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«LES CONTINENTS INCONTINENTS»

12 March - 15 April 2009



OPENING WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH PERFORMANCE THURSDAY 19 MARCH AT 19 PM

With roots in both the Californian art scene and the New York literary scene, Julien Bismuth manages to unite these two parallel worlds in works that are both poetic and droll. The title of his new exhibition, "Les Continents Incontinents," suggests that all kinds of overflowing are in store, involving both ideas and objects.



The show is articulated around a very simple idea: to make the hanging of the works - usually one of the hidden sides of the gallery's activity - the main theme of the exhibition.

The show is divided up into two phases and two spaces. The work – drawings, sketches, paintings – will be presented in the entrance to the gallery, while the main room will remain empty until the moment of the opening: 7 pm on March 11.



Five handlers will then install and manipulate a series of pieces in a precisely choreographed series of mute, expressive actions that will gradually reveal the works. These works are modular, foldable and transformable; they spread out, fold, retract, at times bringing to mind the Bichos by Lygia Clark.

The second moment of the exhibition will come on 19 March at 7 pm, a week later, during a performance. A monologue, "Incontinent Continents," will be declaimed by a single actor sitting on a pedestal specially designed for the occasion.



The structure of his text has the same folds and cuts as the different formal elements gathered in the exhibition, constituting an aural illustration, a clarification and an articulation of the two phases of the exhibitions. We have come full circle.

Julien Bismuth's performances were recently presented at the Institut d'Art Contemporain in Villeurbanne, the Kunsthalle in Vienna and Tate Modern, London



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JACQUES VILLEGLÉ **«SMALL FORMATS 1958-2002»**

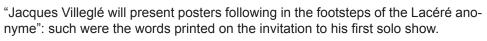
12 MARCH - 15 APRIL 2009

OPENING WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH 2009



Jacques Villeglé was quick to realise that torn posters were transforming the walls of the city into an animated and constantly renewed screen of signs, images and colours, a surprising spectacle that could provide the substance for a comprehensive and generous body of work.

The character of the Lacéré anonyme (Anonymous Tear) allowed him to consolidate his position and to affirm that his personal activity should be limited to selecting the posters in keeping with his intentions and circumstances, and to deciding their format and how to crop them.





This invention of the Lacéré anonyme is not a negation of the author; on the contrary, it is the invention of an author whose ambition is to produce a body of work worthy of Balzac's Comédie humaine, i.e. an urban comedy teeming with characters of all kinds.

The artist's catalogue raisonné, which lists several thousand works, all different, represents a corpus that places Villeglé among the most imaginative painters of recent times.*



By presenting the series of "Small Formats", the gallery wishes to honour Villegle's variety. Here, five decades of art-making are represented in a selection of small masterpieces measuring no more than twenty centimetres square. This is a "mini" nod to the magnificent retrospective of the artist's work that has just closed at the Pompidou Centre.

*Freely based on Catherine Francblin, "Le bon génie de Jacques Villeglé" in Jacques Villeglé. La comédie urbaine, Centre Pompidou (2008)

FURTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS:

22 APRIL - 23 MAY : BORIS ACHOUR PROJECT ROOM: GILLES BARBIER «BANANA RIDERS»

24 APRIL - 1ER JUNE : LA FORCE DE L'ART #02 (WITH BORIS ACHOUR, GILLES BARBIER, ALAIN BUBLEX, VIRGINIE YASSEF)

23 - 27 APRIL : ARTBRUSSELS 2009