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SEP 12–NOV 7, 2021

## SMASHING INTO MY HEART

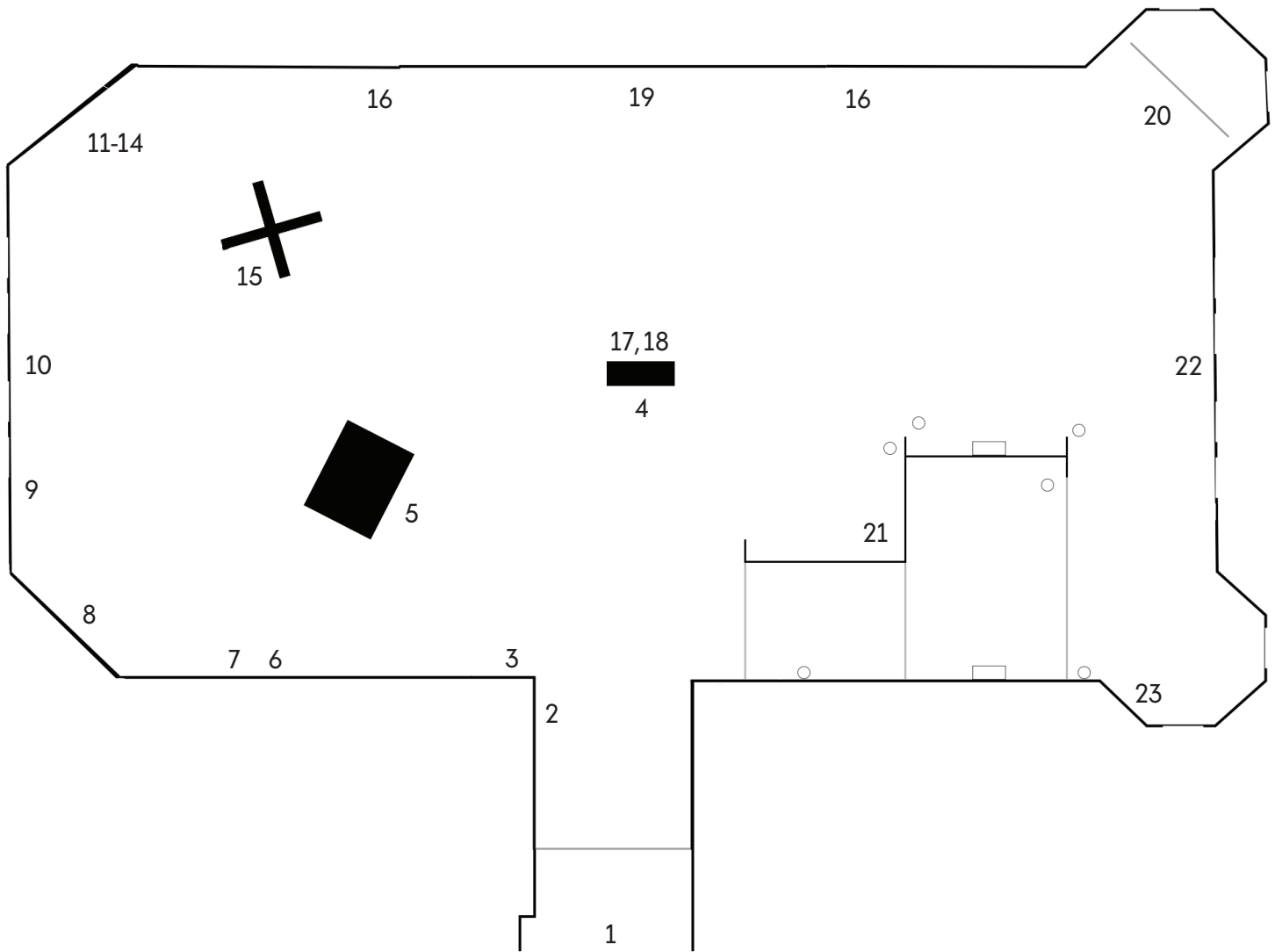
NAIRY BAGHRAMIAN, NEÏL BELOUFA, CAMILLE BLATRIX, XINYI CHENG, TITA CICOGNANI, LAURENT DEROBERT, CEAL FLOYER, HERVÉ GUIBERT, PARK MCARTHUR, EBECHE MUSLIMOVA, JULIA PHILLIPS

