buoyant installations, created using ultra-fine transparent materials in order to shape biospheres that suggest a world without gravity.

Tomás Saraceno continues to pursue his ideal of an 'attainable utopia' in collaboration with engineers, physicists, chemists and biologists, aiming at original solutions to contemporary problems such as the ecological crisis, population growth and the social and political consequences of globalization.

Drawing inspiration from the complex geometric structures of clouds, soap bubbles and spiders' webs, the artist uses his inhabitable modular platforms to suggest alternative and lasting societies and ways of life. Saraceno uses poetry to invite us to rethink the world and our relationship with nature in a more respectful and synergetic way.

### ***Challenging frontiers and gravity***

Over the last few years, Tomás Saraceno has been concentrating on the further iterations of his project *Air-Port-City*, an experimental concept of a floating city powered by solar energy, inspired by the work of visionary architectural theorists such as Richard Buckminster Fuller and the Archigram group. *Air-Port-City* might be described as a giant airport through which anyone can pass freely in transit to any destination in the world – a lasting and yet aesthetic form of migration without any borders or administrative, political or economic obstacles, unlike the kind of migration currently, and tragically, dominating headlines.

The works chosen for Espace Muraille are all interlinked in their connection to this global project that challenges not only the common notions of territory and borders, but also of urban social models. These interconnected structures exist independently as sculptures and installations in their own right. Over the course of fifteen previously not exhibited works, we can find the artist's attempt of taking flight in order to reinforce the bond with the Earth, becoming reality.

In *Aerocene* Tomás Saraceno also explores the mysterious world of spiders. In the basement of Espace Muraille, a visitor is confronted with an extraordinary web that seems to float in the air, while actually being trapped inside transparent glass vitrines. This web was created in the artist's laboratory set up in the tropical rainforest of Ecuador, where a number of social spider species can be found. To create the work, Tomás Saraceno placed spiders in a box and waited for them to start weaving, before turning the box several times to alter the gravitational field. This process generates webs that cannot be found anywhere in the nature.

## ***The spider's web as metaphor***

The fifteen works presented at Espace Muraille cover several strands of the artist's practice. If the spider's web appears to be 'a metaphor for our interconnected world, or even an imaginary cosmogony, Saraceno's dreamlike installations for their part redefine the relationship between man and nature', says Laurence Dreyfus, curator of the Geneva exhibition.

Caroline Freymond visited Tomás Saraceno's studio, set up in a vast former factory in Berlin, along with Laurence Dreyfus, and was impressed by the dynamism of his experimental structures and the leitmotiv of participation, both making a singular view of the universe and the world. 'Tomás Saraceno's projects defy traditional notions of space, time, consciousness and gravity. The artist is inspired by the desire to change our way of life and our perception of reality. His modules incorporating coloured glass carry us along on a cloud that is full of poetry. It is almost as if we were to land on B612, the asteroid named after Saint-Exupéry's *Little Prince* – a fragile dwarf planet, but so symbolic of life... Tomás Saraceno succeeds in making the imaginary world of his works a revelatory experience for everyone who encounters it. "Make your life a dream and your dreams reality" – there is something of Saint-Exupéry in the artist's positive and captivating philosophy of life.'

## ***In Switzerland and on the planet Earth...***

In Switzerland, Saraceno's works have even found their way to a children's series co-produced by RTS (Art4Kids 2012, presenting his *Cloud Cities*). While his project *Air-Port-City* was shown in Geneva in 2006. Finally, the participative collection action and the installation of *Museo Aero Solar* – a community that is initiated by Tomás Saraceno among others – covers several countries, including Switzerland. Its aerospacial construction exclusively consisting of reused plastic bags, collected via a call for public action, invites us to rethink how we deal with resources, energy and their distribution and circulation cycles. The collective project, which includes a number of individual appearances across the world, intends to show how a pollutant material can bring a focus on a wider environmental reflection.

Tomás Saraceno lives and works in Berlin but, above all, he lives 'on and beyond planet Earth'.

## **Espace Muraille**

Located within the ancient fortifications at the heart of Geneva's Old City, Espace Muraille is designed first and foremost to be a dynamic open venue that enhances both the works it exhibits and the site itself. Temporary exhibitions, personal artistic projects and works from a rich permanent collection are displayed over two levels and 275 square metres.

## **ILLUSTRATIONS IN HD AND TEXTS**

[Pictures HD](#) [Tomás Saraceno at Espace Muraille](#)

## **Further information:**

[www.espacemuraille.com](http://www.espacemuraille.com)

[www.saraceno.com](http://www.saraceno.com)

[www.laurencedreyfus.com](http://www.laurencedreyfus.com)

## **Practical information and access:**

[www.espacemuraille.com](http://www.espacemuraille.com)

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## **Espace Muraille, Place des Casemates 5, Geneva**

