

GALLERIA CONTINUA / Le Moulin - Press Release

1 venue, 4 exhibitions: 26th June – 3rd October 2010

3 solo exhibitions: **Berlinde De Bruyckere, Urs Lüthi, Serse**

1 group exhibition: **Idoles (Idols) with Kendell Geers, Anish Kapoor, Liu Jianhua, Moataz Nasr, Luca Pancrazzi, Michelangelo Pistoletto, Arcangelo Sassolino, Pascale Marthine Tayou**

Preview Saturday June 26. Several buses are at your disposal from Paris, Place Valhubert, in front of the entrance of the Jardin des Plantes 75005 (Gare d'Austerlitz metro, line 10 or RER C) at 2pm.

LE MOULIN

Galleria Continua, proud of the San Gimignano and Beijing experiences, launched a new project, The Moulin de Boissy, a peculiar site in the Parisian region dedicated to contemporary art creation. Le Moulin hosts large scale exhibitions and projects by major artists from the five continents several times a year, following the rhythm of the seasons. Renovated, the site, a former factory of 10,000-m² embraces a new artistic life with already 15,000 visitors during the first two years of activity.

The local population, Parisians, the international art scene, and the region bring passionate support and help to spread this new wave of culture throughout the area. The site, as well as having commercial preoccupations, also turns itself towards the public and its desires.

For its 10th exhibition's opening, Le Moulin, after 3 years of existence, will host 3 solo shows: Berlinde De Bruyckere, Urs Lüthi and Serse, each having very different approaches and reasoning. In parallel, Le Moulin proposes a group exhibition, entitled *Idoles (Idols)*. Once again, Galleria Continua demonstrates the extent to which various forms of art, Berlinde De Bruyckere's sculpted figures, Urs Lüthi's installations and Serse's drawings, can be adjacent to a group show with strong themes, all integrating into one same, and atypical space, Le Moulin.

Berlinde De Bruyckere : Infinitum

The sculptor Berlinde De Bruyckere is considered to be one of the major female Belgian artists today. She was born in Gent in 1964 where she lives and works.

Her solitary figures are formed from an assembly of heterogeneous, plant and organic materials (wax, wood, hair...). Berlinde De Bruyckere evokes death and violence. Her bodies with cyanotic skin, often without a head, and sometimes without gender, and her hung or slumped animals, infringe on imagination linked with the theme of brutality. She re-elaborates anatomical images and shapes to spark duality between terror and pity, love and suffering, peril and protection, confronting the state of abandon of the body. She thus appropriates certain structural codes peculiar to the representation of the suffering body in medieval or Renaissance painting. The concept of duality is at last all the more valued by the choice of her subjects: animals and plants bear the contrasts of the superior and inferior world describing the distance between the earth as well as the spiritual, like a gap which seems equally to govern the universe of man.

Berlinde De Bruyckere's work has been exhibited at La Maison Rouge in Paris, at MUKHA in Anvers, the Kunsthalle in Dusseldorf, the Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo in Torino and the Lyon Biennial of Contemporary Art.

Urs Lüthi : Art is the better life

Urs Lüthi was born in 1947 in Lucerne (Switzerland), he lives and works in Munich.

Since the beginning of his career, Urs Lüthi has used different media: photography, painting, and installations. Since 1968, he has developed a new photographic work based on himself, his body, which becomes the support and the subject of his art. In these true staging self-portraits, the artist disguises himself or dresses up, playing on sexual ambivalence. Most frequently he represents himself in polyptychs and combines himself with exterior objects or figures (female characters, landscape, empty interiors...), enrolling it in the social context of his period. Urs Lüthi thus sets off on a search for his identity, whilst bringing to light links between art and life, he who is a supporter of the expression 'art is the better life.' He takes the spectator through his experience and his works towards what has a hold on him: memory, personal account, research, exploration, sadness and distance.

