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PRESS RELEASE

THE MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE at Hangar H18

A look at the French scene

AFTER THEIR EXHIBITION-EVENT IN THE CENTRE POMPIDOU HANGAR H18 HOSTS THE FOUR ARTISTS DISTINGUISHED BY THE 2016 PRIX MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE

Kader ATTIA (born in 1970), winner
Yto BARRADA (born in 1971)
Ulla von BRANDENBURG (born in 1974)
Barthélémy TOGUO (born in 1967)

Press preview: Wednesday,19th April 2017 – 11am to 1pm Preview: Wednesday,19th April 2017 – 6.30pm to 8.30pm Exhibition from Thursday, 20th April 2017 to Saturday 8th July 2017

Centre d'art Hangar H18

Place du Châtelain, 1050 Brussels Tuesday to Saturday from Noon to 6pm www.h18.be Press contact: caracascom.com

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"First and foremost, the Marcel Duchamp Prize is the collector's eye and the enthusiastic view of enlightened amateurs on the current French scene. But in addition to offering a vast panorama of the artists of our times, our Prize bears a humanist message illustrating that French spirit of openness and balance to which I am deeply committed."

Gilles Fuchs, President of the Association for the International Diffusion of French Art (ADIAF)

Created in 2000 by the ADIAF in the aim of raising the international profile of the French scene, each year the Marcel Duchamp Prize honours a winner from among four French artists or artists residing in France, working in the field of the plastic and visual arts: painting, sculpture, video, photography and installation. The Marcel Duchamp Prize purposely promotes the recognition of the most innovative artists of their generation in order to encourage and confront every artistic form. Organized from the outset in partnership with the Centre Pompidou, over the years this collectors' prize has acquired great prestige, placing it today among the top national benchwork prizes on the international scene.

Honouring some 70 artists since its creation, the Marcel Duchamp Prize offers a wide panorama of the various trends in contemporary art in France. Now become ambassador to the French scene, the organization of the exhibitions of the artists distinguished by this collector's prize throws invaluable light on its current energy and vitality at the beginning of the 21st century. The ADIAF can be credited with fifty or so exhibitions, including about 15 worldwide.

On the invitation of the Centre d'art Hangar H18 and its Artistic Director Sophie Hasaerts, the four artists distinguished by the 2016 Marcel Duchamp Prize - Kader ATTIA, Yto BARRADA, Ulla von BRANDENBURG and Barthélémy TOGUO – are being exhibited in Brussels, barely three months after their group show in the Centre Pompidou which attracted nearly 80 000 visitors. Opening its doors at the same time as the ArtBrussels fair, the exhibition *A look at the French scene* proposes an exhibition in a space of 1000 m2 orchestrated by Alicia Knock, who was the curator of the exhibition of the 16th edition of the prize in the Musée national d'art modern, Centre Pompidou. A group of works – drawings, collages, photos, videos and installations – have been chosen for this exhibition so that the public may gain a better understanding of the various trends on the current French scene.

Kader ATTIA, winner of the 2016 Marcel Duchamp Prize

Born in 1970 in France in Dugny en Seine-Saint-Denis - Lives and works in Paris and Berlin Represented by the galleries: Continua, San Gimignano –Nagel Draxler, Berlin – Krinzinger, Vienna – Lehmann Maupin, New York. www.kaderattia.de

Born in the Paris region of Algerian parents, Kader Attia questions the aesthetics and the ethics of different cultures. His poetic and symbolic approach explores the profound repercussions of modern Western cultural supremacy and of colonialism on non-Western cultures, poised between tradition and modernity, and creates a genealogy of the contemporary world as well as the relations currently in play between the West and non-Western countries.

For several years, his research has been focused on the **concept of repair** as a constant in human nature for which modern Western thought and traditional non-Western thought have always had an opposing vision. From culture to nature, from the question of gender to architecture, from science to philosophy, any life system is a process of never-ending repair.

At H18, Kader Attia proposes an installation mixing objects and film, conceived like an analytical space around a film: *Réfléchir la mémoire*. This is a poetic essay comprised of interviews with surgeons, neurologists and psychoanalysts about the phenomenon of the "phantom limb", resulting from an amputation, where the subject has the feeling that the missing limb is still connected to his body. This symptom, no doubt caused by "mirror" neurons, liberates the instinctive actions linked to man's own "mimetic rivalry" as described by the anthropologist René Girard. Between personal and collective wounds, material and immaterial symptoms, the device extends the study of physical and individual amputation to that of the phantoms in contemporary history (slavery, colonization, communism, genocide) and to the question of their repair. Photos of amputated people that have become "sculptures" coexist with the film's space that has now become plastic.