Tel.: +41 (0)22 3104292

Fax.: +41 (0)22 310 4293

Thursday–Friday, 10.00–12.00 and 13.00–18.00

Saturday: 11.00–12.00 and 13.00–18.00 or by appointment

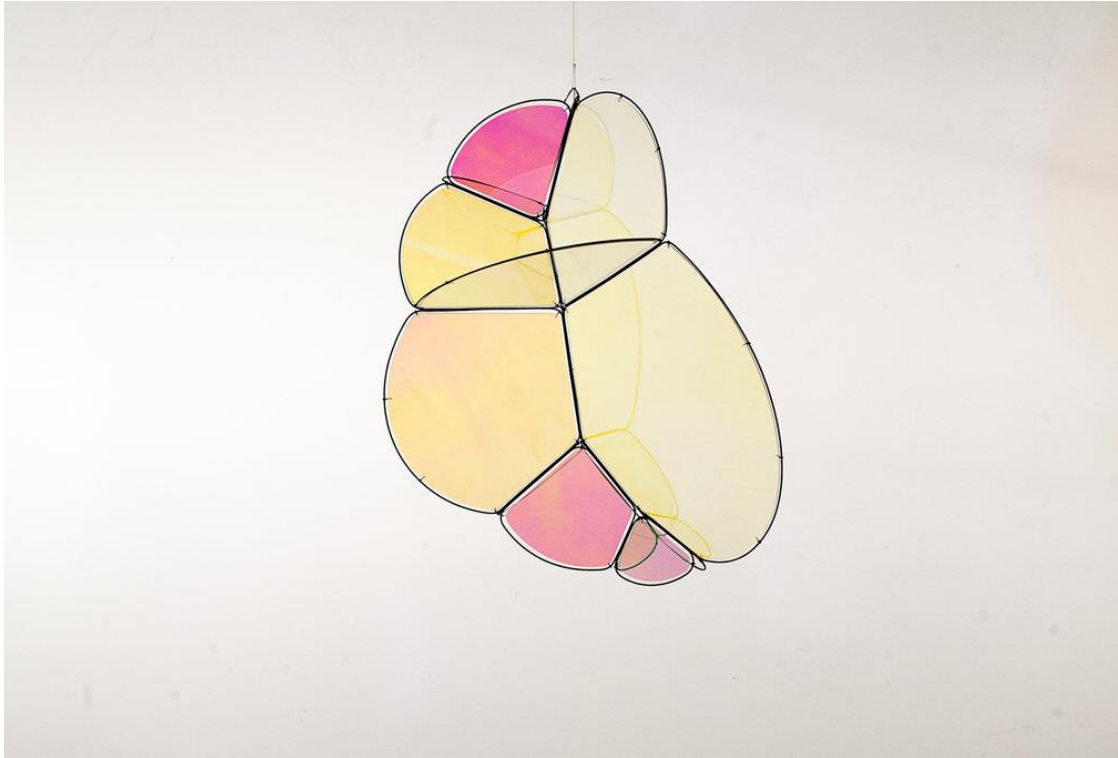
Public transport: Bus 3 or 5 to Athénée

## **Press department**

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**SELECTED WORKS**



**Picture No TS/S 15076**

**Tomás Saraceno,**

**Foam, 2015, metal, mirror panels.**

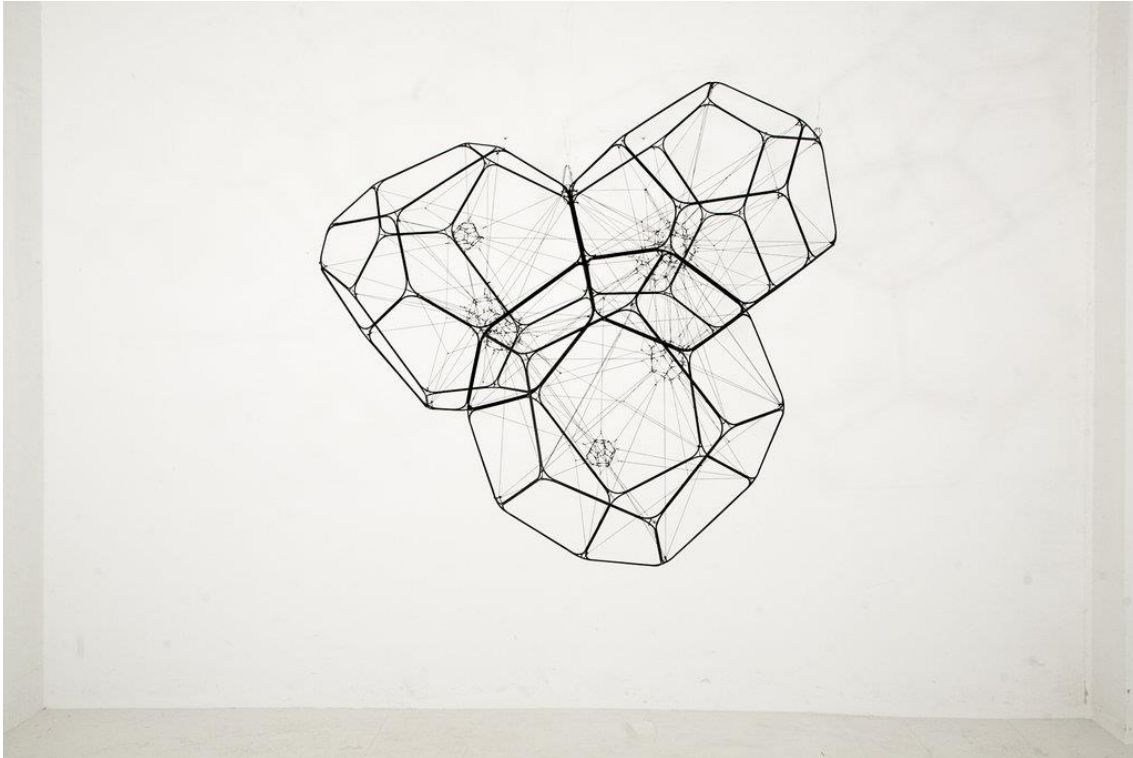
**Courtesy: Tomás Saraceno; Pinksummer contemporary art, Genoa; Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York; Andersen's Contemporary, Copenhagen, Esther Schipper Gallery, Berlin.**

**© Photography by Studio Tomás Saraceno, 2015**

**Aerocene @ Espace Muraille (16/11/15- 13/02/16)**

**Info**

**H 112 x W 99 x D 72 cm**



**Picture No TS/S 15137**

**Tomás Saraceno,**

**55 Cnc/M, 2015, metal, polyester rope, fishing line, steel thread.**

**Courtesy: Tomás Saraceno; Pinksummer contemporary art, Genoa; Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York; Andersen's Contemporary, Copenhagen, Esther Schipper Gallery, Berlin.**

**© Photography by Studio Tomás Saraceno, 2015**

**Aerocene @ Espace Muraille (16/11/15- 13/02/16)**

**Info**

**H 83 x W 143 x D 116 cm**



**Picture No TS/S 13022**

**Tomás Saraceno, Comet 11 Cyrtophora citricola (working title), 2013, Spidersilk, carbon fibre, metal.**

**Courtesy: Tomás Saraceno; Pinksummer contemporary art, Genoa; Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York; Andersen's Contemporary, Copenhagen, Esther Schipper Gallery, Berlin.**