Urs Lüthi has acquired a significant notoriety globally thanks to numerous solo exhibitions in museums and galleries, in Switzerland and abroad. He received the Prize of Honor from the canton of Zurich for his work in 1996. In 2009, the town of Kassel awarded him the Arnold-Bode-Preis Prize.

Serse : Disegni in Scala

Serse Roma (born in San Polo De Piave in 1952, Italy) lives and works in Trieste. He has pursued his artistic research for more than twenty years and is considered one of the key figures in the panorama of contemporary Italian drawing. The artist produces his works by using graphite powder and rubber on paper. His works represent the plant and architectural landscape as only a photograph can and is characterized by the sophisticated use of black and white. According to the artist, these two tones are a way of understanding the physical essence of reality and matter. Through his play on shadows and light, Serse manages to create an almost magical landscape, where time is suspended: storms, which disrupt the sea, remain frozen in his photogram; the reflections carved in real time have hardly finished blending.

Serse Roma's work has been displayed in many museums like the Museum of Beaux Arts and the SMAK in Gand, at the Royal Palace in Milan, at the Luigi Pecci Centre for Contemporary Art, etc. and in 2005 participated in the third Valence Biennial in Spain.

Idoles (Idols)

KENDELL GEERS, ANISH KAPOOR, LIU JIANHUA, MOATAZ NASR, LUCA PANCRAZZI, MICHELANGELO PISTOLETTO, ARCANGELO SASSOLINO, PASCALE MARTHINE TAYOU

Idoles (Idols) is the third group exhibition organized by Galleria Continua / Le Moulin. It gathers 8 renowned artists who exhibit their own idols or who show the spectator the place that the old and contemporary idols occupy in today's society. Initially signifying a representation of divinity as a cult object, the idol henceforth assigns in a much wider way in informal language, a personality taken as a model by a society, a generation, or an icon, whether artistic, religious, mythological or even political. The artists represented in *Idoles (Idols)* reinterpret in their own way this plurality of accepted meanings.

GALLERIA CONTINUA, San Gimignano / Beijing / Le Moulin

At the initiative of three friends: Mario Cristiani, Lorenzo Fiaschi and Maurizio Rigillo, Galleria Continua was created in 1990 in San Gimignano, Italy.

Located in a former theatre and cinema, Galleria Continua was born in an unexpected place: San Gimignano (Tuscany). This atypical location, which can be local or global, enables new dialogues and synergies between the art of yesterday and the art of today. Galleria Continua has the desire to maintain continuity between generations, the wish to compose a story responsive to the contemporary creation, which nourishes the bond of the past and the future. Hence, during the past 20 years, through encounters and experiences, the gallery has built a strong identity of generous and altruistic values which became the foundation of artistic collaborations with confirmed and emerging artists, as well as the foundation of its relation to the public and its development.

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Preview programme Saturday 26th June:

3pm: Shilpa Gupta exhibition visit at Blandy, produced in partnership with Galleria Continua / Le Moulin and the Seine-et-Marne Local Council, followed by a speech by M. Vincent Eblé, Chairman of the Seine-et-Marne Local Council

4pm: summer tasting

5pm: departure by bus from Blandy to Galleria Continua / Le Moulin

6pm: visit of exhibitions at Galleria Continua / Le Moulin and cocktail.

9pm: buffet and country DJ set

11pm: return by bus (expected arrival in Paris: midnight / 1am).

A bus tour (Paris-Blandy-Le Moulin-Paris) is at your disposal leaving Paris at 2pm, Place Valhubert 75005, in front of the entrance to the Jardin des Plantes (Gare d'Austerlitz metro, line 10 or RER C).

Please confirm your presence at the preview(s): escapade77@galleriacontinua.com and/or if you are taking the bus, please confirm your reservation before 24th June, by stating your names, contact details and the number of places required.

Exhibitions from 26th June to 3rd October 2010.

From Paris, by car or train, allow an hour's journey.

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