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Fabien Verschaere, *Untitled*, n.d. Watercolour on paper.

Press kit



Evocations, group show Curator: Loránd Hegyi

Exhibition from **Saturday the 2nd of September** until **Saturday the 23rd of September 2023**.
Opening on **Saturday the 2nd of September 2023**, from **2 p.m. to 7 p.m.**



Loránd Hegyi

Excerpts from the exhibition catalogue

Partly as result of several intensive and passionate discussions between artists, gallerists, curators, writers and art lovers, partly as result of long considerations concerning our days, after the Covid pandemia and the actual war events and political crises, while observing the happenings all over the world and sharing feelings, doubts, hopes and panics provoked by events, this concept of a nomadic exhibition was born recently in order to create a realizable mechanism for presentation and promotion contemporary art. [...]

The places and actors, the cities in different countries and the artists from different galleries might be connected through this project in a fresh, nonchalant, fluid and flexible way, at the basis of mutual acknowledgement of each other's activity and profoundly shared engagement for searching terrains of authentic and credible cultural praxis. While being aware of disturbing anomalies and shocking negative, hysterical, auto-destructive tendencies all over the world, while facing unprecedented and disastrous manipulations, irritating forms of fanaticism and dogmatism, egoistic and narrow-minded particularisms, the participating actors of this project share their capacities and competencies in laboring platforms of contemporary art work and managing a certain permanency of promoting artists. [...]

The exhibition offers to the public of the different galleries in the different cities a participation in the aesthetic experience of disturbing, irritating improbabilities and uncertainties, in the perception of obscure, strange and inexplicable phenomena which seem partly to dominate our contemporary realities, sometimes with shocking openness, sometimes hidden behind several habituated constellations and familiarities. The power of destabilizing narratives, the suggestive, evocative capacity of images, the poetic richness and complexity of the visual realities created by the artists open unexpected ways of regarding life and time, nature and culture, history and destiny, myths, rituals and symbols differently and enable to create new connections between sensibilities and interpretation systems. Through individual appropriation of conventional metaphors, through re-visiting and re-valuing cultural references the artists largely widen the narrative competency of the work of art. The viewer's attention will be guided toward the deepness of human experiences, toward the obscure and exiting, unlimited realm of human inwardness. [...]

The nomadic exhibition project reflects our considerations and concerns about our contemporary world and about the competencies of artistic creation as well, as it answers the more and more difficult working situation at the cultural field. It intends to elaborate a flexible form of exhibition organization and a direct collaboration at occasional basis between galleries, which are working together at that occasion, without necessarily having closer and deeper relations or common market strategy.

This project intends to contribute to the creation immediate relations between artists and galleries in order to make the presentation of the oeuvre of these invited artists easier, the promotion of their activities internationally wider, the communication concerning their work more intensive. We are convinced that this project contributes to reveal hidden realities, to intensify the transmission of freed imagination in order to capture subtle, complex, essential and fundamental human realities. [...]

Contemporary drawing seems to be extremely adequate for our time, not only because of its immediate, spontaneous transmission of very complex and multilayered, at the same time deeply personal and intimate, psychically and emotionally sensitive messages, but also because of the capacity of liberation of the phantasy, because of the enormous subversive potential of concreteness and directness which embody in drawing.



The artists

Allison Hawkins (b. 1978)

Allison Hawkins's eerie, meditative works on paper often depict women in nature interacting with animals and amorphous beings. She creates these stunning, haunting scenes using graphite, colored pencil, watercolor, ink, and charcoal.

"The animal portraits are personalities; they are engaged, emotive," she says. "The activities of these creatures also represent human relationships, and in this capacity they serve a cathartic role."



Allison Hawkins, Untitled, n. d.
Watercolour on paper, 25 x 31 cm



Amir Nave, *Fireplace 3*, 2018.
Mixed techniques on paper, 20,5 x 15 cm.

Amir Nave (b. 1974)

Amir Nave is an Israeli artist who lives and works between Paris and Tel-Aviv.

His artistic process centers on the destruction of concepts with finite connotations, in order to create a chaos, which he can then give meaning to and remold. The boundaries of morality, space, intrapersonal and interpersonal relationships break down. These small moments of eternity unfold in himself and in his work in a liberation from the degenerate present into a personal view of freedom.

Anya Belyat-Giunta (b. 1975)

Anya Belyat Giunta was born in Russia. She lives and works in Lyon, France.

Turbulence from the end soviet era obliged her family to exile. The artist went to several Fine Arts schools, in Russia, Italy, the United States and in France.