“Friend” is the loosest of terms we have for how we relate to each other. Michel Foucault calls friendship “a desire, an uneasiness, a desire-in-uneasiness.” Not always democratic or inclusive, friendship starts with negation: we collectively wish everyone else would go away. Friendship can be impolite, and as it unfolds, it can be opaque and asymmetrical, tortuous. It is tensile, capable of bearing heart-wrenching passion, ambivalence, or even the absence of feeling. It is sometimes what’s left when nothing else is possible.

More broadly, friendship is a mode of alliance that exists beyond typical kinship and outside of institutional relations (family, profession). It’s an elective affinity without finality. Being a good friend signals an inclination to form anomalous, unproductive bonds that exceed strategic self-interest. An essentially political relationship—one of allegiance and responsibility—it offers a framework for interrogating how we live and work and exist in the world. It offers a possibility for a new poetics of the Other.

*Smashing into my heart* looks at friendship as a condition, a model, and a metaphor for art. The artworks presented engage with regimes of care, structures of support, horizontal relationships. They are steeped in affection, desire, longing, jealousy, comfort, love. The tone is sentimental—irony has left the building.

Curated by Myriam Ben Salah.



**1. Ebecho Muslimova**  
*FATEBE BIG SQUEEZE AT COBB HALL*, 2021  
 Wallpaper, acrylic paint  
 Courtesy of the artist and Galerie Maria Bernheim, Zurich

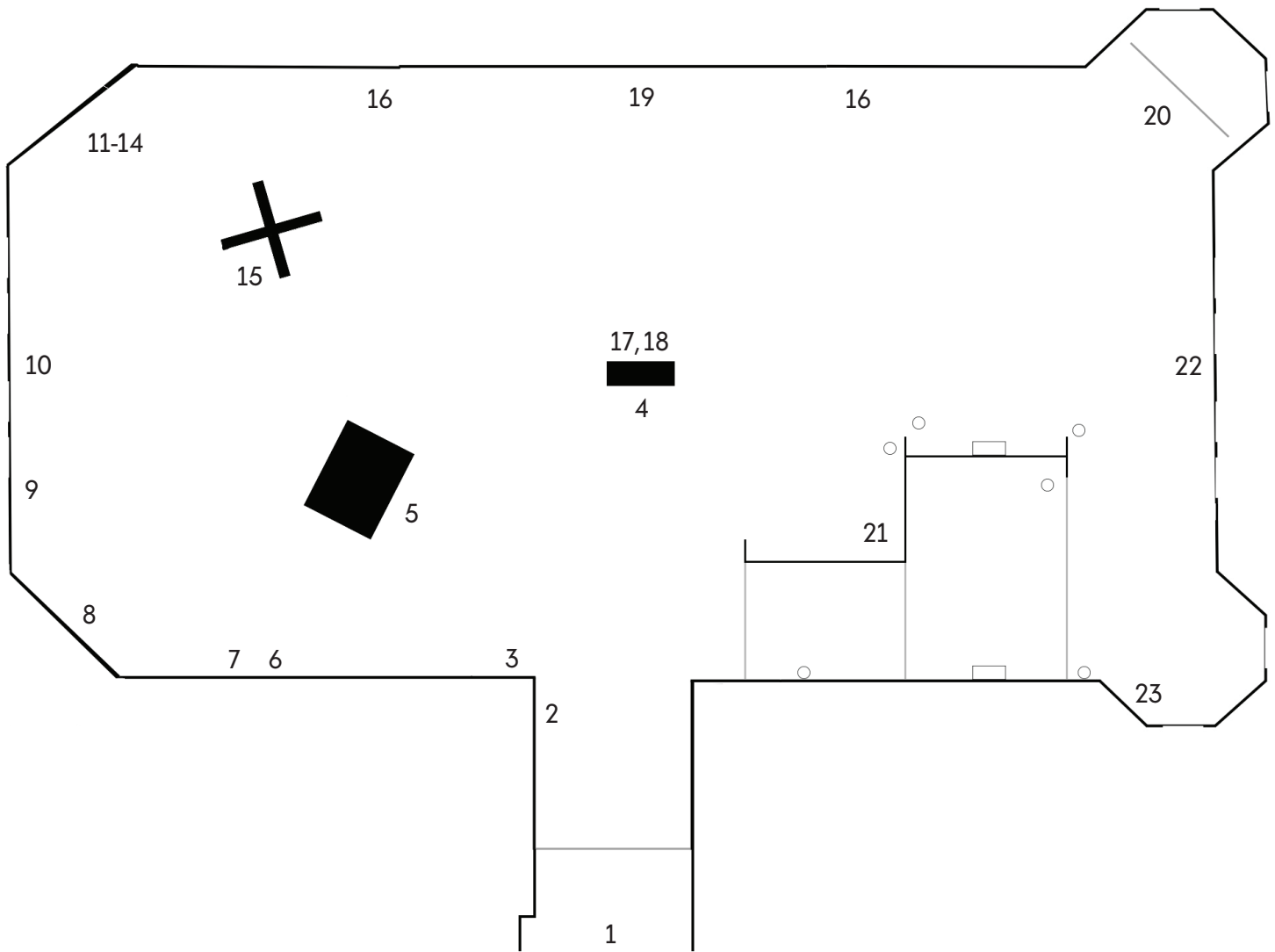
**2, 3. Nairy Baghramian**  
*Mooring (hanging)*, 2016  
 Cast aluminum  
 Courtesy the artist and Marian Goodman Gallery, New York

