



PRESS KIT
March 2010

FRANCE - Contemporary Art

THE MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE

at the 2010 SHANGHAI World Expo

In June 2010, the French Pavilion will be showing an exhibition of the artists from the 2009 MARCEL DUCHAMP Prize, a prestigious award created by the ADIAF, Association for the International Diffusion of French Art. www.adiaf.com

Four of the most innovative French artists will be presenting a panorama of contemporary art in France, in all its richness and diversity

1st to 30th June 2010
2010 SHANGHAI World Expo,
French Pavilion, FOCUS space
Zone C09 - Pu Ming Road and Xi Ying Road, 200 125 Shanghai

Saâdane AFIF, born in 1970

French artist whose sensorial installations mix sculpture, video, music and light shows. Winner of the 2009 Marcel Duchamp Prize

Damien DEROUBAIX, born in 1972

Known for his "trash" watercolours, his monumental sculptures and his installations incorporating painting, drawing, collage and engraving

Nicolas MOULIN, born in 1970

Video artist representative of French digital art

Philippe Perrot, born in 1967

An intimist painter of everyday life whose paintings evoke the sequential shots from a surrealist film

THE MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE

The **MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE** was created in 2000 by the **ADIAF**, Association for the International Diffusion of French Art, the most important group of **French contemporary art collectors**. Supported by companies originating or based in France, the ADIAF has been formed to help artists by promoting a better understanding as well as **the reputation of the contemporary French art scene worldwide**.

Placed under the auspices of Marcel Duchamp, French artist and great pioneer of contemporary art, the prize aims to make people **aware of the vivacity of the current French scene through its most innovative artists and** encourage all the new artistic forms that stimulate creation.

Every year, **four artists** are selected by a committee of collectors. Representative of their generation and working in the **plastic and visual arts**, these artists must be of French nationality or have chosen to reside in France for their work. They must have already received some degree of recognition (exhibitions, press articles) and be under 50 years of age. Chosen by a jury comprised of international experts (museum directors and collectors), the winner is invited to create an original work that is shown for three months at the Centre Pompidou.

The Marcel Duchamp Prize is organized in partnership with the French National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, the **Centre Pompidou**, today one of the greatest museums worldwide. The prize also benefits from its collaboration with the **FIAC**, the International Paris Art Fair, organized every year in the month of October.

"2010 is a particularly important year for the ADIAF as we are celebrating the 10th anniversary of the MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE, comments **Gilles Fuchs, President of the ADIAF**. Today, our prize counts among the most prestigious awards in the contemporary art world. Therefore, I am particularly happy to be able to present the four artists from the 2009 prize in the French Pavilion at the 2010 SHANGHAI World Expo. Indeed, on this occasion, these artists will be the **ambassadors of contemporary French art to China**."

The MARCEL DUCHAMP Prize Shanghai exhibition benefits from the **support of the French pharmaceutical group SANOFI-AVENTIS**.

Sculpture, installation Winner of the 2009 Marcel Duchamp Prize

The French artist Saâdane Afif creates sensorial installations that mix sculpture, video, music and light shows. His work is marked by the logic of cooperation and the creation of bridges between disciplines.

"Simultaneously incredibly simple and extraordinarily complex, Afif's sculptures and installations exhibit a melancholic yet festive beauty"

- Zoë Gray, Curator at the Witte de With in Rotterdam

- Extracts from the 2009 Marcel Duchamp Prize catalogue

Winner of the 2009 Marcel Duchamp Prize, Saâdane Afif is invited by the National Museum of Modern Art, Centre Pompidou, to create an original work which will be presented at the Centre Pompidou in Paris for three months, from the 15th of September to the 31st of January 2011



Saâdane Afif

Winner of the 2009 Marcel Duchamp
Vice de Forme: In Search of Melodies, 2009
Photographer: Florian Kleinfenn
Courtesy of Galerie Michel Rein, Paris

Known for his "trash" watercolours, Damien Deroubaix's paintings-on-paper use symbols that seem to emerge from a nightmarish universe: monsters and skeletons all looming from violent and morbid environments. His sources of inspiration are the history of art, popular cultures and the contemporary pop culture. Deroubaix's artistic creation mainly relies on drawing, painting and collage but also sculpture, installations and more recently wood engravings.

The crudeness of his images set themselves up against the duplicity of their social use; the place in which we find ourselves comes from humanity's imagination." Ralph Melcher, *Musées de la Sarre*

- Extracts from the 2009 Marcel Duchamp Prize catalogue



Damien Deroubaix

Untitled, 2009

FIAC

Photo credit: Marc Damage

Courtesy of In situ Fabienne Leclerc, Paris

Video

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. He is interested in urban, architectural and technological mythologies. Often making reference to the cinema and to 20th century movements – Russian Constructivists, Minimalists, Ultra-modernists from the 60s - his works are steeped in a world of science fiction.

“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.” - Eric Mangion, Villa Arson, Nice - Extracts from the 2009 Marcel Duchamp Prize catalogue



Nicolas Moulin

«Vider Paris», 1998-2001.

CD, software slide show, CD audio

Installation Projection. 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, Paris

Philippe PERROT

born in Paris in 1967

Painter

Philippe Perrot's paintings are pictorial micro-narratives which catch the eye in the same manner as sequential shots in a surrealistic film. His works depict as many mood swings and complex visions, resulting from daily hallucinations, as they do repressed family secrets.

"In an era when the bell of globalization has tolled, Philippe Perrot draws us into the experience of the individual story and its fantasies He dares to treat our darkest fears from yesterday and today." - Caroline Bourgeois, Exhibition Commissioner

- Extracts from the 2009 Marcel Duchamp Prize catalogue



Philippe PERROT

«Les époux terribles» 1993
Oil on canvas
100 x 81 cm
Private collection, Paris
Courtesy of Art:Concept, Paris

THE MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE

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