## YASSER BALLEMANS

## <u>CARRUS NAVALIS</u> 29.09 - 03.11.2012

Carnival is a time in which the world is temporarily turned upside down. Not the Major but Prince Carnival is in charge. Whole cities change into a big decor in which intensive partying and masquerades goes hand-in-hand with political criticism. **Yasser Ballemans** sees Carnival as a challenging stage for Fine Art.

For his exhibition at JOEY RAMONE Ballemans realized work in which he investigated his personal aesthetic relation to a massive event like carnival. This resulted in a series of small pieces of various techniques that play with the borders between the object and the artwork, the model and the real object and Art and Carnival.

The title <u>Carrus Navalis</u> refers to one of the theories about the etymological history of Carnival and emphasizes the ever-changing codes and rituals during this intriguing and ancient celebration.

In his earlier ceramic work Ballemans investigated the progressive quality of ornaments and decoration. In his more social work he investigated how art can manifest itself in the context of a big cultural event like Carnival. For this project he made an exhibition about Art and Carnival at exhibition space KOP in Breda and together with students and psychiatric patients he participated at the carnival in Curaçao in collaboration with Instituto Buena Bista.

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