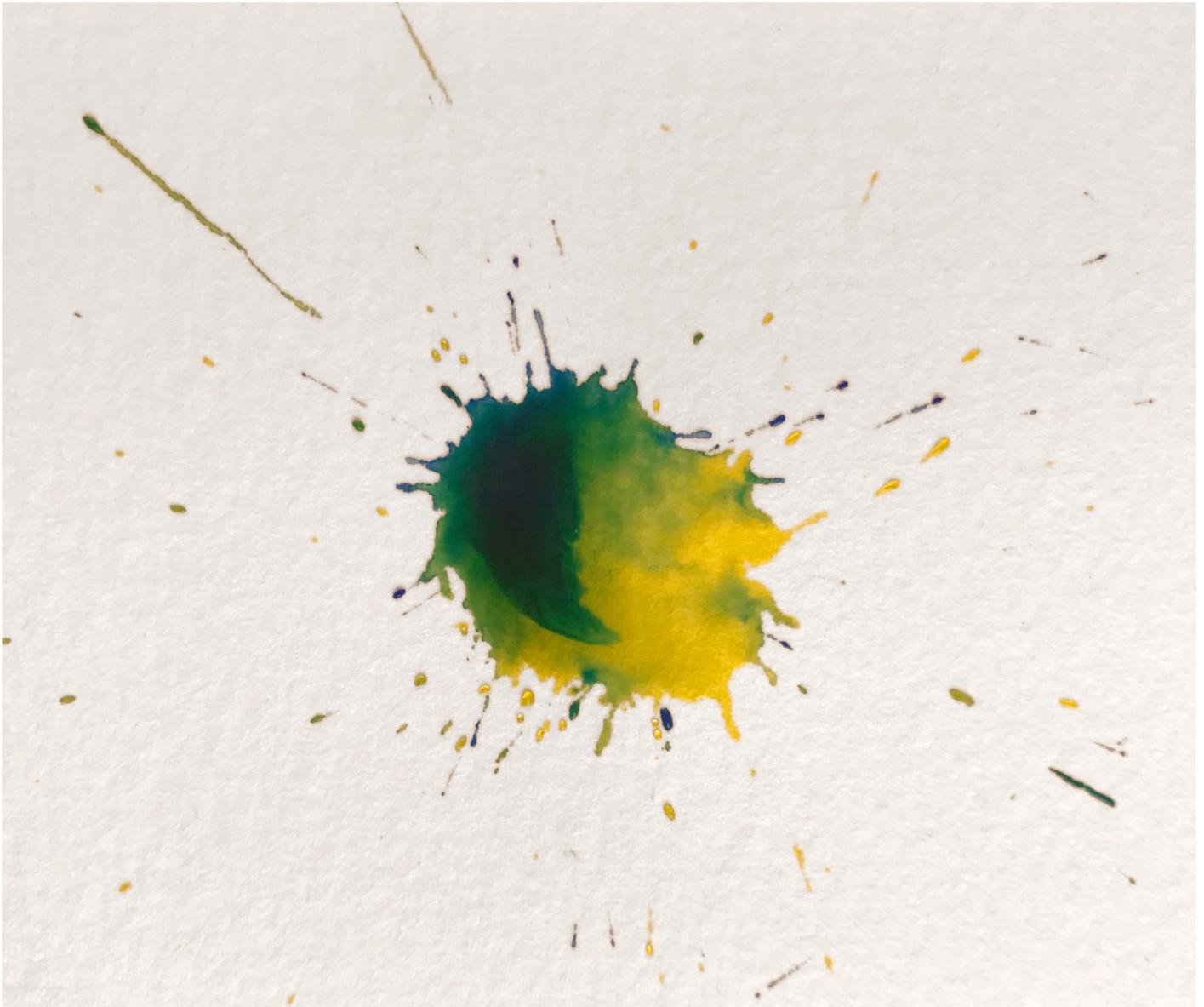


DRAWBOT #3

POST-DIGITAL DRAWING IN
ARCHITECTURE AND ART



Edouard Cabay, Second Deviation (tests), 2018
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EDOUARD CABAY
SOLO SHOW

SECOND DEVIATION

13/10 - 10/11/2018

Opening October 13, 2018, 5 - 8 pm

SECOND DEVIATION

EDOUARD CABAY

DRAWBOT #3

In 2017-2018, AREA Institute presents a program that explores the nature of drawing in the post-digital era. A traditional architectural medium, drawing is being radically redefined by the computational turn through the use of digital design, visualization and fabrication techniques.