Her artistic process involves existential questionings: birth, life, the mystery of life. She reinvents her own mythology while creating universes inhabited by hybrid characters.



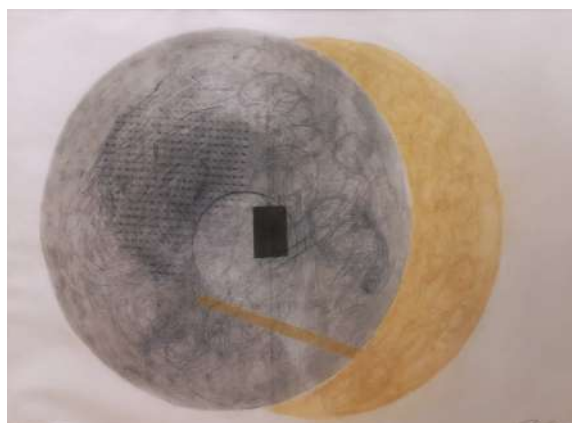
Anya Belyat-Giunta,
Analytical Engine Fioriala #11, n. d.
Mixed techniques on paper, 24 x 18 cm.



Áron Gábor (b. 1954)

Áron Gábor works and lives in Budapest and Badacsonytomaj.

His works contain powerful pictorial graphic elements, as well as a natural and facile use and rhyming of the different mediums – which is the influence of Mikós Erdélyi and the Indigó group. His paintings, graphics, experimental films, and installations use the source of the sliding and mirroring of the different layers into each other. Strong color contrasts, cold and warm color effects are built into his works, which are applied with gold and silver, operating with very delicate transitions in the details.



Áron Gábor, *Part and Whole XXXIV*, 2022.
Mixed techniques on paper, 82 x 112 cm.



Amir Nave, *Waveland III*, n.d.. Pencil on paper, 40 x 40 cm.

Christoph Mayer (b. 1969)

Christoph Mayer was born in Vienna where he works and lives today.

After journalism, Russian and philosophical studies, he started studying painting in the University of Applied Arts of Vienna in 1993, in the class of teacher Christian Ludwig Attersee. He graduated in 2000.

Elzévir (b. 1966)

Elzévir was born in Saint-Etienne, France.

He chose to represent life-sized – or even bigger – human beings, directly confronting the viewer to the subject. With his works, he tries to record the movement of bodies, attitudes, gaits. His painting is the nonjudgmental echo of reality.

The identity in Elzevir's works does not matter. There is no pomp, no mise-en-scène. The artist aims to grasp the spontaneity of common humans, not to recreate reality.



Elzévir, *Mes objets n°3*, 2023.
Mixed techniques on paper, 65 x 50 cm.



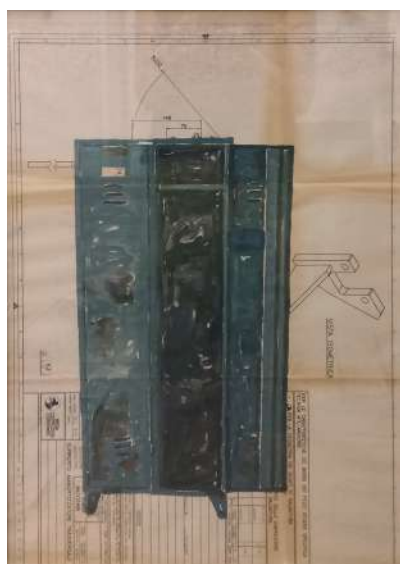
Fabrice Souvereyns (b. 1995)

Fabrice Souvereyns (born in Tongeren, Belgium) designs his own visual language that is midway between concrete identifying marks and a degree of abstraction. Those who take the time to view and read the works attentively, discover through their layers a slowly emerging figuration.

Associations can be made with the jungles of Henri Rousseau. Sometimes Souvereyns seems to flirt with vegetation patterns from Oriental carpets. His in situ interventions on walls and windows are a form of 'extended drawing'; he demolishes the boundaries of drawing.



Fabrice Souvereyns, *FS 1.20 Not erased, red hypnotized flowers, n.d.*
Pencil on paper, 32,5 x 42,5 cm.



Lello Lopez, *The Factory I*, 2010.
Acrylic on blueprint, 60,5 x 42, 5 cm.

Lello Lopez (b. 1954)

Lello Lopez was born in Italy. He is an established contemporary artist.

Lello Lopez's research is based on reality, on experience made up of encounters with people. Inner analysis and reflections on the concept of the present are elements of his conceptual researches. All of Lopez's artistic activity is elaborated through autobiographical data that recall the general lines of Freudian Traumtheorie. According to Lopez, space is a surface full of meanings, possibilities and eventualities, a ground in which thought dwells.

