EXHIBITION 19 FEB. 30 APR. 2017

THE WILD MOTIFS ALEXANDRE & FLORENTINE LAMARCHE-OVIZE



PARC SAINT LÉGER CENTRE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN

PRESS RELEASI

Like the cultural poachers described by Michel de Certeau, Florentine and Alexandre Lamarche-Ovize render concrete a certain pleasure in making things and materialize thought in objects. Their pieces are created through assemblage, superimposition, or substitution, processes that try to distance the subjects being treated while simultaneously revealing a gargantuan, almost compulsive effort to compile references. These come from historical, vernacular and pop cultures. Drawing is omnipresent. Sometimes it allows thought to exist as a sketch, sometimes it is the pattern on a piece of ceramic, but often it is a tool that integrates indirectly yet in a significant way objects in a narrative framework that is always present.

Techniques and skills are also components of the Lamarche-Ovizes' art practice. Those techniques and skills, moreover, are a clear reference to the philosophy of William Morris, the founder of the Arts & Crafts movement in the 1860s who rejected the distinction made between art and traditional crafts. In their work, the decompartmentalization of practices is seen in the fact that they regularly involve other artists and craftsmen in what they do. They also clearly show a taste for motifs and the decorative, as well as an interest in bricolage, the makeshift, the do-it-yourself. It is a preference that makes objects a token of the pleasure of manipulating things along with a tendency—readily embraced—to create hybrid forms.

This way of working is found throughout the show, which is appropriately called "Les motifs sauvages" (The Wild Motifs). The exhibition features a multiplicity of motifs, from tapestry patterns and ceramics, to video animation, notebooks and rubber stamps, which are on view throughout the space of the art center. This shift from one support to another, which maintains both an autonomous position and a cause-and-effect relationship, is also found in the ceramic pieces on display. Following a residency in Mexico in 2015, the artist duo were able to experiment with techniques from an appropriated "Barro Negro" artisanal and industrial approach, a style that is practiced around Guadalajara. Their work gave rise to more or less exotic motifs featuring insignificant objects drawn from the everyday world. For the two artists, the idea has been to pursue their work in crafts and highlight different production processes, along with the meteorological and natural context of the earth. The show at Parc Saint Léger is an opportunity to discover the production processes springing from a method developed in the potters' village of La Borne and among the makers of earthenwares in Nevers. A series of ceramic pieces was created with the help of Laurent Gautier, a potter at the Bourges national school of art, employing sandstone and turning. The other series was realized with the help of the Georges pottery factory in Nevers. The two artists went there to hunt around in a collection of molds belonging to the factory, which has been in Nevers since 1898. In keeping with their usual way of working, Lamarche-Ovizes used collage and appropriation to produce sculptures in a strong baroque style.

Catherine Pavlovic

KIC 8462

Wall painting (detail), MAGP, Cajarc, 2016



Photo: Yoan Gozard

NOUVELLES DE NULLE PART

Installation view, Centre d'art des Capucins Embrun, 2016



Photo: Éric Tabuchi

POP COLUMN AND DREAM COLLAGES

2016

Exhibition view, Luis Adelantado Galeria, Mexico DF., 2016



Photo: Alexandre & Florentine Lamarche-Ovize

LA BRUSCHETTA DEL DOMINGO

2015

Faïence émaillée 140 × 90 × 60 cm



Photo: Alexandre & Florentine Lamarche-Ovize

NOS PARADIS PERDUS (LOST IN OUR PARADISE)

View of Project Room, Galerie Georges-Philippe & Nathalie Vallois, 2017



Photo: Aurélien Mole

VARANGEVILLE SUR MER

Charcoal on paper 110 × 110 cm



Photo: Alexandre & Florentine Lamarche-Ovize Courtesy: Galerie Gorges-Philippe & Nathalie Vallois, Paris

THE NEVER ENDING PICTURE (HOME)

2016

Mixed media on paper 110 × 170cm



Photo: Alexandre & Florentine Lamarche-Ovize Private collection, Paris

TO SARAH (WILLIAM ET RIHANNA)

Mixed media on paper 120 × 180cm



Photo: André Morin Courtesy: Galerie Gorges-Philippe & Nathalie Vallois, Paris

ALEXANDRE & FLORENTINE LAMARCHE-OVIZE

Respectively born in 1980 and 1978, Alexandre & Florentine Lamarche-Ovize live and work together in Aubervilliers (FR). Since 2006, they together produce a work essentially made of drawings and ceramics. Their work is a mixture of vernacular, historical and artistic references.