**4. Xinyi Cheng**  
*A Whip*, 2018  
 Oil on canvas  
 Courtesy of the artist and Craig Robins Collection

**5. Julia Phillips**  
*Negotiator (#1)*, 2020  
 Cast aluminum  
 Courtesy the artist and Matthew Marks Gallery, New York

**Hervé Guibert**  
**6.** *Les Amis*, 1982  
**7.** *C à la villa*, n.d.  
 Courtesy of Callicoon Fine Arts, New York

**8. Camille Blatrix**  
*Ask OFF*, 2021  
 Pear wood, acrylic resin, stainless steel, LED system  
 Courtesy of the artist and Andrew Kreps Gallery, New York



**9. Laurent Derobert**

*Index of Proximity*, 2021  
 Courtesy of the artist

**10. Hervé Guibert**

*Eugène - Poirier*, 1988  
 Gelatin silver print  
 Courtesy of Callicoon Fine Arts, New York

**Park McArthur**

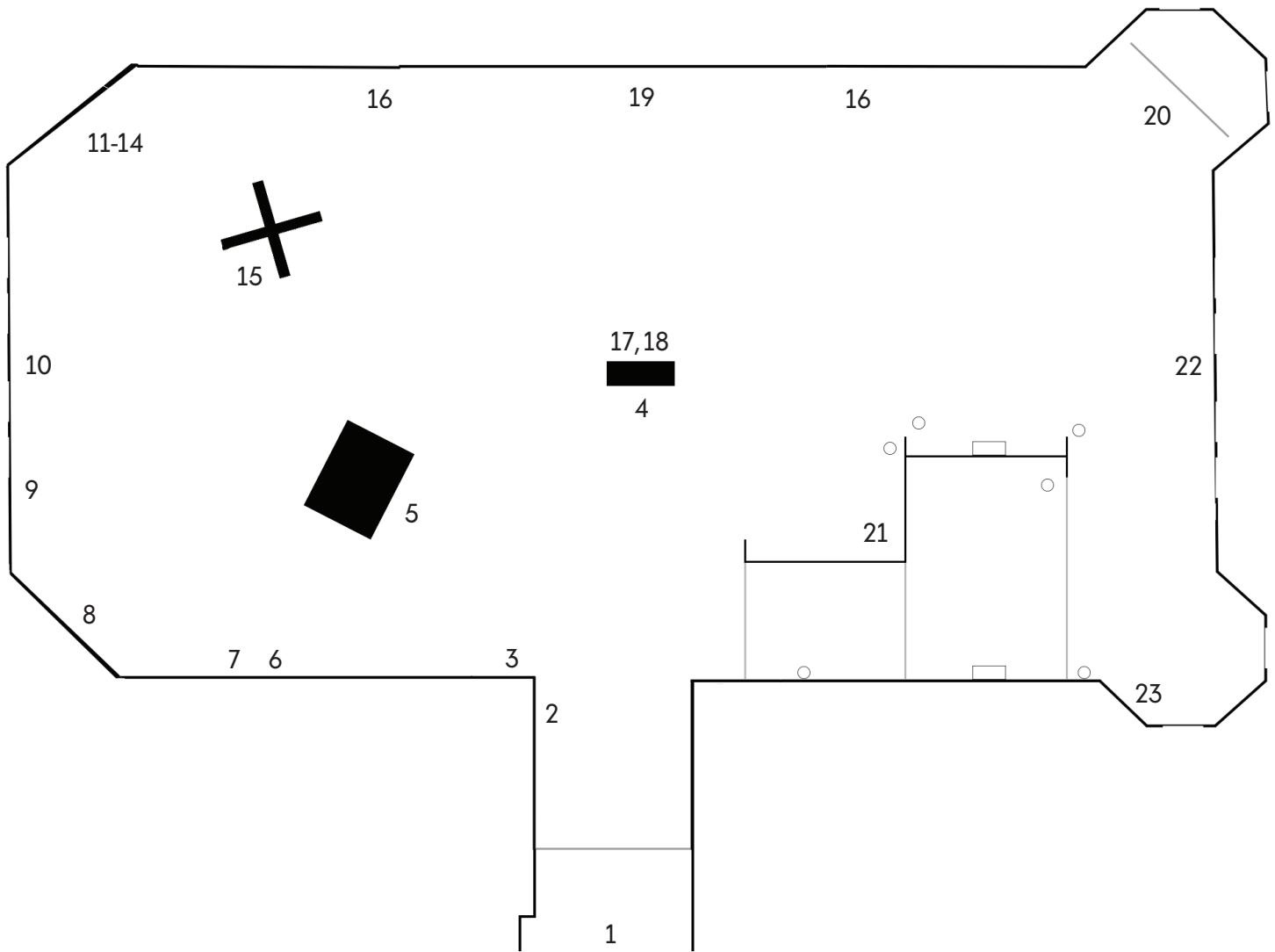
**11.** *These are the questions I would ask*, 2013  
**12.** *Some follow up questions*, 2017  
**13.** *Synthetic Questions*, 2019  
**14.** *Involuntary Questions*, 2020  
 Inkjet prints  
 Courtesy of the artist and Essex Street/Maxwell Graham, New York

**15. Camille Blatrix**

*They play We play*, 2021  