Luca Caccioni (b 1962)

Luca Caccioni was born in Bologna, Italy, where he lives and works.

His works evolves in the framework of painting, with the encounter of unusual and contemporary materials – like acetates – on which he paints shapes, signs, spaces extracted from a personal memory and suggestions from varied cultures and historical eras.



Luca Caccioni, *1994/2023. ROTATE*, 2014.
Mixed techniques on cardboard, 51,4 x 36 cm.



Maria Pogorzhelskaya (b. 1971)

Maria Pogorzhelskaya (born in Moscow) is a Russian artist who lives and works between Moscow and Milano.

In her work, Pogorzhelskaya addresses her interest in basic human behaviour and our craving for beauty. How is it that those naïve porcelain figurines, so similar in appearance, once was so popular? Pogorzhelskaya explains that they embed a wish to present idealistic objects for ordinary people; this is what children should look like and do.



Maria Pogorzhelskaya, *Men with sunglasses*, 2022.
Watercolour on paper, 36 x 50 cm.



Marie Joatton, *Père et fils*, n.d. Pastel on paper, 21 x 29,7 cm.

Marine Joatton (b. 1972)

Born in Paris, Marine Joatton is a French contemporary artist.

Between abstraction and figuration, Marine Joatton's drawing drag us in a troubling, violent, powerful and phantasmagoric world. They are created with automatism, but with some sort of formal vocabulary composed of masses and abstract lines.

With no premeditation, Marine Joatton wants to be surprised and accepts those creative moments during which "giving up" allows the artist to paint with urge her strange universe full of creatures and hybrid landscapes swarming with life.

Mélanie Daniel (b.1972)

Mélanie Daniel was born in Victoria, Canada. Nowadays, she works in Tel-Aviv.

Her universe is both figurative and oneiric and mirrors the hybrid culture and the socio-political tensions of her adoptive country.

"I try to induce a feeling of dislocation that seems to be both strange and familiar. [...] My art is anti-nostalgic because I do not try to rehash on real experiences but invent them at the edge of my perception."



Mélanie Daniel, *Mama bear*, 2016.
Watercolour on paper, 50 x40 cm.



Michael Ziegler (b. 1960)

Michael Ziegler was born in Austria. He lives and works in Innsbruck.

Ziegler's children refer to his own experiences and memories or to the students of Otto Meyer-Amden and Musil's boarding school. They appear in Bal-thus's paintings, in Cocteau's plays and remind us of Larry Clark's movies of McBride's photography. Mixing fine strokes with rigid lines in his hieratic treatment of bodies, the artist inspires from both classical works like Flaxmann's delicate drawings as well as the dark vocabulary of Christian Schad's 1920s scenes, who reduces the world to lines. His aesthetic, full of contrasts, mixes the austerity of a treatment devoided of modeling to the display of a world of desires.



Michael Ziegler, *in mir ausser mir*, 2017.
Gouache on paper, 27 x 19,5 cm.



Nir Alon, *I have not forgotten you (rays of lights)*, 2023.
Mixed techniques on paper, 152 x 112 cm.

Nir Alon (b. 1964)

Born in Israel, Nir Alon lives and works in Hamburg, Germany. He is a sculptor and an installation artist.

Developing sculptures from cast-off everyday life articles such as furniture, suit-cases, lamps, light bulbs and cables, whereby the installations are arranged directly at the place of exhibition and in the reference to these. Thus it obtains an urgent effect with most economical means.

Odonchimeg Davaadorj (b. 1990)

Odonchimeg Davaadorj was born in 1990 in Mongolia. Nowadays, she lives and works in Paris.

The mediums she uses most are painting and drawing. She expresses her ideas through plastic gestures based on her interest for her direct environment. These environments – they are numerous – are wandering and studying spaces nourishing her work.

Davaadorj represents the organic and vegetal in unison with humans. Youth, ecological matters and feminism are the main subjects of her works.



Odonchimeg Davaadorj,
Hypnose, 2021.
Mixed techniques on paper, 24 x 15 cm



Ruth Barabash (b. 1963)

Ruth Barabash was born in Israël. The plastic artist lives and works in Paris.

Ruth Barabash creates gouaches on paper that express an extreme sensitivity through the frailty of the medium and the delicacy of the motives. The Israeli artist developed a narrative and emblematic language based on a vocabulary reflecting her country's day-to-day life. She represents the world as a never-ending game, ignoring the tragic consequences. However, this is this frivolous joy that reveals the frailty and relativity of things. Some sort of fatalism marks her experience of the Israeli life: both on the border of drama explosion and, at the same time, a distance giving an out-of-real-life kind of dimension.