Complete list of exhibited works on request: info@h18.be

Recent shows (selection)

<u>2017</u>

High-tension, a look at the French scene with 8 winners of the Marcel DuchampPrize, Red Brick Art Museum in Beijing and the Times Museum in Canton/China

Mary & Leigh Block Museum of Art, Northwestern University, Chicago, United States

Museum of Contemporary Art Australia, Sydney, Australia

<u>2016</u>

"Kader Attia. Sacrifice and Harmony", MMK – Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt. / Germany 2015

"Reason's Oxymorons", Galerie Nagel Draxler, Berlin / Germany, "Les blessures sont là", Musée Cantonal des Beaux Arts de Lausanne, Lausanne / Switzerland

"Scarification, Self Skin's Architecture", Galerie Nagel Draxler, Berlin / Germany, "Ghost", Stiftelsen 3,14, Bergen/ Norway

"Complementary Conversations", Galerie Krinzinger, Vienna / Austria

Yto BARRADA – artist nominated for the 2016 Marcel Duchamp Prize

Born in 1971 in Paris – Lives and works in Tangier and New York - Represented by the galleries: Polaris, Paris - Sfeir-Semler, Hamburg + Beirut - Pace, London <u>www.ytobarrada.com</u>

Since the beginning of the 2000s, this Franco-Moroccan artist invites reflection on current geopolitical changes, post-colonial history and the local challenges of globalization. After studying at the International Center of Photography (New York), she gained recognition in 2005 with the work *Une vie plein de trous – Le Projet du Détroit*. In this vast series of photographs - winner of the Ellen Auerbach Prize in 2006 (Yto Barrada is moreover winner of the IAbraaj Group Art Prize in 2014) - she offers an unexpected portrait of her home town, Tangier. Photographic in essence, her work is also comprised of films, sculptures and installations as well as publications which together compose a singular practice somewhere between documentary strategies and a contemplative approach to images. Yto Barrada is the founder and director of the Tangier Film Library. She was designated artist of the year by Deutsche Bank in 2011. (Extract from the monography by JRP Ringier)

Yto Barrada's project at H18 is inspired by the Sufi poet al-Shaykh **Abderrahman el Majdoub**, who lived between Fes and Meknes. His quatrains or "Rubaiyat" make up a collection of indocile and often critical proverbs and commentaries on 16th century Moroccan society. Transposed into textile elements that the artist incorporates into flags, the "Majdoub" hold a dialogue with the film *La contrebandière* about those frontier-women who wear every piece of illegal clothing in their possession in order to cross borders freely. The installation is in keeping with a cycle of works by the artist about the subjective forms of dissidence and the importance of local practices. She emphasizes the significance of the poetic word, a prehistory word, dispersed by collective stories.

Complete list of exhibited works on request: info@h18.be

Recent shows (selection) 2017 The Curve Gallery Commission, The Barbican, London Aspen Art Museum, Aspen 2016 The Power Plant, Toronto, Canada Museum Leuven, Belgium Secession, Vienna, Austria Sfeir-Semler Gallery, Beirut, Lebanon 2015 Carré d'art musée d'art contemporain, Nimes, Faux Guide, France Fundacao de Serralves, Salon marocain, Portugal Pace London, *Faux.Guide*, United Kingdom

Ulla von BRANDENBURG - artist nominated for the 2016 Marcel Duchamp Prize

Born in 1974 in Karlsruhe – Lives and works in Paris Represented by the galleries: Art : Concept, Paris, France - Pilar Corrias, London, United Kingdom Produzentengalerie Hamburg, Germany

Ulla von Brandenburg's work is carried out in a wide variety of mediums and forms, of scales and supports: films, performances, installations and objects, music, drawings... Although on the whole her work finds its inspiration in literature, the history of the arts and cinema, architecture and the theatre, Ulla von Brandenburg constructs a complex and far-reaching work by putting the practices of humankind back into the centre. Very interested in popular ceremonies, minority societies and the question of ritual in general, Ulla von Brandenburg composes images which, gradually over time keep reality at a distance and shift expectations. Abstraction, collage, colorimetry, psychoanalysis and the motif of the body-costume / gesture-form are just some of the many sources of research that nourish the artist's work. Her immersive and labyrinth-like installations in fabric and architectures, either upside-down or practicable in wood, are devices she conceives for watching her films. For Ulla von Brandenburg, the viewer is like an actor in the work, making part of the work in another time set. This is shown by her living paintings, materials that today she transforms to realize performances in movement and in dance; her collections of textiles and quilts and handmade coloured dyes and painted curtains, etc.

