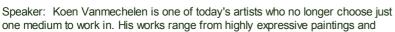
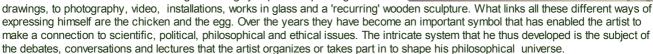
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Written by Teresa Stoppani Oct 15, 2008 at 03:09 PM

Cross-breeding is the thing. We need to cross breed across the boundaries if we want the world not to perish. We need to think cosmopolitical. Nothing is as beautiful as joining with other cultures and take energy from this. (Koen Vanmechelen)

The first, primitive chicken, the 'Red Jungle Fowl', still lives nearthe Himalaya. In contrast with domesticated chickens the Red Jungle Fowl is monogamous. As the fowl still lives in the wild, monogamy may be even a stronger characteristic than the polygamous element. The 'super bastard' or Cosmopolitan Chicken is no return to the primitive fowl, but a new start. For his first cross-breeding Koen Vanmechelen chose the 'Mechelse Koekoek', the pride of Flemish chicken breeding and a relative in name to the artist. It was cross-bred in 1998 with the 'poulet de Bresse', a first-rate French chicken. Their cross-breeding, the 'Mechelse Bresse', was later cross-bred with the English 'Redcap'. This 'Mechelse Redcap', uniting Belgian, French and English nationalities was crossbred with the American 'Jersey Giant'





- □ Vanmechelen current work can be divided in three main categories:
- □ Golem, the principle of the creating man, is the point of departure for the whole of his work.
- □ The Cosmopolitan Chicken Project (CCP) is the core of the artist's work, a breeding programme with chicken breeds from all over the world; the project draws attention to the crossing of borders and all its implications and calls, above all, for a mutual understanding.
- Medusa is the scientific part of the project and the collaborative think tank behind the CCP.

www.koen-vanmechelen.be

University of Greenwich School of Architecture & Construction Norbert Singer Lecture Theatre (M055) Mansion Site, Avery Hill Campus Bexley Road, Eltham, London SE9 2PQ Tuesdays 17.30

Directions to Avery Hill Campus

Last Updated (Oct 24, 2008 at 01:37 PM)

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