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***Méthode Room* International Curatorial Residency Launches on the South Side**

Architect Xavier Wrona builds a temporary television studio to debate theories of architecture with residents of Greater Grand Crossing

CHICAGO, IL – Rebuild Foundation, in partnership with EXPO Chicago, the Cultural Services of the French Embassy, the Institut français, and independent curator Guillaume Désanges, are pleased to welcome Xavier Wrona as curator-in-residence. On August 15, 2015, Wrona will begin a ten-week project, *Georges Bataille, Architecture, Chicago and World Order – An Essay on General Economy*. The project, the first in the *Method Project* residency series, will feature an exhibition at Rebuild’s Archive House, the launch of an architecture TV channel, and the publication of a new journal, *Après la révolution*.

A practicing architect and associate professor at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure d’Architecture de Saint-Etienne, Wrona has long been interested in the connection between architecture and social justice. His exhibition will explore French intellectual Georges Bataille’s definition of architecture as a tool through which an ideologically dominant order manifests itself in space and time. Balancing theory with practice, Wrona’s goal is to “Move away from this theoretical edifice...to get back into a less theoretical, closer contact to reality. I wish to be able to talk with people of the South Side...to be able to engage, discuss, debate.”

To that end, Wrona and two assistants will build a temporary television studio in the heart of the Greater Grand Crossing neighborhood. Neighbors, community leaders, local business owners, aldermen, and City officials will be invited to the studio to share their definitions of the word, “architecture.”

Wrona is the first of three curators selected to participate in the *Méthode Room* residency program at the Rebuild Foundation. While in Chicago, curatorial residents will live at the Dorchester Art + Housing Collaborative, a 32 unit mixed-income housing complex redeveloped through a partnership between the Chicago Housing Authority, Brinshore Development and the Rebuild Foundation.

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Rebuild Foundation is a nonprofit organization that endeavors to rebuild the cultural foundations of underinvested neighborhoods and incite movements of community revitalization that are culture-based, artist-led, and neighborhood-driven. For more information, visit www.rebuild-foundation.org or email Demecina Beehn at Demecina@rebuild-foundation.org.