At H18, in her filmic installation confronting film, drawings and threshold-objects, like the big curtain or banner of sewn ties on show there, Ulla von Brandenburg constructs a space for a contemporary ritual. At the heart of this device, the film *It Has a Golden Sun and an Elderly Grey Moon, 2016* treats the notion of colour. A challenge to the confusion of the senses and a force in abstraction, colour is sharply cut into the immaculate space of the staircase, a metonymy for the "white cube" or the contemporary temple of the sun. More particularly, it acts as a social message and signal of exchange: yellow – historically the colour of social misfits – appears like a narrative fetish. The sound of percussions guides the bodies onto the staircase conceived like a social ladder which raises and casts people aside. The ritual performed during the work stages a gift-giving scene symbolized by the sharing of a quilt-cover of aesthetic and political worth: a vital social or "all-over" cover essential to today's threatened solidarity.

Complete list of exhibited works on request: info@h18.be

Recent shows (selection) 2017 *Ulla von Brandenburg*, Art : Concept, Paris, France Musee des Beaux-Arts de Rennes, Rennes, France Kunsthallen Aarhus 2017: European Capital of Culture, Aarhus, Denmark Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen K21 Standehaus, Dusseldorf, Germany $\underline{2016}$

Ullavon Brandenburg, Pérez Art Museum, Miami/US (03.11-25.06.17)

It Has a Golden Red Sun and an Elderly Green Moon, La Fonderie Darling, Montreal/CA (15.06-21.08) (curator: Alexandra Baudelot)

It Has a Golden Red Sun and an Elderly Green Moon, Power Plant, Toronto/CA (25.06-05.09) (curator : Alexandra Baudelot)

It Has a Golden Red Sun and an Elderly Green Moon, ACCA, Melbourne/AS (21.05-24.07)

Manchmal Ja, manchmal Nein, Haus Konstruktiv, Zurich/ Switzerland

Orange Meets Blue, Kasia Michalski Gallery, Warsaw/Poland

<u>2015</u>

Ulla von Brandenburg: Objects Without Shadow, Pilar Corrias, London/United Kingdom

Kalns, grimsti ! Ieleja celies !, Kim? Contemporary Art Centre, Riga/Latvia

Gestern ist auch morgen und heute ist wie hier, Kasseler KunstVerein, Cassel/Germany Zuvor wie Vorher, ProduzentenGalerie, Hamburg/Germany

Ulla von Brandenburg: Wagon Wheel, Contemporary Art Museum, Saint Louis/United States

Barthélémy TOGUO - artist nominated for the 2016 Marcel Duchamp Prize

Born in 1967 in Cameroun. Lives and works between Paris, Bandjoun (Cameroun) and New York.

Represented by: Galerie Lelong, Paris

www.barthelemytoguo.com - www.bandjounstation.com

Drawing, sculpture, video, watercolour, performance... Trained successively at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Abidjan, then Grenoble and Dusseldorf, the Cameroonian artist mixes every discipline and confronts his African roots with the violent modernity of our world. But more importantly, he talks to us about life in general. A life which is no bed of roses bearing its own load of suffering, wars, exile, solitude. To underline the importance of the presence of suffering in a human life, Toguo plants nails in his heads, transforming his characters into everyday martyrs. The hand, a symbol of work, of life and of the artistic trace, is very present in his works. Barthélémy Toguo feels free to criticize our society but at the same time he shows great concern for the beauty of form and sense of colour. He is an "artivist", a committed and passionate artist who examines the world in which we live, takes its pulse and grasps, captures and transforms whatever the era produces.

At H18, a group of drawings shows Barthélémy Toguo's poetic cosmogony, inhabited by the finitude and the hope of redemption, by the instincts of life and death, in an unresolved tension between animal, human and spiritual emotions. The artist explores his own biography to devise an existential story of the world, anchored in its contemporary reality and beyond. The power of corporal embodiment in Barthélémy Toguo's drawings echoes the "actionist" dimension of his work which often includes performance.

Complete list of exhibited works on request: info@h18.be

Recent shows (selection) 2017 Art/Afrique, Le nouvel Atelier, Fondation Louis Vuitton, 26 April- 28 August 2017 Solo show, inauguration du Musée L - Musée universitaire de Louvain, Louvain-La-Neuve, Oct.17 "Célébrations". Inauguration of the commission for the RATP for the Paris Metro station, 10 metre high frieze made by the Manufacture Nationale de Sèvres, France Solo show, Galerie Lelong, Paris, France 2016 Strange Fruit, Stevenson Gallery, Johannesburg Alive in a Box, Galerie Lelong, Paris, France Déluge, Carré Saint-Anne, Montpellier, France Sueur de sucre, Carte blanche à Barthélémy Toquo, Institut français of Mauritius 2015 Les diables et les dieux, Château de Tanlay, France Maison des Arts de Chatillon, France Château Lynch-Bages, France