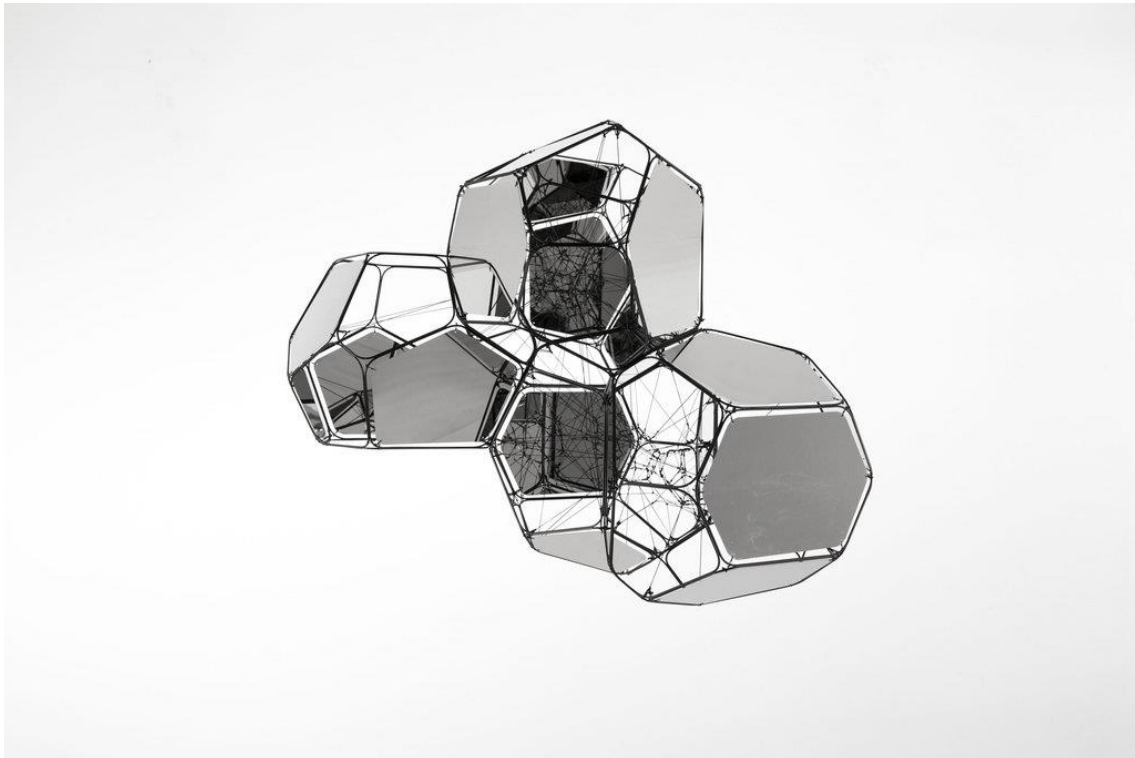
**© Photography by Studio Tomás Saraceno, 2015**

**Aerocene @ Espace Muraille (16/11/15- 13/02/16)**

**Infos**

**Moving: Norman Foster on Art - Nîmes @ Ville de Nîmes - Carré d'Art - musée d'art contemporain (03/05/13- 15/09/13) social ... quasi social ... solitary ... spiders ... on hybrid cosmic webs @ Esther Schipper Gallery (official) (15/03/13- 13/04/13)**

**H 113 x W 103 x D 103 cm**



**Picture No TS/S 15139**

**Tomás Saraceno,**

**GJ 15 A b/M+M, 2015, metal, mirror panels , steel thread, polyester rope, fishing line, titanium thread.**

**Courtesy: Tomás Saraceno; Pinksummer contemporary art, Genoa; Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York; Andersen's Contemporary, Copenhagen, Esther Schipper Gallery, Berlin.**

**© Photography by Studio Tomás Saraceno, 2015**

**Aerocene @ Espace Muraille (16/11/15- 13/02/16)**

**Info**

**H 95 x W 103 x D 83 cm**





**Picture No TS/SP 15046**

**Tomás Saraceno,**

**Solitary, semi social mapping of TNJ0924-2201 by one Nephila clavipes-one week, thre Cyrtophora citricola, one week, 2015, Spidersilk, paper, glue, ink.**

**Courtesy: Tomás Saraceno; Pinksummer contemporary art, Genoa; Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York; Andersen's Contemporary, Copenhagen, Esther Schipper Gallery, Berlin.**

**© Photography by Studio Tomás Saraceno, 2015**

**Aerocene @ Espace Muraille (16/11/15- 13/02/16)**

**Info**

**H 108 x W 108 x D 23 cm**





**Picture No TS/SP 15033**

**Tomás Saraceno,**

**Solitary, semi social mapping of NGC 5128 and PKS 1322-427 by one Nephila clavipes-one week, three Cyrtophora citricola-two weeks, 2015, Spidersilk, paper, glue, ink.**

**Courtesy: Tomás Saraceno; Pinksummer contemporary art, Genoa; Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York; Andersen's Contemporary, Copenhagen, Esther Schipper Gallery, Berlin.**

**© Photography by Studio Tomás Saraceno, 2015**

**Aerocene @ Espace Muraille (16/11/15- 13/02/16)**

**Info**

**H 108 x W 108 x D 23 cm**



Picture No TS/S 15094

Tomás Saraceno,

**Semi social instrument 3C 273 : built by three *Cyrtophora citricola*-five weeks, 2015, Spidersilk, carbon fibre, glass, metal.**

**Courtesy: Tomás Saraceno; Pinksummer contemporary art, Genoa; Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York; Andersen's Contemporary, Copenhagen, Esther Schipper Gallery, Berlin.**

