



PRESS KIT
September 2009

Contemporary art

THE MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE

Prize designed to promote the French artistic scene

Organized by collectors belonging to the ADIAF

Association for the International Diffusion of French Art

In partnership with the Centre Pompidou and the Fiac

2009 PRIZE

Nominated artists

Saâdane AFIF, born in 1970 - sculpture, installation

Damien DEROUBAIX, born in 1972 - painting

Nicolas MOULIN, born in 1970 - video

Philippe PERROT, born in 1967 - painting

With the support of:

Lombard Odier,

Sanofi-Aventis,

Artcurial,

DTAM,

Fondation d'entreprise Hermès,

Inlex IP Expertise

ADIAF

Collectors who commit themselves to supporting and promoting the French scene

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Collectors who commit themselves to supporting and promoting the French scene

Founded in 1994, the ADIAF – Association for the International Diffusion of French Art (legislation 1901) - is **the most important group of contemporary art collectors in France today**. Presided over by Gilles Fuchs, former chairman of NINA RICCI, collector and winner of the 2003 Montblanc prize for cultural patronage, the association now counts more than 250 members. The ADIAF's ambition is, above all, to **support contemporary French art** and contribute to **raising its international profile by making France's young artistic scene better known worldwide**. The ADIAF also intends to develop a "collector's spirit" and make a wider public aware of the vitality of contemporary creation.

Main events include:

The Marcel Duchamp Prize, a collectors' prize created by the ADIAF in 2000 to support and promote French artists as well as foreign artists living in France.

Exhibitions of artists who are representative of the French scene

Exhibitions of artists representative of the French scene: the ADIAF organizes exhibitions of works from private collections: "France, a New Generation" in Madrid and Sintra (1999); "Arrêts sur Images" at the Kunst-Werke, Berlin (2001); Exhibition "Autour du PRIX MARCEL DUCHAMP" shown at several events: ArtMoscou (2004), Cologne Art Fair (2005), "La Force de l'Art" in Paris (2006). Projects in Japan, the USA and Russia.

Triennial exhibition "De leur temps": making up a unique panorama of recent acquisitions by French collectors, it testifies to their strong commitment to the art "of their times": first exhibition in Lille/Tourcoing in 2004, second in Grenoble in 2007 and a third planned for 2010 in Strasbourg.

Program of activities proposed to members of the association: meetings with artists, visits to private collections, exhibition previews, collectors' trips, conferences...

MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE

Bringing together the most innovative artists of their generation

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).

The Marcel Duchamp Prize was **created in 2000 by the ADIAF**. Its ambition is to honour a French artist or artist residing in France, representative of his or her generation, and working in the field of the plastic and visual arts: installation, video, painting, photography, sculpture ... In keeping with the essential artist from whom it takes its name, this prize wishes **to bring together the most innovative artists of their generation and encourage all the new artistic forms** that stimulate creation. This one-of-a-kind collector's prize allows a new generation of artists to benefit from a structure that promotes their recognition, gives much greater visibility to their works and raises their profile on the international scene.

The Marcel Duchamp Prize is organized in partnership with **the Centre Pompidou, National Museum of Modern Art**, which has chosen to widen its way of selecting exhibited artists via the eye of the collector. **Since 2005, the FIAC**, Paris International Contemporary Art Fair, has joined forces with the organizers and offers a wide showcase to the selected artists, giving them even greater visibility with French and foreign collectors. The result of a private initiative relayed by a public institution, the Marcel Duchamp Prize mobilizes a **network of people from the art world of outstanding merit**: artists selected according to the most rigorous criteria and curators from the most important institutions as well as French collectors.

MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE

Since its launch, **more than 40 artists, winners and nominees**, have been honoured by the Marcel Duchamp Prize. They make up a unique panorama of French creation reflecting all of its richness and diversity..

HOW IT WORKS

The originality of the MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE resides in the way the artists are selected: it is the members of the ADIAF's selection committee, i.e. the collectors, who establish the list of nominated artists. The "selection of artists" is then submitted to an international jury of experts highly respected for their opinions throughout the contemporary art world, including curators and critics as well as French and foreign collectors. The presentation of each artist's work is made by a reporter chosen by the artist himself. The selection committee and international jury are renewed for each prize.

Prize's endowment

Nominated artists

MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE exhibition at the FIAC

Publication by the ADIAF of a catalogue of the four selected artists

Winner

2 month one person show at the Centre Pompidou in the 315 space

Financial endowment of 35 000 euros made by the ADIAF

Participation by the ADIAF in the production of the work

Publication by the Centre Pompidou of a catalogue of the winning artist.

9th Marcel Duchamp Prize

A selection of 4 artists from the 70's generation
Illustrating the effervescence of contemporary art in France

Saâdane AFIF, born in 1970 - sculpture, installation

Damien DEROUBAIX, born in 1972 - painting

Nicolas MOULIN, born in 1970 - video

Philippe PERROT, born in 1967 - painting

The 2009 Prize will be marked by an outstanding event:

The French Pavilion at the 2010 SHANGHAI Universal Fair is inviting the artists from the 2009 Marcel Duchamp Prize to China as representatives of contemporary French art. The exhibition will be organized in June 2010 with the support of Sanofi-Aventis, partner of the Marcel Duchamp Prize since 2008

The main dates:

22nd to 25th October 2009 - PARIS

EXHIBITION OF THE NOMINATED ARTISTS

FIAC - Cour Carrée in the Louvre - stands C33/35/37/39/41

WINNER'S ANNOUNCEMENT: Saturday, 24th October, 11 a.m.