Ruth Barabash, *Untitled*, n.d.
Watercolour on paper, 56 x 38 cm.



Soyoung Um, *Landscape*, 2022.
Korean ink on paper, 24,5 x 17 cm.

Soyoung Um (b. 1973)

Soyoung Um was born in Korea, where she lives and works.

She uses Korean ink to produce her black and white drawings.

Ugo Giletta (b. 1957)

Ugo Giletta was born in Italy. He still works and lives there.

He works consistently and almost exclusively with the human face.

Although these enigmatic figures are placed – silent, motionless and without a will of their own – in an empty, undefined space, although they suggest a certain timelessness and indifference to materiality, they nevertheless have an inner, hidden tension, a peculiar, latent energy that appears to dominate them. At any moment an event of transformation could take place, a fundamental, dramatic alteration of status, a radical re-evaluation of their essence and their history. This latent potentiality of a genuine story that makes them so important for us. Inherent in this enigmatic, tangible, suggestive silence is something ancient, archaic, barbaric, something that reminds us of important common experiences.



Ugo Giletta, *6*, n.d.
Watercolour on paper, 28,5 x 19 cm



Veronika Holcová (b. 1973)

Veronika Holcová was born in Prague.

The universe proposed by this young artist is one of tales and fancies, which radiates of a familiar strangeness populated with silhouettes, flowers, sets of acrobats, masks, and hybrid beings. Veronika Holcová's world is filled with sensitive and delicate imagination, close to the surrealist poetry, freed from time and space frontiers, dedicated to nature and life.



Veronika Holcová, *Vista I*, 2011.
Gouache on transparent paper, 29 x 42 cm.



Maurizio Savini, *Sans titre*, 2023.
Mixed techniques on paper, 40 x 30 cm.

Maurizio Savini (b. 1962)

Maurizio Savini was born in Rome, Italy. He lives and works there.

The Italian sculptor is known to create works with bubblegum. His sculpture is full of theatricality that stands out because of his unique technique and an ironic approach that questions us on the contemporary society. In this exhibition, he displays some drawings, far from his usual works.

Erich Gruber (b. 1971)

Erich Gruber was born in Schwarzach, Austria.
He lives and works in Salzburg, Austria.

“Erich Gruber's canon of works is characterised by power and intensity, by a differentiated glance beneath the surface and a subtle dramatic element. The drawing always played an important role, even though it was subsidiary to paintings and works created in a mixture of techniques, often functioning as a basis for these. Erich Gruber's fascination for the drawing can be compared with a volcano whose lava is bubbling underground and then forces its way upwards. A new focus is required both from the artist himself as well as from the observers.”

Tina Teufel



Erich Gruber, *Weisser Röhrling*, n.d.
Graphite on paper, 52 x 38 cm



Erik Binder (b. 1974)

Erik Binder was born in Hnúšťa-Likier in Slovakia.

Erik Binder is an expressive artist. His broad scope of work includes installations, videos, objects, paintings, drawings, prints and graffiti; he does honour to interaction with material and an unencumbered approach to media. In his holistic work, characterized by his own special humour, he works with the relationship between text and context.



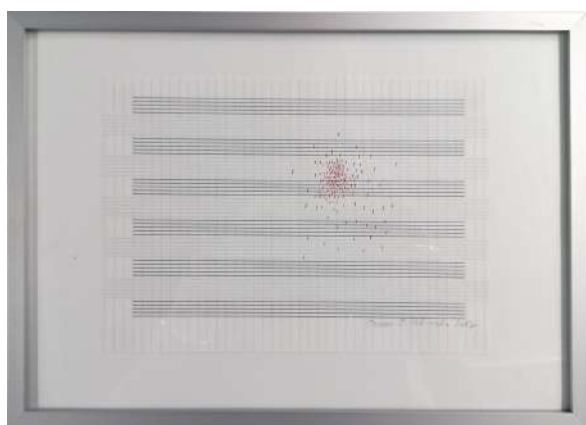
Erik Binder, Untitled, n.d.
Mixed techniques on paper, 30 x 21 cm.

Denisa Lehocká (b. 1971)

Denisa Lehocká lives and works in Bratislava.

She developed a «poetics of conciseness» in her work, which seems as light as it is ephemeral and deals with the manifold and opaque relationships between objects and subjects, between the real and the imaginary.