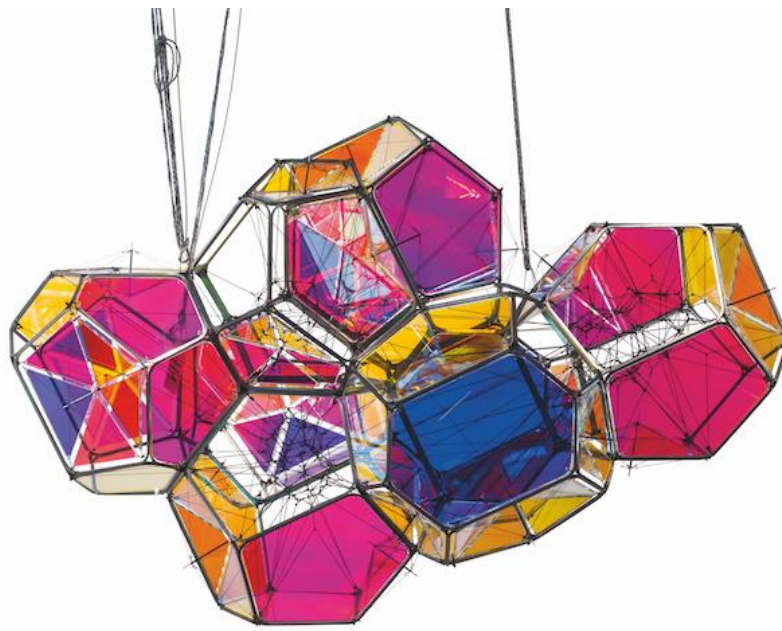
**© Photography by Studio Tomás Saraceno, 2015**

**Aerocene @ Espace Muraille (16/11/15- 13/02/16)**

Info

inside dimensions of the glass vitrine: 40.5 x 39.6 x 39.6 cm outside dimensions of the vitrine: 38.2 x 38.8 x 38.8 cm

4mm glass



**Picture No TS/S 14003 (invitation card)**

**Tomás Saraceno,**

**LGC 396/M+I, 2014, metal, plexiglass iridescent, fishing line, polyester rope, carbon fibre, glue, steel thread.**

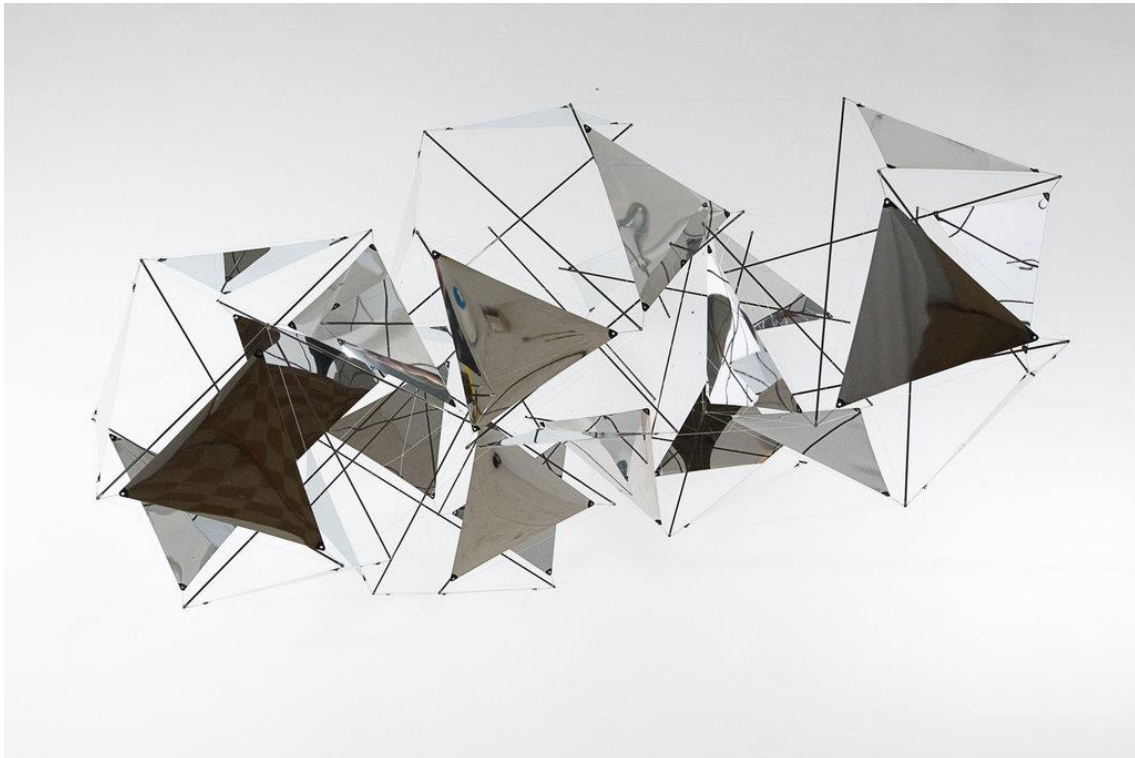
**Courtesy: Tomás Saraceno; Pinksummer contemporary art, Genoa; Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York; Andersen's Contemporary, Copenhagen, Esther Schipper Gallery, Berlin.**

