

Faire fi, faire feu

Curated by Myriam Brando

From May 24th to June 24th, 2023, pal project invites Myriam Brando to curate the exhibition «Faire fi, Faire feu» («Disregard, Ignite»). This exhibition brings together 8 artists (Marcella Barceló, Xolo Cuintle, Julien Heintz, Léna Long, Ibrahim Meïté Sikely, Mateo Revillo, Ugo Schildge, and Raphael Sitbon) and presents vulnerability not as a weakness to hide but as a creative resource to be exploited.

L'installation de Xolo Cuintle nous invite à déambuler dans un jardin fantomatique, où l'ensemble des Xolo Cuintle's installation invites us to wander through a ghostly garden where all the plants are frozen. Without answering the «when» and «why,» they show the «how,» like a manifesto of human fragility. A balance is drawn between the ephemeral and the timeless through the representation of natural elements counterbalanced by the use of materials derived from industrialization. Similar to Ugo Schildge, his work resonates as a brutal echo of human violence against the environment. Does the burning tree condemn the world to be consumed before our helpless eyes or does it initiate the beginnings of a fierce fight?

Marcella Barceló's carnivorous plants contrast with the soft forms and innocence of her character. Her melancholic narration depicts strange landscapes inhabited by ageless bodies from a bygone era to convey something about the vulnerability that accompanies it. Léna Long explores a moment whose historical contours elude us through vibrant and fluorescent tones. The diversity of artistic approaches offers an «ultra-contemporary» understanding of a state of anxiety while infusing new perspectives of resilience.

Timeless, unidentifiable, and impassive, Julien Heintz's ghostly faces appear as a search for a memory in the mind: by making an effort. Whether racialized, gendered, or exploited, the body is the first of many places where vulnerability appears. Ibrahim Meïté Sikely denounces in painting the injustice of being sidelined, resignation, but also a questioning of certain social realities. His work is an exploration of vulnerability centered on long-invisible individuals.

The exhibition reveals as many narratives as stigmas. By choosing fragments of life as a starting point for creation, Raphael Sitbon draws the very essence of his work from past and tamed fragility. His sculptures combine familiar furniture with reversible traits. Only a fragile mystical imprint will remain. Mateo Revillo explores the same buried sentiment between mysticism and vulnerability. Two black chests are veiled. One, covered with a beeswax canvas, patinated with stripes and traversed by snails, a grilled reliquary like the nuns of a convent; the other contains a clay heart. A snail, a memory of mystical abstraction, illuminates a delicate scene.

«Faire fi, faire feu» is an ode to contemplation, a call to action. To resistance.

MYRAM BRANDO

Myriam Brando is a curator and art advisor specializing in the young emerging French scene. In 2021, she created and curated a temporary exhibition in partnership with the Arles Town Hall, parallel to the International Festival of «Rencontres de la Photographie» («Encounters of Photography»). The exhibition brought together 13 young contemporary artists around the notion of utopia. The experience was repeated the following year at the Chapelle de la vieille Charité for a second edition addressing the question of desire. In parallel, she advises collectors and private companies in their art acquisitions.

LA GALERIE

pal project is an emerging art gallery located in the 7th arrondissement of Paris. Deliberately free and experimental, the gallery's programming offers strong and ambitious projects accompanied by editorial work to extend and perpetuate the developed discourse.

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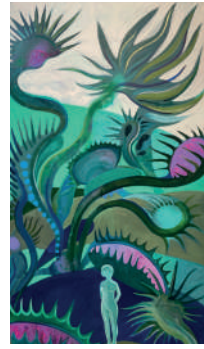
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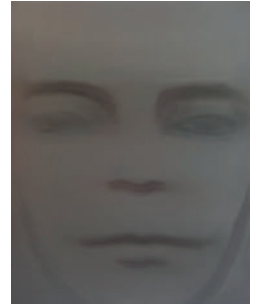
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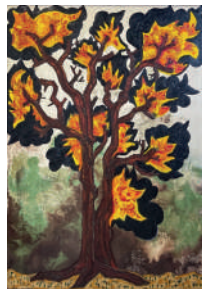
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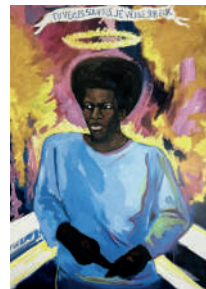
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1. Marcella Barceló, *Lucioles*, 2023, acrylic, oil, and nail polish on wood, 50 × 60 cm.
2. Marcella Barceló, *Ameonna*, 2021, acrylic, nail polish on canvas, 30 × 30 cm.
3. Marcella Barceló, *Dionaea B52*, 2023, acrylic, oil on canvas, 195 × 115 cm.
4. Raphael Sitbon, *Les yeux dans le beurre*, 2022, wood, resin, paint, metal, 160 × 90 × 7 cm.
5. Xolo Cuintle, *Soft Acanthus*, 2021, concrete, tin, 2021, 80.5 × 57 × 32 cm.
6. Xolo Cuintle, *Ricocheting Flower*, 2021, concrete, tin, 37 × 35 × 182 cm.
7. Xolo Cuintle, *Sprouting Flower*, 2021, concrete, steel, tin, 46 × 30 × 50 cm..
8. Julien Heintz, *Clean fresh glamor*, 2023, oil on canvas, 50 × 40 cm.
9. Julien Heintz, *Sans titre*, 2023, oil on canvas, 46 × 38 cm.
10. Lena Long, *Paradis*, 2021, oil on coated wood (calcium carbonate), 122 × 78 cm.
11. Lena Long, *Sans Titre*, 2023, oil on coated wood (calcium carbonate), 13 × 10 cm.
12. Ugo Schildge, *L'arbre en Fleu*, 2022, tinted concrete and oil pastel, 140 × 200 cm.
13. Mateo Revillo, *Relicaire avec cœur et escargot*, 2023, lacquered wooden chest, encaustic on canvas, wax, snail, LED, and battery.
14. Ibrahim Meïté Sikely, *Saint Ambroise/7décembre*, 2020, oil on canvas, 100 cm x 72 cm.
15. Ibrahim Meïté Sikely, *Nollywood*, 2019, oil on canvas, 100 cm x 100 cm.