

FrontStudio is pleased to present the work of Philip Huyghe (1959)

*The Bride Re-Turned (2013/ 2016)* came into being when the artist's parents' house was vacated and put up for sale after his mother had moved out. For Huyghe this was an occasion for a period of thorough study and archiving, examining the bare rooms of the parental home for the remaining traces of habitation, the materials used and the decorative patterns that were left. In this way he developed a topography of the house, a visual language with which he set to work, trying to force a duplication of the space in these metaphysical rooms, to create an alternate reality or an 'intuition space'. The records made with the 'survey machine', a camera specially constructed for the occasion that scans all the surfaces like a lightning eye, display an obsessive urge to explore. In addition, we also see the image-maker himself at work, toiling away and twisting himself into every possible position to handle his machine and enable his creations to take shape. On the last night before the final sale and the departure from the house, he carried out several performances which as it were put a spell on the space. As part of this ritual the bride ultimately makes her appearance. As a personage, the bride is a highly-charged figure in art history, religious and social contexts. In the performance we see the artist/bride doing a headstand, thereby turning these contexts upside down.

*The Bride Re-Turned* is an investigation into the relationship between image and space, physical space and mental space. In the balanced interaction between the various elements, the consciousness of the participant is seized. A space between sleep and consciousness. This project is an investigation into a "gap" which is situated outside the order and in which images speak directly to the imagination, a place where past, present and future merge into one another. By creating a hypnotic image, the human imagination is almost tangible in our minds. The work dreams as it were in our place, and plants that dream in our subconscious.