Collectors rallied around the French scene

Presided over by Gilles Fuchs, the Association for the International Diffusion of French Art the ADIAF groups together nearly 400 contemporary art collectors firmly committed to the adventure of creation. Organized from the outset in partnership with the Centre Pompidou, this collector's prize intends to bring together the most innovative artists and confront all artistic forms. Each year, the Marcel Duchamp Prize honours a winner from among four French artists or artists residing in France, working in the field of the plastic and visual arts: installation video, painting, photography and sculpture... The four artists nominated for each edition are chosen by a committee of the ADIAF's collectors, enthusiastic actors in the art world who give this prize its singular character. The "selection of the artists" is then submitted to an international jury of experts who are considered authorities in the contemporary art world - curators of leading institutions, French and foreign collectors - given the task of choosing the winner to whom the ADIAF offers a financial endowment of 35 000 €. The selection committee and jury are renewed each year. Over the years, the Marcel Duchamp Prize has established itself as one of the most relevant vectors of information about contemporary art in France. Ambassador to the French scene, its prestige and reputation place it among the top national benchmark prizes on an international scale. The fifty or so exhibitions of the Marcel Duchamp Prize artists organized to date by the ADIAF worldwide throws invaluable light on the current energy and vitality of contemporary art in France.

The Marcel Duchamp Prize has distinguished more than 70 artists since its launch, including 16 winners: *Thomas HIRSCHHORN (2000), Dominique GONZALEZ-FOERSTER (2002), Mathieu MERCIER (2003), Carole BENZAKEN (2004), Claude CLOSKY (2005), Philippe MAYAUX (2006), Tatiana TROUVÉ (2007), Laurent GRASSO (2008), Saâdane AFIF (2009), Cyprien GAILLARD (2010), Mircea CANTOR (2011), Daniel DEWAR & Grégory GICQUEL (2012), Latifa ECHAKHCH (2013), Julien PRÉVIEUX (2014), Melik OHANIAN (2015) and Kader ATTIA (2016).*

The Marcel Duchamp Prize benefits from the generous support of: **Artcurial, Comité professionnel des** galeries d'art, Fondation d'entreprise Hermès, Inlex IP Expertise. With the participation of: CreativTV, Horizon Bleu, Silvana Editoriale

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As part of its commitment to the ADIAF, Artcurial is also a partner of the *Marcel Duchamp Prize* and thereby takes the opportunity of reconfirming its ties with French collectors but also its action in favour of French contemporary creation, notably abroad.

Founded in 2002, Artcurial, a multidisciplinary auction house based in Paris, has wellestablished its leading position on the international art market. With three auction houses in Paris, Monte Carlo and Hong-Kong, it totalled 210.1 million euros in sales volume in 2016, i.e. double its turnover in 5 years (+10 % compared to 2015). Internationally minded, Artcurial has set up a network with representative offices in Brussels, Milan, Monte Carlo, Munich and Vienna, as well as being present in Beijing and Tel Aviv and also holding biannual exhibitions in New York. In October 2015, Artcurial organized its first auctions in Hong Kong and Morocco.

It covers many domains ranging from the Fine Arts to Decorative Arts, Vintage Cars, Jewellery, Collector Watches, Fine Wines and Spirits...

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With the support of the Institut français and the Service de Coopération et d'Action Culturelle of the French Embassy in Belgium as part of the EXTRA program



The exhibition "A look at the French scene, the 2016 Marcel Duchamp prize" is part of the EXTRA program created by the Service de Coopération et d'Action Culturelle of the French Embassy in Belgium with the support of the Institut Français and the Alliance française de Bruxelles-Europe to highlight the different facets of French contemporary creation in the field of the visual arts, live shows and performances.

14 Belgian institutions feature in the EXTRA 2017 program (2nd edition) with thirty or so established and emerging artists in the cities of Brussels, Ghent, Charleroi, Louvain-la Neuve and Bruges.



www.cercledelorraine.be



Installed in the heart of the Brussels art gallery and museum district, the contemporary art centre Hangar H18 houses its gallery in nearly 1000 square metres, while regularly hosting the projects of other significant national and international actors from the artistic and cultural world, desirous of establishing an interconnection with the Belgian public. Amongst other things, the art centre supports the highly renowned Marcel Duchamp Prize and has initiated a new annual photographic event with Photo18 Festival.

This meeting place installed in the Châtelain area of Brussels offers the public, art lovers and collectors alike, a monographic and thematic program of exhibitions, conferences and concerts.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

DATES 20/04/2017 > 8/07/2017

PLACE Centre d'art Hangar H18 18 Place du Châtelain, 1050 Brussels Open Tuesday to Saturday from Noon to 6pm www.h18.be Private view of the exhibition during the ArtBrussels Fair.

READER INFORMATION Tel: + 32 (0)2 538 00 85 info@h18.be

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