

Also in 1994, Pierre Courtois was invited to exhibit at the Henry Bussi re Gallery in Paris. The project was called **Niveau Seine (Seine Level)** (1994) and again allowed the artist to explore the theme of the 'neon marker'. Situated in the rue Mazarine, the gallery has a patio with a well in the middle. The water level of the close-by river Seine was of course mentioned. The artist's imagination was sparked by the idea of creating the universal line of the horizon using the river's water level. Having carefully measured the river's water level, Pierre Courtois carefully reproduced it on the walls of the cellars using a line created with a rope. The mark of the line on the stone became a poetic paradox, a light in the shadows, both violent and extremely elegant. On the ground, layers of glass symbolised the water from the well. But Pierre Courtois is a true apostle of measurement and the purpose of the lines of glass was to unite the four luminous markers, forming a perfect square around a central pillar. In the end, measuring reason is the most beautiful measure of all things.

Olivier Duquenne, 2012

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