1st to 30th June 2010 - SHANGHAI

EXHIBITION OF THE NOMINATED ARTISTS

2010 SHANGHAI Universal Fair, French Pavilion

September/November 2010 - PARIS

EXHIBITION OF THE 2009 WINNER

Centre Pompidou, National Museum of Modern Art, 315 space

22nd to 25th October 2009

International Jury for the 2009 Marcel Duchamp Prize

James Cottrell, Collector (United States)

Gilles Fuchs, President of the ADIAF (France)

Dakis Joannou, Collector (Greece)

Kasper König, Director of the Ludwig Museum, Cologne (Germany)

Charlotte Laubard, Director of the CAPC Bordeaux (France)

Jacqueline Matisse-Monnier, Artist (France, United States)

Alfred Pacquement, Director of the National Museum of Modern Art, Centre Pompidou (France)

Reporters for 2009

Caroline Bourgeois, Exhibition Commissioner, Artistic Consultant to the François Pinault Foundation, for Philippe Perrot,

Zoë Gray, Curator at the Witte de With (Rotterdam), for Saâdane Afif,

Eric Mangion, Director of the Centre National d'Art Contemporain de la Villa Arson in Nice, for Nicolas Moulin,

Ralph Melcher, Director of the Musées de la Sarre à Saarbrücken, for Damien Deroubaix

Saâdane AFIF born in Vendôme in 1970

Sculpture, installation

Lives and works in Berlin

Reporter: Zoë Gray, Curator at the Witte de With (Rotterdam)

Galerie Michel Rein, Paris

A French artist, winner in 2005 of the international prize for contemporary art by the Fondation Prince Pierre de Monaco, Saâdane Afif creates sensorial installations that mix sculpture, video, music and light shows. The artist works on the exploration of plastic languages in order to demonstrate the complexity of the world. His work is marked by the logic of cooperation and the creation of bridges between disciplines. His installations in situ, simultaneously light yet serious in spirit, are the result of many working collaborations. For the writing of the texts, Saâdane Afif solicits the help of writers and art critics by asking them to "transcribe" some of his works into song; then invites musicians to put the words into music. His credo: "Our society and the structures governing it, including the art world, profoundly encourage a withdrawal into self, whereas ideas and forms are often better shared."

"Saâdane Afif's work is simultaneously incredibly simple and extraordinarily complex, at once familiar and strange. Despite operating within a recognizable framework of contemporary French sculpture, he stands outside the usual networks of French contemporary art with a career and outlook that is increasingly international."

Zoë Gray (Extract from the 2009 Marcel Duchamp Prize catalogue).



Saâdane Afif

The Rehearsal, (Suspense vs Blue Time)

Installation / Concert by Vale Poher

Variable dimensions

View of the exhibition *French kissing in the USA*, The Moore Space, USA, 2007

Courtesy of Galerie Michel Rein, Paris

Damien DEROUBAIX born in Lille in 1972

Painter

Lives and works in Berlin

Reporter: Ralph Melcher, Director of the Musées de la Sarre à Saarbrücken
Galerie In Situ, Paris

Damien Deroubaix is the most German of the French painters. He is known for his large, even very large, format watercolours in which the artist combines historical references (Dada, Bacon...) with the "trash" aesthetics and angry slogans of the grindcore music bands. Damien Deroubaix's paintings-on-paper use patterns and symbols that seem to emerge from a nightmarish universe: monsters, skeletons, scenes of violence, war machines and arms all looming from morbid environments. Although these visions of horror are dominated by darkness, a more in-depth view of the works enables us to recognize the symbols that have long belonged to our collective memory. His sources of inspiration are the history of art and popular Western cultures as well as more faraway places such as Mexico or Asia, but also a daily globalized culture (he has just spent a year in New York) and the contemporary pop culture. He has taken part in La Force de l'Art (2).

"The immediateness and the crudeness, if not the obscenity of these images, do not serve to unmask their own aggressiveness but rather set themselves up against the duplicity of their social use. The place in which we find ourselves is not located outside of ourselves but comes from the imagination of humanity. Thus, in an almost Freudian manner, Damien Deroubaix leads painting towards a catharsis of signs."

Ralph Melcher. (Extract from the 2009 Marcel Duchamp Prize catalogue).