Despite the haptic appearance and playfulness of her objects, drawings, pictures, and sculptures, her works are bound to an analytical principle and hold a balance between abstraction and narrative. Lehocká's object constellations are the sediment of a tedious artistic production process, which begins initially with a concrete method of relating to the object and then proceeds to work away from it by exploring the infinite combinability of graphic elements.



Denisa Lehocká, Sans titre, 2007.
Mixed techniques on music paper, 21 x 29,7 cm.

Andrea Fogli (b 1959)

Andrea Fogli was born in 1959 in Italy.

The artist's work, "joins together two very different phenomena – a tentative closeness on a sensory level, and a melancholy, paradoxical shapelessness; one could even call it a dreamlike terror forever contained in the view of the artist and the beholder, and a sort of tender style conveyed from the artist's hand movement to the beholder's imagination".

Jan Hoet in *Diary of Shadows*.



Andrea Fogli, Voyage au centre du monde 8, 2018
Mixed techniques on postal card, 40 x 31 cm.



Marina Paris (b. 1974)

Marina Paris was born in Sassoferrato in Italy.

Her works tackles the theme of memory, its persistence and its fluctuations.

The artist express herself through various medium – through drawing, painting and in-situ installation. She tries to give substance to concrete images of memory, to recollections impregnating every each of us after experimenting a certain place.



Marina Paris, *Untitled*, n.d.
Pencil on paper



Gianni Dessi, *Untitled*, n.d.
Painting on paper

Gianni Dessi (b. 1971)

Gianni Dessi was born in Rome, where he lives and works.

Dessi's point of view on art is truly free, perhaps because of an Arte povera emanation but it is the obvious manifestation of the artist's gift for scenography giving his work power, strength and consistency. His works, both rigorous and ironic are nods to the role of art, of masters and of the past.

Gianni Dessi left behind the rules of art to rethink his creative process as a thinking on nature and art.

Fabien Verschaere (b. 1975)

Fabien Verschaere was born in Vincennes (France). He lives and works in Paris.

Several influences can be found in Fabien Verschaere's works: middle-age imagery, comics, psychoanalyse, pop-culture and childhood – dreams and nightmares – are used to elaborate artworks surrounded with mystery.

The artist creates profusely, as if he were always in a hurry; his work grants him a free space where he can give free rein to his urges and question the limits we, as a group, impose on ourselves.



Fabien Verschaere, *Untitled*, n.d.
Watercolour on paper.

Message from the exhibition's sponsor *Aragno Humanities Forum*

Through promoting the nomadic exhibition project *Evocations*, the Aragno Humanities Forum wants to manifest its full engagement for establishing new forms of direct dialogue between artists and art lovers in different countries, between different cultural contexts, between people for whom artistic creation means something essential and fundamental for human existence: art as revelation, art as awareness, art as empathy.

The Aragno Humanities Forum wants to contribute to the process of founding new platforms of discussions and exchanges of ideas about our contemporary reality. What could be more authentic and more sensible as the artistic vision of life, which directs the attention towards often hidden deepness of feelings and consciousness of being, which reveals hopes and fears, vital energies and destructive forces, harmony and dangers.

The *Evocations* project reflects the cultural situation of our days and intends to animate unconventional encounters between creators and recipients. I am glad to help to realise this well founded and profoundly humanist cultural enterprise and wish all participating artists and institutions, art critics and organisers a real success in their undertaking.

Nino Aragno
Aragno Humanities Forum

About the Brugier-Rigail gallery

In the usual landscape of contemporary art galleries, the Brugier-Rigail gallery has a unique artistic and aesthetic guiding line. Both urban and contemporary, the gallery was created in 2001. It is just like its two founders, Éric Brugier and Laurent Rigail, two art enthusiasts who are collectors before being curators. They only exhibit artists and works they like – and they stand by it. They usually help and support young artists they think are promising.

As they both had their first artistic heart-stoppers during their young years, the gallery's aesthetic is quite “old-school”, displaying 1980s urban art pioneers. Miss Tic, Speedy Graphito, Jérôme Mesnager, or Robert Combas and Guy Denning are some of the famous French artists exhibited. As for international artists, it is possible to admire the works of Shepard Fairey, JonOne or John Matos Crash. Nevertheless, the two collectors are always avidly searching for new urban and contemporary creators. They also represent young artists like Levalet, Nasty, Mad C, L'Atlas, Monkeybird or M. Chat.

If they enjoy supporting their artists, Éric Brugier and Laurent Rigail are just as attentive when it comes to advise collectors. Expertise, experience and moral transparency are required.