

Press release
February 8th 2018

EMMANUEL VAN DER MEULEN & RAPHAËL ZARKA
FABLES, FORMES, FIGURES
MAISON D'ART BERNARD ANTHONIOZ, NOGENT-SUR-MARNE
FROM MARCH 9th TO MAY 13th 2018



Emmanuel Van der Meulen
Bécaléel, 2013
Acrylic and graphite on canvas
22 x 16 cm
Courtesy of the artist and Galerie Allen, Paris

"Fables are the alphabet of humanity; with them were written some of the first philosophic certainties of men; and for this reason they must be like abstractions in algebra, or like pieces in chess." G.K Chesterton

***Fables, Formes, Figures*, an exclusive exhibition of Emmanuel Van der Meulen and Raphaël Zarka held at the Maison d'Art Bernard Anthonioz of Nogent-sur-Marne from March 9th to May 13th 2018 sheds light on the dialogue the two artists have opened several years ago.** Was it at the end of their fine art studies, after graduating from the ENSBA (École nationale supérieure des beaux-arts de Paris)? After their stay at the Villa Medici and the original relationship they developed with Italian art? Perhaps this dialogue has always been there, and goes beyond the notions of time, space and individuals, as part of a continuum of experiments on the interaction between a form and a context.

The exhibition puts together two visions expressed through the field of painting for Emmanuel Van der Meulen and sculpture for Raphaël Zarka, and shows the singularity of each of them while questioning their similarities, their points of friction, confrontation and rupture. As these works exemplify a certain use of geometry and structure, and explore -internal, external, static or dynamic- equilibriums, they also create a space where one artist's research is continued by the other, and vice versa.

The rhythm of the title *Fables, Formes, Figures*, borrowed to André Chastel, allows us to consider the plurality of each term, like several possible entry points into the exhibition, and beyond, to consider the latter as the place of their synthesis, a place of fictions and fables that helps us think the world through different forms.

Emmanuel Van der Meulen is born in 1972 in Paris, France. Graduated from the ENSBA (École nationale supérieure des beaux-arts de Paris) in 2001, he was associated to the Blue Orange Support Prize in 2006 by Gabriel Orozco and was a resident of the Villa Medici in 2012-2013. His work has been showcased in several exhibitions such as *Quod Apparet* (Galerie Allen, Paris, 2017), *The plates of the present, so far* (Galerie Praz-Delavallade, Paris, 2016), *We always turn our backs to the setting sun* (Chiso Gallery, Kyoto, 2016), *Le Petit A de O* (Galerie Houg, Paris, 2016), *Alfred Jarry Archipelago* (Le Quartier, Quimper, 2015), *La vérité des apparences* (La Tôlerie, Clermont-Ferrand, 2015), *Dust: The plates of the present* (Camera Club, New York, 2015), *Speakeasis* (Apes & Castles & Rosa, Brussels, 2015). He also curated the exhibition *Buongiorno Blinky* at the Cantieri Culturali alla Zisa of Palermo in 2013. The same year, *Récit d'un voyage à Assise* was published at the EESI editions (École européenne supérieure de l'image, Angoulême-Poitiers). He is represented by Galerie Allen in Paris and his work has entered the FNAC collection.

Raphaël Zarka is born in 1977. Graduated from the ENSBA (École nationale supérieure des beaux-arts de Paris) in 2002, he received the Ricard Prize in 2008 and was nominated for the Marcel Duchamp Prize in 2013. He spent 2010 as a resident of the Villa Medici. Recently, his work has been showcased in the framework of the exhibitions *Riding Modern Art* at BPS22, Musée d'art de la Province de Hainaut à Charleroi, Belgium (2017), *Espai Pavimentat* at EACC, Espai d'art contemporani de Castelló, Spain (2017), *Raphaël Zarka/Aurélien Froment* at the Musée Les Abattoirs of Toulouse (2016). His work has also entered the collections of the Pompidou Center, the FNAC and the MUDAM-Luxemburg. He is represented by Galerie Michel Rein, Paris-Brussels.



Raphaël Zarka

Cadran Solaire n°1 (Ambroise Bachot), 2017

Ink on paper

61 x 46 cm

Photo: Vincent Everarts

Courtesy of the artist and Galerie Michel Rein, Paris/Brussels

The Maison d'Art Bernard Anthonioz is part of the Fondation Nationale des Arts Graphiques et Plastiques.

Exhibition from March 9th to May 13th, 2018

Thursday March 8th

Press visit at 10:30am (shuttle departing at 9:30am from Place de la Concorde)

Opening from 6pm to 9:30pm

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Open to the public on weekdays from 1pm to 6pm

Saturdays and Sundays from 12pm to 6pm

Closed on Tuesdays and public holidays

Free entrance

Access

RER A: Nogent-sur-Marne then bus 114 or 210, stop at Sous-préfecture

RER E: Nogent-Le Perreux then direction Tribunal d'instance

Metro line 1: Château de Vincennes then bus 114 or 210, stop at Sous-préfecture

Press relations

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