**© Photography by Luca Fascini, 2015**

**Aerocene @ Espace Muraille (16/11/15- 13/02/16)**

Info

H57cmx W82cmxD52cm



**Picture No TS/S 14207**

**Tomás Saraceno,**

**299P/C-P, 2014, carbon fibre, fishing line, metal, mirror foil, eyelets, nylon.**

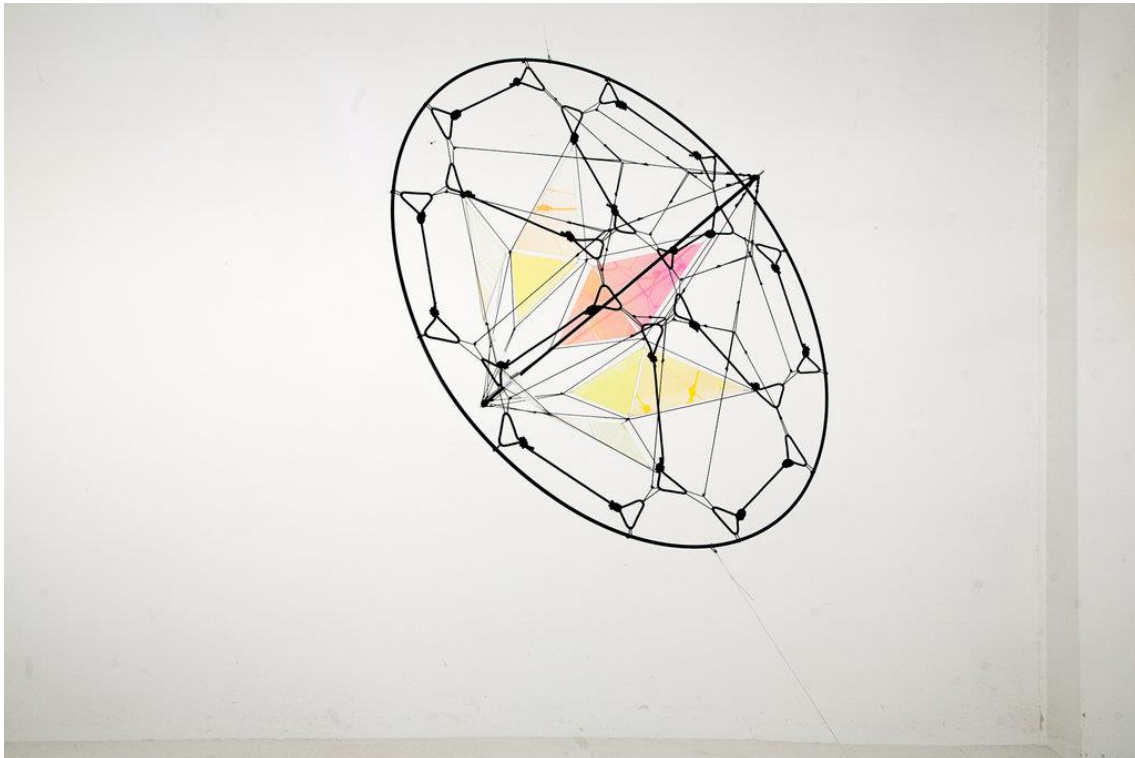
**Courtesy: Tomás Saraceno; Pinksummer contemporary art, Genoa; Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York; Andersen's Contemporary, Copenhagen, Esther Schipper Gallery, Berlin.**

**© Photography by Studio Tomás Saraceno, 2015**

**Aerocene @ Espace Muraille (16/11/15- 13/02/16)**

**Info**

**H 117 x W 139 x D 99 cm**



**Picture No TS/S 14219/1**

**Tomás Saraceno,**

**91 Aqr b, 2014, polyester rope, fishing line, iridescent foil, carbon fibre, metal, Eyelets, nylon.**

**Courtesy: Tomás Saraceno; Pinksummer contemporary art, Genoa; Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York; Andersen's Contemporary, Copenhagen, Esther Schipper Gallery, Berlin.**

**© Photography by Studio Tomás Saraceno, 2015**

**Aerocene @ Espace Muraille (16/11/15- 13/02/16)**

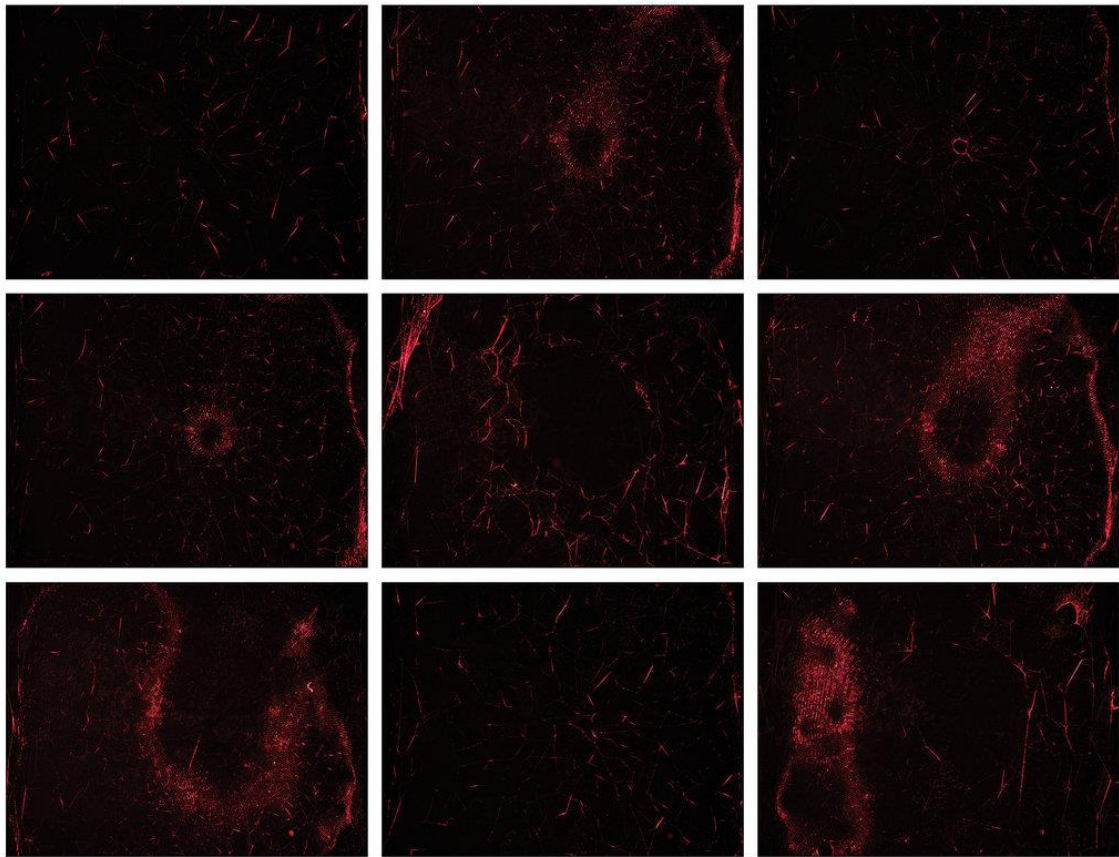
**Info**

**H 125 x W 115 x D 103 cm**

**Edition: 3+AP**

**Edition No: 1**





**Picture No TS/P 13010/4**

**Tomás Saraceno,**

***Semi-social musical instrument Small Magellanic Cloud: built by Cyrtophora citricola (working title), 2014, Spider laser scan inkjet print***

