

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**TodaysArt, the roving festival for digital and trans-disciplinary art and creativity, returns to the city center of The Hague for its 12th festival edition, This year's festival will take place from September 22nd to the 25th of September. One of the highlights of the festival is the presentation of 'Disarm' of Mexican artists Pedro Reyes which is exhibited at Studio Pulchri from August 27nd to the 25th of September.**

### **Pedro Reyes - Disarm**

*TodaysArt is a network organization specialized in the presentation and development of contemporary visual and performing arts and emerging culture. Inspired by actual topics, TodaysArt aspires to promote and foster innovation, creativity for and public interest in current developments within arts, culture and society. TodaysArt developed from a festival organization into a wide platform committed to creating an environment which facilitates new ideas. Over the years TodaysArt has been operating on a more nomadic scale. The festival took place at locations that had a societally complex history as the former ministry of interior affairs, a newly built (temporary) theater and The Pier on the beach which had been sold to new owners after and reopened its activities with the TodaysArt festival. Each year, TodaysArt raises questions about our relationship with the specific (public) environment. 'Who owns the city' is this year's central question which investigates our relationship to the public and urban environment of the city's town square.*

The public space where TodaysArt Festival 2016 takes place is in a state of transformation. The festival brings (temporary) renewal to the public space. Pedro Reyes' work deals in a comparable way with finding solutions for current problems, sometimes in absurd ways. An example of his work is his invitation for 'Sanatorium' (Documenta 13) visitors for a stay in a temporary clinic to heal them from urban problems as stress and loneliness.

'Disarm' is second generation of instruments built after 'Imagine' (2012), also using the remnants of weapons that the Mexican army had collected and destroyed. The second series is made up of eight instruments that were created in collaboration with a team of musicians and COCOLAB, a media studio in Mexico City. These machines are mechanical musical instruments; they can be programmed and operated via computers, making them capable of performing music concerts with compositions prepared beforehand.

The various parts of these automatons are recognizable as shotguns, pistols and rifles; while they no longer pose the threat of physical harm, they keep the sheer might of their most recent purpose. Now, these former arms, strum, ring crash, hum and vibrate at different volumes and intensities to express elaborate compositions with a wide range of sonic nuances.

'Disarm' is on European tour and has been made possibly by various international partners. After the presentation at Turner Contemporary [UK], CTM-Festival [DE] and TodaysArt, it will travel to France for an exhibition at Le Lieu Unique.

*-- Note for editors, not for publication*

#### Calendar text

Pedro Reyes - 'Disarm'

Opening: Friday August 26, 2016 - 17H00

Exhibition: August 27 - September 25, 2016 - Tue - Sun: 11H00 - 17H00

Address: Pulchri Studio, Lange Voorhout 15, 2514 EA The Hague, NL

Free entrance

#### Calendar text:

TodaysArt Festival 2016

September 22 - 25, 2016

The Hague, NL  
[www.todaysart.nl](http://www.todaysart.nl)

Partners en Support:

Lisson Gallery [UK], Le Lie Unique [FR], Turner Contemporary [UK], CTM-Festival [DE], COCOLAB [MX], Just Peace Festival [NL], Embassy of Mexico [NL]

Online

Teaser website: [www.todaysart.nl](http://www.todaysart.nl)

Newsletter: [www.todaysart.nl/newsletters](http://www.todaysart.nl/newsletters)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/todaysart](http://www.facebook.com/todaysart)

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/todaysart](http://www.twitter.com/todaysart)

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/todaysart](http://www.instagram.com/todaysart)

Vimeo: [www.vimeo.com/todaysart](http://www.vimeo.com/todaysart)

Festival Tickets:

Early-Bird Tickets €40

[www.todaysart.stager.nl/web/tickets](http://www.todaysart.stager.nl/web/tickets)

Start regular tickets will start soon.

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