Alexandre & Florentine Lamarche-Ovize's work has regularly been shown in solo shows such as « Nos paradis perdus (Lost In Our Paradise) », currently at the Galerie Georges-Philippe & Nathalie Vallois (Project Room), Paris; « Pop Column And Dream Collages » at the Galerie Luis Adelanto, Mexico DF. and « Nouvelles de nulle part » at the Contemporary Art Center Les Capucins, Embrun, in 2016. They also have been shown in several group exhibitions suche as « Open Session » at the Drawing Center, New York or « Heroes » at the Galerie Georges-Philippe & Nathalie Vallois, Paris, in 2016; « Outil pour inventaire » at the FRAC Pays de la Loire and « La souris et le perroquet » at the Contemporary Art Center La Villa Arson, Nice, in 2015.

Alexandre & Florentine Lamarche-Ovize are represented by the Luis Adelantado Galeria in Valencia (ES).

Publications

2017

 To be published: Inventaire, The Drawer Edition, March 2017

2006

Alexandre et Florentine Lamarche-Ovize,
 (Emmanuelle Lequeux) Lauréats Altadis 2006,
 Actes Sud Beaux Arts

Presse

- Roxana Azimi, « L'art retrouvé du geste », in Le Monde, 2015
- « Nu de fiction », in Mouvement, May/June 2013
- Claire Moulène, « Émail diamant », in Les Inrocks, 2013
- Jean-Max Colard, « Lamarche-Ovize », in Les Inrocks, 2008

AUTOUR DE DÉC. 2016 L'EXPOSITION

CONVERSATIONS

Sunday 19 February

4 pm

WITH ALEXANDRE AND FLORENTINE LAMARCHE-OVIZE

Guided tour of the show.

Sunday 26 March

4 pm

WITH CAROLE GEORGES AND JEAN-FRANÇOIS DUMONT

Owners of Georges pottery factory in Nevers.

Sunday 16 April

4 pm

WITH JEAN-FRANCOIS RAMEAU

A Lutte Ouvrière activist.

Parc Saint Léger also invites you to join us for Sunday get-togethers around contemporary art on 5 March and 2 and 30 April at 4 pm.

FAMILY WORKSHOPS

Sunday 16 October

3 pm

GUIDED TOUR OF THE SHOW FOLLOWED BY A WORKSHOP AND A LIGHT SNACK

Five years and older, Free admission, but you must sign up.

WRITING WORKSHOP

Saturday 5 November from 10 am to 5 pm

HOSTED BY PIERRE BASTIDE
OPEN DISCUSSION ON THE WORKS IN THE
SHOW

Free admission, but you must sign up (subject to availability).

LECTURE

Tuesday 4 April 6:30 pm

at ABW Warnant Architecte, Nevers

WITH THOMAS GOLSENNE

A PhD in art history and professor of the history of the visual arts at Villa Arson, École Nationale Supérieure d'Art in Nice. SCREENING

Thursday 13 April

at Ciné Mazarin, Nevers

NOS ANNÉES SAUVAGES BY WONG KAR-WAI

In partnership with ACNE (Association des Cinéphages de Nevers).

INTERVENTION

Saturday 22 April

3 pm

At the Médiathèque Jean Jaurès, Nevers WITH FANFICTION 93

The association FANFICTION 93 is developing a publishing project that brings together artists who are active in Aubervilliers.

Exhibition from 19 February to 30 April 2017.

Open Wednesday to Sunday from 2 to 6pm and by request. Free admission.

In partnership with: Laurent Gautier, ceramist / École Nationale Supérieure d'Art de Bourges; Faïencerie Georges, Nevers.

Cover image: Alexandre & Florentine Lamarche-Ovize, Notes, 2012-..., extrait de carnet.

Contact press: Léa Merit lea.merit@parcsaintleger.fr

A free shuttle will run between Paris and the venue on the day of the opening:

Departure: 3.00 pm, Paris (Denfert-Rochereau)

Return: 9.30 pm, Pougues-les-Eaux

Reservation required: +33 (0)3 86 90 96 60 or with Léa Merit: lea.merit@parcsaintleger.fr

PARC SAINT LÉGER CENTRE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN



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