DRAWBOT presents projects by architects, artists and computation scientists through a series of 4 exhibitions, workshops and talks. It explores the mutations of contemporary drawing, produced or influenced by robotic technologies, artificial intelligence, simulation procedures and genetic algorithms, and its reconnection to abstraction, imagination and materiality.

Curators : Emmanuelle Chiappone-Piriou, Leslie Ware

For his first exhibition in France, architect Edouard Cabay presents an original installation that continues his investigation on the notion of deviation (recently presented at Santa Mònica Art Center, Barcelona).

Taking up an artistic and architectural tradition, Second Deviation explores an automated drawing process that combines digital and robotic technologies with mechanical devices. Against the subjectivity associated with the act of drawing, Cabay's works emerge as objective, graphic traces of spatial apparatuses and temporal processes, simultaneously physical and informational.

For the exhibition at AREA Institute, Cabay has imagined a protocol where the regular counting of time, by means of a pendulum, is inscribed upon a canvas. This system is "augmented" by a robotic arm that activates the ensemble. The apparent simplicity of the drawings, almost disconcerting, could be understood as mirroring that of the apparatus which, albeit including robotics as its driving principle, remains mechanical.

That is nevertheless where the richness of Cabay's work lies, in the simplicity of the compositions that allows perceiving the minute deviations of the coloured traces from the geometrically ordered grids initially programmed. Though they are the results of both automated processes and of invariant physical phenomena and infinitesimal variations, Cabay's words do not emanate from the too evident dialectic between digital determinism and material randomness, or between robotic precision and human imprecision. Rather, growing from architectural

considerations, they introduce the possibility of another measurement. The accumulation of drawings throughout the exhibition reveals how the architect operates seizing, by registering a multiplicity of given instants, of temporal grains in a constantly mutating universe. This "deviation" that gives its name to the protocol, contains the possibility of a de-normalisation: the measure cannot be determined upstream from the experience, it is rather the result of the minute events that form our environment. Time, then, as much as space, appear as the principle materials of Cabay's drawings, along with paint and bits.

EDOUARD CABAY

Edouard Cabay is a Swiss-Belgian architect. He lives and works in Barcelona, where he is registered at the Col·legi d'Arquitectes de Catalunya (Spain). After having graduated from the Architectural Association (Londres, UK) and gained an international professional experience, he has funded the studio Appareil in 2011, that invests in architectural and research projects in Spain and Europe.

Cabay develops a research entitled *Machinic Protocols*, exploring the role of indeterminacy and accident in the creative process. His experiences have taken the shape of artistic installations and urban and architectural projects, in which drawing remains a privileged medium – throughout scales. His projects have been recently exhibited at the Tallin Architecture Biennale (2017) and at the Tenerife Design Week. Cabay has organized a series of exhibitions in Barcelona investigating automatic drawing: *Auto-màtic* (2018, Santa Mònica Art Centre, Barcelona), *Traces – delineating incidents* (2016, Cercle Artistique Sant LLuc) and *Scripts – a chronicle of incidents* (Cultural Centre Elizalde, 2010-13).

In parallel, Cabay is a confirmed educator. He teaches at IAAC (Barcelona) since 2011, where he currently is Professor and Director of the Open Thesis Fabrication program. He has previously taught at the Architectural Association (London, 2010-13) and at the Ecole Spéciale d'Architecture (Paris, 2012-15). From 2013 to 2015, he has been a Studio Director at the EPFL (Lausanne). He has taught numerous academic and professional workshops worldwide (Colombia, Iran, Morocco, Serbia, Italy, France, Belgium, Mexico, Singapour, India, Ecuador, Switzerland). He directs the AA Visiting School Barcelona since 2012, where he has taught one of the workshops with film director Michel Gondry (*Crade et Vivant*, 2015). In 2016, he has co-coordinated *House 1*, a 1:1 scale construction designed as part of the first-year project studio at EPFL (Lausanne), later exhibited at ENSA Versailles (Paris).



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