**Aerocene @ Espace Muraille (16/11/15- 13/02/16)**

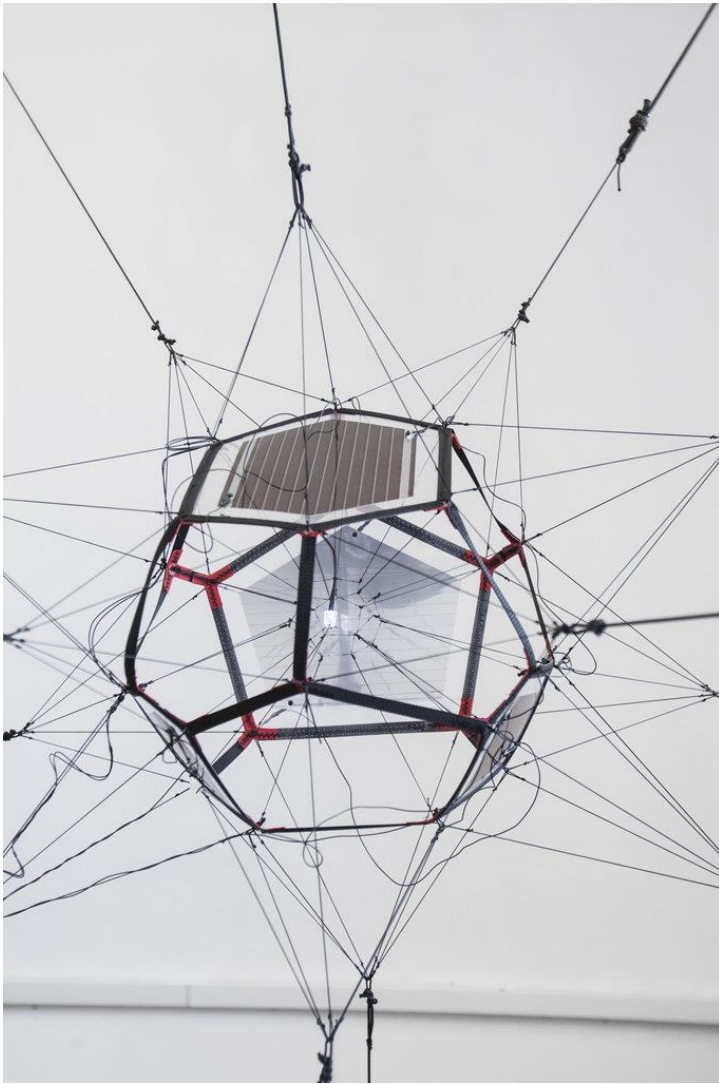
#### Info

an attempt to enhance and solidify the processes and techniques of scanning these 3D webs, a challenge that has only ever been complete once before<sup>1</sup>. The challenge of the scan is the fine detail and complexity of the silk and structure. since no detailed architectural information exists about these 3D webs, there is little to no scientific discussion about them, or understanding of their properties<sup>2</sup>.

Collaborators from the Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia: - Alessio Del Bue, Researcher, PAVIS department: 3D reconstruction from images. - Paolo Bianchini, Researcher, Nanophysic department: Optical setup configuration. - Carkis Beltran Gonzalez, Technician, PAVIS department: image calibration, acquisition and analysis. - Vittorio Murino, Head of PAVIS department: Coordinator.

<sup>11</sup> : Tomás Saraceno in collaboration with the Technical University of Darmstadt, 2009 – please see the project '14 Billions (working title), Bonniers Konsthalle, Stockholm' for more informations.

<sup>2</sup>By initiating these works, Tomas Saraceno is contributing and opening an entirely new and distinct field in the realm of Arachnology, Cosmology, and Engineering.



**Picture No TS/S 11093/3**

**Tomás Saraceno,**

**Solar Interior S, 2011, solar foil, Wiring, battery, sensor, LED light, polyester rope.**

**Courtesy: Tomás Saraceno; Pinksummer contemporary art, Genoa; Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York; Andersen's Contemporary, Copenhagen, Esther Schipper Gallery, Berlin.**

**© Photography by Studio Tomás Saraceno, 2015**

**Aerocene @ Espace Muraille (16/11/15- 13/02/16)**

Info

H 55 x W 45 x D 95 cm

Edition: 3+1AP

Edition No: 3





**Picture no TS/SP 15042**

**Tomás Saraceno,**

**Solitary semi social mapping of SSA22–HCM1 by one Nephila clavipes-one week and two Cyrtophora citricola-two weeks, 2015, Spidersilk, paper, glue, ink.**

