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olivier
debré



koen taselaar
end and

7 february – 21 september 2025

press release

koen taselaar

end and

7 february -
21 september 2025
opening 6 february 2025
nef

curator:
Delphine Masson

Dutch artist Koen Taselaar presents his first solo exhibition in France with a project designed specifically for the monumental nave of the art centre.

Born in 1986, Taselaar is a well-known figure on the Dutch art scene, recognized for his diverse practice, which includes drawing, screen printing, ceramics, and tapestry. His Kaleidoscopic, imaginative works are filled with humor and an eclectic mix of references, drawing viewers into a vibrant and playful universe.

Describing himself as a «visual omnivore», Taselaar draws inspiration from a variety of sources, including punk music, fanzines, comics, and skateboarding culture, alongside the history of art, architecture, and design. He reimagines these influences through a lens of curiosity and creativity, shaping them into something uniquely his own.



« end and », exhibition view at CCC OD, Tours, France, February 2025 © Aurélien Mole

koen taselaar

end and

At the heart of *End And* is a monumental 19-meter-long tapestry, produced especially for this exhibition. The work is a homage to the *Apocalypse Tapestry* in Angers, one of the great masterpieces of medieval art. Taselaar was invited to create a contemporary response to this iconic work, using its themes of apocalyptic imagination as a springboard for his own exploration of humanity's enduring fascination with the end of the world.

In his tapestry, Taselaar takes an encyclopedic approach to apocalyptic narratives, which have appeared throughout history, weaving them together with his signature humorous and inventive style. By blending these dark themes with absurdity and wit, the artist transforms his work into a "black comedy" that highlights the cyclical nature of doomsday predictions. Despite the recurring fears, these imagined ends have never materialized, offering a perspective that balances reflection with optimism in the face of today's challenges.

The exhibition extends beyond the central tapestry, featuring sculptures, drawings, furniture, and smaller tapestries. Together, these works create an immersive and dynamic environment, inviting visitors to reflect, rest, and engage with Taselaar's distinctive and colorful visual world.

*This exhibition
has been made
possible thanks to
the support of the
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In collaboration with CAPAS, Käte Hamburger Centre for Apocalyptic and Post-Apocalyptic Studies at the University of Heidelberg (Germany).



« end and », exhibition view at CCCOD, Tours, France, February 2025 © Aurélien Mole

koen taselaar

artist's statement

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The concept of apocalypse feels incredibly relevant today, given the wars, political polarization, pandemic, and climate concerns of recent years. Being invited to create a response to the Apocalypse Tapestry (1380) inspired me to consider how humanity has grappled with similar fears across history.

While the topic may sound heavy, my intention is to approach it with humor and perspective. Over time, many apocalyptic predictions have proven unfounded, and their absurdity can even become amusing. My tapestry aims to be a kind of 'black comedy' — a reflection on humanity's endless habit of imagining catastrophic endings that never quite come true.

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koen taselaar

biography



© Aad Hoogendoorn

Born in 1986 in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, Koen Taselaar continues to live and work in his hometown. His works are included in the collections of Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen (Rotterdam), Groninger Museum (Groningen), Centraal Museum (Utrecht), and the Hermitage (St. Petersburg).

In 2024, he exhibited at the Depot Boijmans (Rotterdam), Stedelijk Museum Schiedam, Kunstinstituut Melly (Rotterdam), and Centraal Museum (Utrecht). That year, he also received the Officine Saffi Award (Milan, Italy) for his ceramics. Taselaar is represented by Andriess Eyck Gallery in Amsterdam.



Maurizio Nannucci, *Listen to your eyes*, 2010, fnac 10-1055, collection du CNAP, 2018-2023. Photo F. Fernandez, CCC OD - Tours

Right in the historic centre of Tours, with its contemporary architecture designed by the Portuguese agency Aires Mateus, the Centre de Création contemporaine Olivier Debré is somewhere the public can come and make discoveries, share knowledge and experiences in an open setting. A contemporary art centre, it is also a multidisciplinary culture venue which engages with all local stakeholders in its ambition to explore new ground.

The CCC OD is now the custodian of a donation of works by the painter Olivier Debré who lived in Touraine from early childhood. Hosting a historic collection within a contemporary art centre throws up a whole host of unique possibilities for building bridges between past and present creation.

All year round, our Visitors' Department organises a wide range of activities for young and old alike, tailoring their options to suit individuals and different groups. An exciting and intriguing programme of cultural events can be enjoyed alongside the exhibitions, including conferences, encounters, performances and film screenings – all designed to awaken your senses and broaden your knowledge.

With an ambitious exhibition programme, the CCC OD is forging ever closer ties with its region whilst exploring international creation. Pioneering, inquisitive and ever mindful of the issues that matter today, it looks ahead with the artists who are constantly questioning our world in a different way.

practical informations

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getting here

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5 minutes by tram
from Tours train station, stop Porte-de-Loire
1h10 from Paris by TGV
via the A10 motorway, exit Tours Centre

opening hours

wednesday-sunday 11am - 6pm
saturday until 7pm

entry fees

8,50 € (full price)
5,50 € (reduced price)
free access under 18

CCC OD LEPASS

unlimited access to exhibitions and events
valid for 1 year
27 € single pass
45 € duo pass
12 € for students / 7 € PCE

free access

the cafe - restaurant

Le Café de Paula, is a friendly and welcoming place to enjoy quality coffee, a pastry, or a daily special, all made in-house with local and seasonal products.

Open Wednesday to Friday from 12pm to 6pm,
Saturday from 11am to 7pm, and Sunday from
11am to 6pm
paulacafetours@gmail.com

the bookstore - shop

Mailys, our bookseller, offers a wide selection of books specializing in art, architecture, and design, as well as books and games for children, postcards, and goodies...

Open Wednesday to Friday from 2pm to 6pm, and
Saturday from 11am to 1pm and 2pm to 6pm.
07 85 93 42 93 / librairie@cccod.fr

facilities

the CCC OD is accessible to people with disabilities.

2 accessible parking spaces for people with reduced mobility (PRM) at Jardin François 1^{er}.
Bicycle parking and car parking available at Porte-de-Loire, Place de la Résistance, and Rue du Commerce.

On-site services include: elevators, accessible toilets, stroller storage, baby changing facilities, and a wheelchair (available at reception upon request).

The CCC OD is a cultural equipment of Tours Métropole Val de Loire.
Its achievement was made possible thanks to the State and territorial collectivities support.

