

MON CORPS RÉPOND-T-IL À SON NOM ?

HUGO GUÉRIN

From June 27 to July 29, 2023, pal project presents «Mon corps répond-t-il à son nom?», Hugo Guérin's first solo gallery exhibition. Hugo Guérin's lively, organic forms resonate with our contemporary psyche and lyrically evoke our anxieties. The exhibition is accompanied by a digital publication, pal mag #15.

The artist's sculptures introduce a relationship with the world based on paradox. These works are born of a sense of anguish, the source of inaction, itself the vector of a feeling of powerlessness and frustration, and ultimately of buried, latent violence. In these intriguing yet disquieting forms, calm coexists with brutality. The catalyst for this disquiet is the relationship we all have with our own bodies and those of others, in particular the fear of losing control over ourselves and our environment. Hybrid, deformed bodies with outré, uncomfortable postures materialize the anxieties born of an unequal relationship with society.

The presentation of Hugo Guérin's works in the pal project spaces, by tackling the difficult subject of anxieties linked to our relationship with the body and the world, invites us to stop for a moment and enjoy a privileged experience of introspection. This is all the more beneficial in an age of extroversion, of sharing opinions without limits or dissonance. And yet, this confrontation with artworks can seem difficult, when they confront us with an enigma like Oedipus confronting the Sphinx. By confronting us with the same challenge as Oedipus, these creatures remind us of the benefits of the virtues the hero had neglected: modesty and prudence in our illusory belief in control. Faced with these hybrid monsters, we find ourselves confronted with our own buried enigmas, often unfathomable and indecipherable.

Excerpt from the exhibition text by Maël Vandewalle. To be found in full in pal mag #15, available free of charge on our website.

THE ARTIST

After a first master's degree in game design, Hugo Guérin returned to the Beaux-Arts de Paris in 2016. There, he deepened an artistic culture that began with the worlds of video games and comics, from which he has retained a deep love for the aesthetics of the strange and the imaginary. In this vein, he started out in the Sfar studio, focusing on comics and illustration, before discovering a more pronounced penchant for sculpture, seduced by working with matter and volume. Fascinated by the figure of the monster, his work takes the form of a bestiary of deformed and hybrid bodies, as vulnerable as they are disturbing. Nude and slumped, they betray a maladjusted nature, incapable of acting on the world, often torn between impulse and apathy. Graduating from the Beaux-Arts de Paris in September 2023, he took part in several group exhibitions outside and within the school between 2017 and 2023.

THE GALLERY

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

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press release



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1. Hugo Guérin, *Archétypes 1*, 2023, Steel, red earthenware and microcrystalline wax, 11 ¾ × 9 ½ × 6 ¾ in.
2. Hugo Guérin, *Archétypes 2*, 2023, Steel, red earthenware and microcrystalline wax, 13 × 9 ⅞ × 7 ⅞ in.
3. Hugo Guérin, *Archétype 3*, 2023, Steel, red earthenware and microcrystalline wax, 16 ⅞ × 7 ⅞ × 6 ¾ in.
4. Hugo Guérin, *Mon corps répond t-il à son nom ?*, 2023, Polystyrene, steel, fiberglass, acrylic resin, microcrystalline wax, 66 ⅞ × 19 ¾ × 15 ¾ in.
5. Hugo Guérin, *Les moutons volants sont ils violents par nature ?*, 2022, Steel and wax earthenware, 35 ⅞ × 23 ⅞ × 33 ½ in.
6. Hugo Guérin, *Le piège*, 2023, Rough earthenware, 35 ⅞ × 23 ⅞ × 33 ½ in.
7. Hugo Guérin, *Symbiose*, 2023, Solid oak and raw earthenware, 36 ¼ × 20 ½ × 9 ⅞ in.
8. Hugo Guérin, *Le menteur 2*, 2022, Glazed earthenware, steel, 17 ⅞ × 15 × 9 ⅞ in.
9. Hugo Guérin, *Le menteur 3*, 2022, Glazed earthenware, steel, 24 ¾ × 15 ¾ × 11 ¾ in.
10. Hugo Guérin, *Le menteur 4*, 2022, Glazed earthenware, 7 ⅞ × 13 ¾ × 7 ⅞ in.
11. Hugo Guérin, *Le menteur 5*, 2022, Glazed earthenware, 14 × 14 × 12 in.
12. Hugo Guérin, *Le menteur 6*, 2022, Glazed earthenware, steel, 9 ½ × 9 × 9 ½ in.
13. Hugo Guérin, *Étapes de domestication*, 2021, Steel, polystyrene, fiberglass, yellow and white microcrystalline wax, pigments, 39 ⅞ × 68 ⅞ × 27 ½ in.
14. Hugo Guérin, *No title*, 2023, Raw earthenware, 19 ⅞ × 9 ⅞ × 9 ⅞ / 9 ⅞ × 5 ⅞ × 15 / 13 × 9 ⅞ × 9 ⅞ in.
15. Hugo Guérin, *No title*, 2023, Raw earthenware, 9 ⅞ × 9 × 6 ⅞ in.