

## PRESS RELEASE

### Thierry Fournier – Hotspot

April 15<sup>th</sup> to May 5<sup>th</sup> 2011 / Opening hours Weds to Sat 3pm – 7pm

Exhibition opening: Thursday April 14<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.

Contexts (1) presents a new project by Thierry Fournier, *Hotspot*, which fills the entire exhibition space as well as exterior display surfaces.

Crushed underfoot, glass debris smashes as spectators cross the exhibition floor. Amplified and distorted, these sounds are mixed with sound bytes from disaster films. Meanwhile, media coverage broadcasts breaking news and current affairs reports to the street outside, it too under surveillance via video and sound recordings, mapping, etc.

A derisive theater of operations, the exhibition creates an interface between these worlds of observation and surveillance: inside and outside, mutually threatening, where the spectator is both observer and protagonist. The storytelling of fear in experimentation.

Associating raw material, video, sound, interactive systems and cinema, *Hotspot* takes up the themes that characterize the work of Thierry Fournier: the articulation of situations and experiences that engage the spectator and the body, and the inquiry into the relationship between art, politics, fiction and the documentary, deployed here *in situ*.

*Hotspot* was produced in collaboration with Jean-François Robardet, at the Electrohop research and creation studio, supported by the École nationale supérieure d' art de Nancy and Artem (2).

(1) Contexts brings together three experts in mediation: Pierre Marsaa, Anastassia Makridou-Bretonneau, and Mari Linnman. In one common location, Contexts is a bureau of studies, production and distribution agency, and exhibition space.

(2) With the collaboration of Vanessa Hérault (student at the École nationale supérieure des Mines de Nancy), Florent Camus, Léa Chambe, Thibault Dumontet, Elsa Gauthier, Laure Goujard, Marie Laurent, Benoît Le Quan, Maxime Pellerin, Deborah Ruffinoni, Pauline Soudier, Lucile Villeneuve (students from the ICN Business School), and students from the Electrohop research and creation studio.

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