

XAVIER VEILHAN

Xavier Veilhan was born in 1963.

In the 1980s, he developed a multi-faceted artistic approach (sculpture, painting, environment, performance, video, photography) that blends classicism with cutting-edge techniques. His works question our perception and cultivate an interest in spaces where we can wander around, often evolving, in which the visitor becomes an actor. Xavier Veilhan's work is often seen in public spaces, with sculptures in numerous cities across France and abroad: Paris, Stockholm, New York, Shanghai and Seoul, among others.



After graduating from the École nationale supérieure des arts décoratifs in Paris in 1983, he continued his training at the Berlin University of the Arts, in Georg Baselitz's studio. Also in 1983, he co-founded the fanzine Blank and the art group Zig-Zag. He then became a radio presenter on Cité future. He completed his training in 1989 at the Institut des hautes études en arts plastiques in Paris.

In 1995, Veilhan exhibited *Le Véhicule*: a chassis, four bicycle wheels and a rocket engine that he turned in a supermarket car park and then on the roof of a Bordeaux discotheque. He then composed canvases which served as the visual background for the Marcia Baïla video.

In 2000, he set up a studio in his home in the Bastille district of Paris. In 2009, he mounted the Veilhan Versailles exhibition. From 2012 to 2014, he produced the *Architectones* series of works. He was promoted to the rank of officier de l'ordre des Arts et des Lettres on 13 February 2015. He was chosen to represent France at the 57th Venice Biennale in 2017. The French Pavilion at the 2017 Venice Biennale was transformed by Xavier Veilhan and the pavilion curators, Christian Marclay and Lionel Bovier, into a musical installation in which professional musicians from all over the world played for the duration of the event.

Xavier Veilhan's work has been presented in renowned institutions around the world, including the Centre Georges Pompidou (Paris), the Mamco (Geneva), the Phillips Collection (Washington), the Mori Art Museum (Tokyo) and the MAAT (Lisbon).