Damien Deroubaix

Control, 2008

Watercolour, ink and acrylic on paper

330 x 450 cm

Cottrell-Lovett Collection, NYC

Photo: Damien Deroubaix

Courtesy of In Situ Fabienne Leclerc, Paris

Nicolas MOULIN

born in Paris in 1970

Video

Lives and works in Berlin

Reporter: Eric Mangion, Director of the Centre National d'Art Contemporain de la Villa

Arson, in Nice

Galerie Chez Valentin, Paris

An artist representative of French numerical art, Nicolas Moulin became known in 2001 with the emblematic VIDER PARIS and his alarming images of concrete buildings in which the streets of Paris are devoid of any trace of life. Winner of the Arcimbaldo award in 2006, this photographer-video-maker who lives in Berlin, is interested in the urban, architectural and technological mythologies that rule our societies. Often making reference to the cinema and to 20th century movements – Russian Constructivists, Minimalists, Ultra-Modernists from the 60s – his cold and disincarnate works are steeped in a world of science fiction inspired by Phillip K Dick's novels.

"Obviously, Nicolas Moulin has a poetic feel for desuetude, where anything that has only just been built is immediately perceived as an obsolete vestige of our history. This explains the state of weightlessness in which the artist's images are floating in a range of muted colours, mainly in shades of blue or grey, mixed with telluric sounds and architectural environments, simultaneously restrictive yet comforting."

Éric Mangion. (Extract from the 2009 Marcel Duchamp catalogue).



Nicolas Moulin

"Vider Paris", 1998-2001

CD, slideshow software, audio CD

Variable dimensions

Collection of the Musée d'Art Moderne et Contemporain de Strasbourg, Collection of the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris

Courtesy of Galerie Chez Valentin

Philippe PERROT born in Paris in 1967

Painting

Lives and works in Paris

Reporter: Caroline Bourgeois, Exhibition Commissioner, Artistic Consultant to the François Pinault Foundation

Galerie Art:Concept, Paris

Painted in oil on canvasses prepared with an acid yellow pigment, Philippe Perrot's paintings are pictorial micro-narratives which catch the eye in the same manner as sequential shots in a surrealistic film. Wounded men, half-naked women and disfigured bodies cohabit with fishes and birds, as well as phallic objects. Harsh colours, the flattening of the image, the disorder in the perspective, the superimposition of scenes and disparate elements, the blurring of contours and the mix of oils with medical disinfectants, all serve to characterize Philippe Perrot's work. His works depict as many mood swings and complex visions, resulting from daily hallucinations, as they do repressed family secrets. Although the family is his theme of predilection, his paintings also include news images, politicians or geopolitical conflicts. He has taken part in La Force de l'Art (2)

In an era when everything is merged together, when the bell of globalization has tolled, Philippe Perrot draws us into the experience of the individual story. The artist dares to treat man's darkest obsessions. Nothing scares the artist who allows himself to ponder on such questions as fundamental as sexuality, old age, filthiness or utopias. As Jacques Lacan used to say, "Reality is when you bang into it", and I use him as my inspiration to sum up any art experience, including that of Philippe Perrot's very particular work: we bang into it
Caroline Bourgeois (Extract from the 2009 Marcel Duchamp Prize catalogue)



Philippe Perrot
Assèchement des zones humides, 2008
Oil painting and antiseptics on canvas
65 x 81 cm
Private Collection
Courtesy of Art:Concept, Paris

Partners of the MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE

The support of companies committed to cultural patronage

Major partners

LOMBARD ODIER - www.lombardodier.com

Lombard Odier is one of the oldest established private bankers in Switzerland and Europe. Aware of the importance of leaving future generations with a renewed and enriched heritage, since 2000 they have supported the Marcel Duchamp Prize because of its encouragement of creativity amongst the young in France today.

SANOFI-AVENTIS - www.sanofi-aventis.com

A global leader in the pharmaceutical industry, exploring a broad spectrum of innovative approaches in the field of R&D, Sanofi-Aventis has given its support to the Marcel Duchamp Prize since 2008 and in particular to its promotion of contemporary French art on the international scene.

Actors in the art world

Fondation d'entreprise Hermès - www.fondationentreprisehermes.org

In its commitment to supporting contemporary art, the Foundation programs events for each of the eight Hermès exhibition spaces worldwide. It is also a committed sponsor of many other social as well as cultural projects including the Marcel Duchamp Prize's promotion and accompaniment of young artists.

ARTCURIAL – Briest Poulain F.Tajan - www.artcurial.com

The leading French auction house, Artcurial is part of the international reality of the art market. Through the Marcel Duchamp Prize, Artcurial wishes to help raise the profile of young French artists on the international scene.

Partners of the MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE

Innovative young companies _____

INLEX IP EXPERTISE - www.inlex.com

Because talent must be encouraged especially when it is creative, original and new... Inlex, consultants in intellectual property rights and its specialized department «ARTINLEX», has wished to promote contemporary art by actively supporting the ADIAF's awarding of the Marcel Duchamp Prize.

Day Trade Asset Management/DTAM- www.dtam.fr

Founded by two bond traders in 2002, this Asset Management Company has known how to combine innovation with long-standing achievement. In sponsoring young and talented French artists alongside the ADIAF, DTAM wishes to encourage innovation and contribute to selecting tomorrow's perennial benchmarks.

With the collaboration of _____

The agency aXense - www.axense.fr

The online television CREATIVTV - www.creativtv.net

2009 PRIZE

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