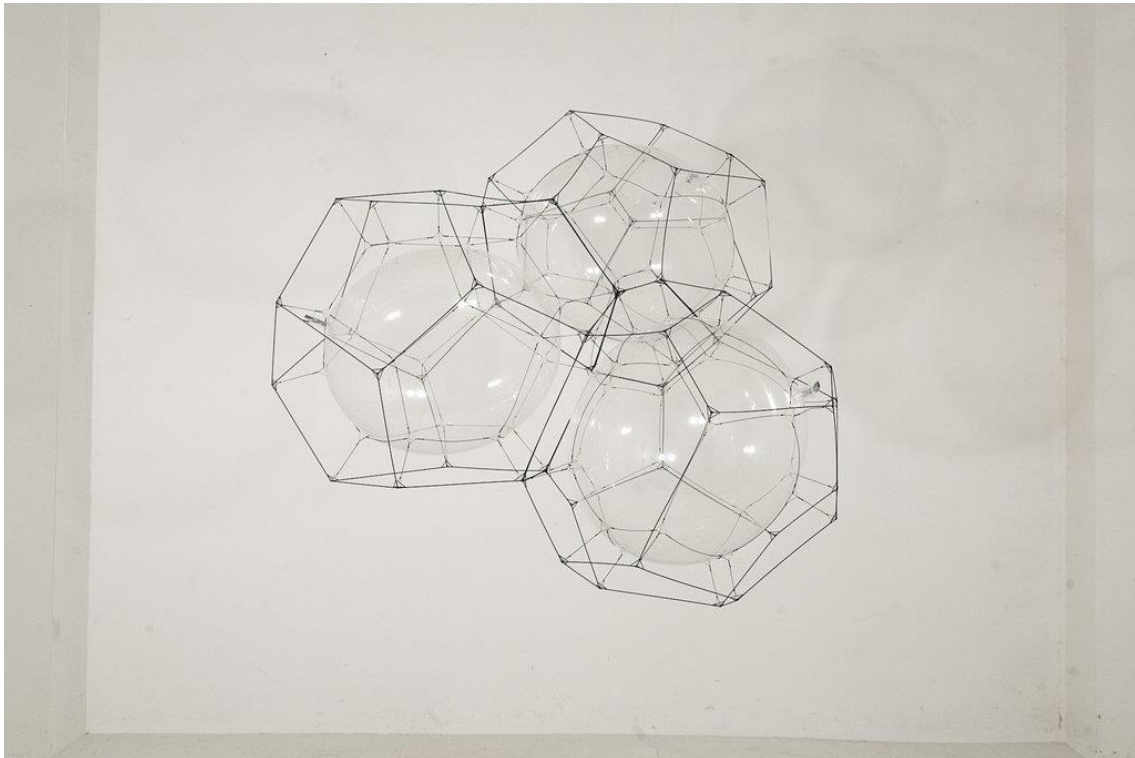
**Courtesy: Tomás Saraceno; Pinksummer contemporary art, Genoa; Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York; Andersen's Contemporary, Copenhagen, Esther Schipper Gallery, Berlin.**

**© Photography by Studio Tomás Saraceno, 2015**

**Aerocene @ Espace Muraille (16/11/15- 13/02/16)**

**Info**

**H 108 x W 108 x D 23 cm,**



**Picture No TS/S 15029**

**Tomás Saraceno,**

**Cloud cities thermodynamics of self-assembly/003 CHXR 73 b, 2015, carbon fibre, Inflatable, glue, polyester rope.**

**Courtesy: Tomás Saraceno; Pinksummer contemporary art, Genoa; Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York; Andersen's Contemporary, Copenhagen, Esther Schipper Gallery, Berlin.**

**© Photography by Studio Tomás Saraceno, 2015**

**Aerocene @ Espace Muraille (16/11/15- 13/02/16)**

**Info**

**H 153 x W 93 x D 143 cm**



**Picture No TS/S 15144**

**Tomás Saraceno,**

**Iridescent planet, 2015, iridescent foil, Inflatable, pump system, LED light.**

**Courtesy: Tomás Saraceno; Pinksummer contemporary art, Genoa; Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York; Andersen's Contemporary, Copenhagen, Esther Schipper Gallery, Berlin.**

**© Photography by Studio Tomás Saraceno, 2015**

**Aerocene @ Espace Muraille (16/11/15- 13/02/16)**

**Info**

**Ø 250 cm**

**ILLUSTRATIONS EN HD ET TEXTES**

**[Pictures HD Tomás Saraceno at Espace Muraille](#)**



## Press Information November 2015

### BIOGRAPHY OF TOMÁS SARACENO

#### English

Tomás Saraceno (b.1973, Argentina)

After attaining his architecture degree at Universidad Nacional de Buenos Aires in Argentina, Tomás received postgraduate degrees in art and architecture from *Escuela Superior de bellas Artes de la Nación Ernesto de la Carcova*, Buenos Aires (2000) and *Staatliche Hochschule für Bildende Künste - Städelschule*-Frankfurt am Main (2003).

In 2009, he attended the International Space Studies Program at NASA Ames in Silicon Valley, CA. The same year Saraceno presented a major installation at the 53rd Biennale di Venezia, and was later on awarded the prestigious Calder Prize.

In the last years, Saraceno's work has been shown in international solo and group exhibitions such as *Le Bord des Mondes*, at Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2015), *in orbit* at Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen K21 in Düsseldorf (2013-15) and *On Space time foam* at Hangar Bicocca in Milan (2012-13), amongst others. His work has also been exhibited in public museums like The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York (2012), the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art in St. Louis (2011-12), and Hamburger Bahnhof, Berlin (2011-12).

Saraceno's work could be seen as an ongoing research, informed by the worlds of art, architecture, natural sciences and engineering; his floating sculptures and interactive installations propose and explore new, sustainable ways of inhabiting and sensing the environment towards an aerosolar becoming.

Tomás Saraceno lives and works in and beyond the planet Earth.

#### Français

Tomás Saraceno (né en 1973 en Argentine)

Après avoir obtenu un diplôme en architecture à l'Université Nationale de Buenos Aires en Argentine, Tomás a décroché des diplômes d'études supérieures en art et en architecture à l'*Escuela Superior de Bellas Artes de la Nación de la Carcova* à Buenos Aires en 2000 et à la *Staatliche Hochschule für Bildende Künste – Städelschule* à Frankfurt-sur-le-Main en 2003.

En 2009, il a suivi le Programme International d'Etudes Spatiales de la NASA Ames dans la Silicon Valley en Californie. La même année, Saraceno a présenté une installation majeure lors de la 53ème Biennale de Venise et a été récompensé par le prestigieux Prix Calder.

