

« Émoi & moi »

Group exhibition from February 23 to April 28, 2013

Preview Friday February 22 from 6:30 PM

Special press preview Thursday February 21, 2013

Frank Lamy, curator

With works by Absalon, Pierre Buraglio, Pascal Convert, Simon English, Alexandre Gérard, Pierre Joseph, Joris Lacoste, Laura Lamiel, Dominik Lang, Robert Malaval, Annette Messenger, Daniel Pommereulle, Jean-Pierre Raynaud, Tatiana Trouvé, and Mark Wallinger.

The film *Dancing* will be shown in the presence of its directors Patrick Mario Bernard, Xavier Brillat and Pierre Trividic on Sunday April 7, 2013 at 5:00 PM.

Press release

With « Émoi & moi » the MAC/VAL has brought together works by fifteen artists for whom introspection is a creative force for its first temporary exhibition for 2013. These are artists who explore questions of existence and who hold distinct, critical perspectives of reality stemming from knowledge of oneself. Looking into the mirror and playing with the idea that art might be an expression of the interior landscape, this exhibition reflects upon what might be termed archaeology of the self. How can one give form to the impalpable, the irrational, the invisible, to emotions and to the passage of fleeting moments? If creating mental spaces is one of art's roles, how does one represent them? This dilemma, perhaps an impossibility, is at the heart of the fertile dynamic of the works in this exhibition, allowing us to pose a number of essential questions: What is a Subject? How is it constructed? What is a work of art? How do artists play with the interface between the self and the exterior world?

In response to these questions, Frank Lamy has brought together a selection of unique works by artists of diverse backgrounds and generations. Absalon's *Cellules* pursue reflections upon the body's insertion into a space situated somewhere between imprisonment and intimacy. His models play with the projective dimension of all art and function as « housing proposals » Pierre Burgaglio has

based his questions in the medium of painting as an autobiographical medium. In his *Memento caviardé*, an entire year's worth of activity serves as the starting point for an artistic creation. Pursuing his exploration of the representation and fabrication of imagery, Pascal Convert's *Chambre du sommeil* formalizes his mental activity over the course of a single night in 1991. Through his drawings, Simon English creates a sort of mental atlas, in search of lost memories and fleeting moments ranging from Beatrix Potter to rock and roll culture. In *Nocturnal*, Alexandre Gérard, attempts to understand himself talking in his sleep. Pierre Joseph reconstructs reality and its representations using idiosyncratic means. Joris Lacoste explores hypnosis, and Laura Lamiel ceaselessly combines and juxtaposes her *Figures* in a veritable reimagining of mental spaces. In his series « Sleeping city », Dominik Lang brings into question the very idea of inheritance – what are we to do with what our predecessors leave us? Robert Malaval's *L'aliment Blanc* acts as a metaphor of the dark and psychotic forces that spread across the world and destroy reality. Somewhere between autograph collections and castles in the sky, Annette Messenger challenges the idea of the subject's unity, affirming it as a social construction scattered between multiple incarnations. Daniel Pommereulle's *Objets de prémonition* propose a dark perspective of the future, situated somewhere between cruelty and aggression. The *Psycho-objets* of Jean-Pierre Raynaud are the fruit of personal and symbolic references that bring into play the tension

of their emotive and obsessive charge. In all of her work, Tatiana Trouvé creates a metamorphosis of mental clockwork in an approach that is as much psychoanalytical as it is energetic. The series of « Self portraits » by Mark Wallinger affirm the existence of a Subject, one that is polymorphous and fragmented like the very material of art itself.

The starting point of this exhibition, Patrick Mario Bernard, Xavier Brillat and Pierre Trividic's film *Dancing* – shown at the MAC/VAL on April 7, 2013 –, responds in part to the questions evoked, illuminating a reflection on art and more generally, on the place of the irrational in the mental landscape of individuals and their daily lives.

« Émoi & moi » follows in the footsteps of the exhibition « Situation(s) [48°47'34"N/2°23'14" E] » shown at the MAC/VAL during the summer of 2012, and which was developed around reflection on « being in the world », with works that were both resistant and reactive, and open to the Other. This time, the tables are turned. Starting with the notion of interiority and the social construction of the artist as an individual, the exhibition proposes various transcriptions of interior states, giving life to spaces of mental projection.

Also on exhibition at the MAC/VAL:

Charles Fréger, "Wilder Mann"

Exhibition from February 23 to May 26, 2013

Exhibition organized in cooperation with the Briqueterie, the Val-de-Marne's new Center for dance development, on the occasion of its inauguration.

"Vivement demain"

Fifth exhibition of works from the MAC/VAL's permanent collection.

This new temporary exhibition at the MAC/VAL has also been conceived to resonate with the fifth hanging of works from the permanent collection called « Vivement demain », and which explores the myth of the artist as visionary.

Absalon Eshel Meir, known as Absalon

(born in 1964, died in Paris in 1993)

Pierre Buraglio

(born in 1939, lives and works in Maisons-Alfort)

Pascal Convert (born in 1957, lives and works in Biarritz)

Simon English (born in 1959, lives and works in London)

Alexandre Gérard

(born in 1975, lives and works in Marseille)

Pierre Joseph (born in 1965, lives and works in Paris)

Joris Lacoste (born in 1973, lives and works in Paris)

Laura Lamiel (born in 1948, lives and works in Paris)

Dominik Lang (born in 1980, lives and works in Prague)

Robert Malaval (born in 1937, died in Paris in 1980)

Annette Messager

(born in 1943, lives and works in Malakoff)

Daniel Pommereulle (born in 1937, died in Paris in 2003)

Jean-Pierre Raynaud

(born in 1939, lives and works in La Garenne-Colombes)

Tatiana Trouvé (born in 1968, lives and works in Paris)

Mark Wallinger (born in 1959, lives and works in London)

MAC/VAL

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