 Acrylic resin, wood, printed laminate, led system, electronic component, wooden marquetry  
 Courtesy of the artist and Andrew Kreps Gallery, New York

**16. Ceal Floyer**

*Me/You (Love Me Tender)*, 2009  
 2-channel audio  
 Courtesy of the artist and 303 Gallery, New York



**Hervé Guibert**

**17.** *Thierry Profil a la cigarette*, n.d.

**18.** *Hans Georg et Thierry a Montecatini*, 1983

Gelatin silver prints

**19.** *Deux pieds sur banquette*, 1981

Adhesive vinyl print

Courtesy of Callicoon Fine Arts, New York

**20. Tita Cicognani**

*I Am So Full of Longing and Desire It Gushes Out of My Knees as They Scrape the Ground Upon Which I Crawl*

*Toward You*, 2020

Video, 6m 29s

Courtesy of the artist

**21. Neil Beloufa**

*Untitled*, 2016-2021

Steel, resin, pigment

Courtesy of the artist and Francois Ghebaly Gallery, Los Angeles

**22. Laurent Derobert**

*Axiom of Intimacy*, 2021

Courtesy of the artist

**23. Camille Blatrix**

*Siren*, 2019

Acrylic resin, stainless steel, plexiglass, light bulb

Courtesy of the artist and Andrew Kreps Gallery, New York