Durant ces dernières années, les œuvres de Tomás Saraceno ont été exposées dans des nombreuses expositions internationales, lors d'expositions personnelles ou de groupe, telles que *Le Bords des Mondes* au Palais de Tokyo (2015), *in orbit* à Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen K21 à Dusseldorf entre (2013-2015) et *On Space time foam* à Hangar Bicocca à Milan (2012-2013). Son travail a également été présenté

dans de prestigieux lieux ou musées, comme le Metropolitan Museum of Art à New York (2012), Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art à Saint-Louis (2012-2012) et à Hamburger Bahnhof à Berlin (2011-2012).

Le travail de Saraceno peut être considéré comme une perpétuelle recherche qui trouve son origine dans les mondes de l'art, de l'architecture, des sciences naturelles et de l'ingénierie. Ses sculptures flottantes et ses installations interactives proposent et explorent de nouvelles manières d'habiter au-delà des frontières et de préparer durablement l'environnement à un avenir aérosolaire.

Tomás Saraceno vit et travaille « sur et au-delà de la planète terre ».

Further information:

[www.saraceno.com](http://www.saraceno.com)

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**Press information**  
**November 2015**

## **INTRODUCING ESPACE MURAILLE**

### **A UNIQUE SPACE AS A SHOWCASE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART**

**Located within the ancient fortifications in the heart of Geneva's Old City, Espace Muraille is designed first and foremost to be a dynamic open venue that enhances both the works it exhibits and the site itself. Temporary exhibitions, personal artistic projects and works from a rich permanent collection are displayed over two levels and 275 square metres.**

Access to this unique venue is via a bright red door, which opens out to a scene of visible stonework, roughcast vaults and a white, stripped-down aesthetic over a surface of 275 square metres on two levels, linked by a spiral staircase and laid out in a contemporary avant-garde design. We are in the heart of Geneva's old town, and a pedestrian or motorist in a hurry might just go past one of the finest centres of contemporary art in the world without noticing.

#### **Old vaults restored**

Espace Muraille is the brainchild of Caroline and Eric Freymond, both passionate collectors. Their project is located at the base of an 18th-century townhouse. It is a site rich in history, redesigned and remodelled by MVT, a firm of Geneva-based architects, as a venue dedicated to contemporary art. More a case of shedding old skin than a metamorphosis, the project aims to preserve the magic of its ancient walls, which for so long served as an underground vault and lay forgotten in the dust. The overarching concept of Espace Muraille is the desire to 'engage and interact with the art of the day', says Caroline Freymond, founder and artistic director. The aim is to 'showcase contemporary artists and creators and exhibit private collections, and to promote engagement and dialogue between works that have something in common, or on the contrary are completely different.' The purpose of Espace Muraille is therefore as a living, breathing, intellectually stimulating meeting place, given life by the passion of those who fill it with their work. Concerts, lectures, debates, artists' workshops and other cultural activities are also part of the project's work.

#### **Personal exhibitions, or the art of encouraging discussion and debate**

Pride of place is given to artists' personal projects, conceived and brought to life *in situ*. So far, Parisian curator Kamel Mennour has been granted free rein, and has chosen to feature the work of François Morellet and Tadashi Kawamata alongside each other; recently, the Japanese plastic artist Yohei Nishimura and pastellist Pierre Skira have exhibited their works side by side, around the theme of the book. In early 2015, French artist Monique Frydman took over Espace Muraille with her exhibition *U-topie de la couleur*. Argentinian artist Tomás Saraceno is the new guest artist at Espace Muraille. This internationally renowned figure has also been given free rein to occupy the venue from 17 November 2015 to 13 February 2016. His projects aim to suggest solutions to contemporary problems, whether social or environmental, in a way that is both playful and poetic. Caroline Freymond is a great admirer of Tomás Saraceno's work and mentions in particular 'the luminosity and complex dynamism of the forms he creates, and the fantasy world that emerges from his works – a revelatory experience for his audience'.

### **Private collections also exhibited**

The artistic vocation of Espace Muraille is original in more than name. Open to a wide range of contemporary artistic genres – painting, photography, sculpture, design, installations – and constantly on the lookout for avant-garde work, it offers a striking contrast with its long history and secret-harboured walls. Conceived as a contemporary artistic space rather than a gallery, Espace Muraille is a showcase for temporary exhibitions and will display works from the private collections of internationally renowned artists such as Anish Kapoor, Pierre Soulages, Ian Davenport, Jean-Michel Othoniel, Olafur Eliasson, Monique Frydman, Shirazeh Houshiary, Sheila Hicks and Fabrice Hyber, to name but a few. In 2015, Espace Muraille unveiled a new exhibition cycle entitled 'Collections particulières' ('Special collections'). Season 1. *Matière et Sensation* ('Matter and Perception') invited the visitor to explore a whole new world of sensations.

### **Identifying the stars of the future**

Having worked as a lawyer specializing primarily in international arbitration, Caroline Freymond now devotes herself to her passion for art. She has set up both Espace Muraille in Geneva and the gallery 'Menus Plaisirs' in Gstaad, founded over ten years ago. Her sure eye and keen judgement have enabled her to identify many a star of the future.

*Espace Muraille* takes its place in Geneva's dynamic artistic and cultural scene, alongside the numerous museums and galleries that make up the *Association Art en Vieille-Ville* (Association for the Arts in Geneva's old town) and *Quartier des Bains* (Bains District). Its representatives aim to encourage contemporary art and help to spread its popularity in French-speaking Switzerland.

*Espace Muraille is a new venue in the French-speaking part of Switzerland that regularly hosts exhibitions of internationally renowned contemporary artists. It also organizes a range of cultural events in order to showcase its collections, to promote contemporary artists and creators or to play host to a variety of occasions connected to the world of art (video conferences, musical evenings and so on).*

### **Information and access**

[www.espacemuraille.com](http://www.espacemuraille.com)

[info@espacemuraille.com](mailto:info@espacemuraille.com)

### **Espace Muraille, Place des Casemates 5, Geneva**

Tel. +41 (0)22 310 4292

Fax +41 (0)22 310 4293

Tuesday to Friday, 10:00–12:00 and 13:00–18:00

Saturday: 11:00–12:00 and 13:00–18:00 or by appointment

Public transport: Bus 3 and 5 to Athénée

### **Press department**

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