



# **MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE**

**Created in 2000 by the contemporary art collectors belonging to the ADIAF, Association for the International Diffusion of French Art, and organized in partnership with the Pompidou Centre and the FIAC.**

## **WINNERS**

**2000 – Thomas Hirschhorn**  
**2002 – Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster**  
**2003 – Mathieu Mercier**  
**2004 – Carole Benzaken**  
**2005 – Claude Closky**  
**2006 – Philippe Mayaux**

## **2007 PRIZE**

### **RENDEZVOUS AT THE FIAC**

18<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2007, Cour Carrée in the Louvre, Paris  
EXHIBITION OF THE ARTISTS NOMINATED  
FOR THE 2007 MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE:

**Adam ADACH**  
**Pierre ARDOUVIN**  
**Richard FAUGUET**  
**Tatiana TROUVÉ**

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE WINNER  
Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> October, 12 noon at the FIAC

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## **The ADIAF – www.adiaf.com**

Founded in 1994, the **ADIAF** – Association for the International Diffusion of French Art (under 1901 legislation) – is **the most important group of private collectors** and amateurs of contemporary art 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 counts more than 200 members.

Playing a vital role on the art market, the ADIAF's collectors aim to **promote the very effervescent and lively French art scene worldwide** and make a wider public aware of the vitality of contemporary creativity.

The ADIAF mobilizes the energies of its militant collectors around several ambitious objectives:

**Support artists residing in France with the MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE.** This collectors' prize, organized every year since 2000, in partnership with the Pompidou Centre/NMMA and the FIAC, is today considered the French equivalent of the Turner Prize.

**Produce exhibitions of artists who are representative of the French art scene:** the ADIAF regularly organizes exhibitions of works from private collections in order to demonstrate the dynamic state of the French art market: "France, une nouvelle génération" in Madrid and Sintra (1999): "Arrêts du Images" at the Kunst-Werke, Berlin (2001): exhibition "Autour du PRIX MARCEL DUCHAMP" presented within the framework of several art events: Art Moscou (2004), Cologne Art Fair (2005) and La Force de l'Art in Paris (2006):

**Present contemporary art from the collector's viewpoint with "De leur temps",** a triennial exhibition that had its first showing in the Tourcoing Museum in 2004 and the second in 2007 (till the 16<sup>th</sup> of September) in the Museum of Grenoble. The exhibition proposes a "snapshot" of French contemporary art collections through a selection of works acquired by private collectors over the three years prior to the exhibition. It aims to give a current view of individual collections while they are being made and observes the options taken as well as the choices made in current creation. Constituting a unique panorama of recent acquisitions by French collectors, it testifies to the vitality of these collectors with different sensibilities, all of them committed to the art "of their times".

Develop in France a **"collector's spirit"** with an agenda of activities proposed to the members of the Association: meetings with artists, visits to private collections, exhibition previews, collectors' trips, participation in seminars and round tables...

## **THE MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE**

One of the strongest initiatives recently undertaken to help promote French contemporary art on the international scene, **the MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE was created in 2000 by the ADIAF**, Association for the International Diffusion of French Art. Placed under the auspices of the French artist considered to be the pioneer of contemporary art, it aims to **support the French art scene** and encourage all of the new artistic forms that stimulate creation. Its main ambition is to promote the reputation of an artist residing in France, representative of his or her generation, and working in the field of the plastic and visual arts: installations, video, painting, photography and sculpture.

The MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE is organized in **partnership with the Pompidou Centre, National Museum of Modern Art**, which has chosen to widen its mode of selection of exhibited artists via the eye of the collector. **Since 2005, the FIAC**, the Paris International Art Fair, has also entered into partnership with the organizers, thereby providing a wide showcase for the pre-selected artists that gives them even greater visibility with both French and international collectors.

The result of a private initiative relayed by a public institution, this Prize endows a new generation of artists with a structure that encourages their recognition, gives a much greater visibility to their works and helps them to acquire an international status.

The originality of the MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE resides in the way the artists are selected, as it is the members of the ADIAF selection committee, i.e. the private collectors, who establish the list of nominated artists. The "selection of artists" is then submitted to an international jury comprised of experts considered to be authorities in the field of contemporary art: curators, critics as well as French and international collectors. The members of the selection committee and the international jury are renewed for each prize.

### PRIZE

#### Selected artists

MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE exhibition at the FIAC, Paris International Contemporary Art Fair - Publication by the ADIAF of a catalogue of the selected artists

#### Winner

MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE exhibition at the Pompidou Centre: the winning artist is invited to create an original work for a two month show in the 315 space.

Financial endowment of 35 000 euros

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

## **THE 2007 MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE**

**Exhibition of the nominated artists**

**FIAC, 18<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2007**

**Place: Cour Carrée in the Louvre**

**Announcement of the winner at the FIAC on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> October at 12 noon**

**Exhibition of the winner at the Pompidou Centre in spring 2008**

**Artists nominated for the 7<sup>th</sup> prize:**

### **Adam ADACH - Painter**

Born in 1962 in Warsaw (Poland), lives and works in Paris and Warsaw

Galerie Jean Brolly, Paris

Reporter: Julia Garimoth, Curator at the Musée d'art moderne de la Ville de Paris

Traditional painting is an art of deliberation... Adam Adach tackles this sleeping continent because he knows that painting has not yet said its final word. Born in Poland, since the fall of the Berlin wall in 1989 the artist has lived in France and today shares his life between Paris and Warsaw. The themes of the paintings of this figurative artist take root in his childhood memories under the Soviet regime or in the narration of human relationships and daily situations far from any theatricality.

### **Pierre ARDOUVIN - Installations**

Born in 1955 in Crest (France), lives and works in Paris

Galerie Chez Valentin, Paris

Reporter: Caroline Bourgeois, Artistic Director of the Plateau - FRAC Ile-de-France

With an astonishing economy of means, via installations, photography and drawings, Pierre Ardouvin draws an uncertain and ambivalent ambience torn between the idea of a stereotyped happiness and a muted violence. Through perverted and idyllic visions, incongruous festive elements and inhabitable or deserted interiors, nature and culture interfere with each other forming a lame world where harmony and chaos seem to be in confrontation.

### **Richard FAUGUET - Installations**

Born in 1963 in La Châtre (France), lives and works in Châteauroux

Galerie Art:Concept, Paris

Reporter: Yannick Miloux, Art Historian, Director of the FRAC Limousin

Richard Fauquet enjoys turning around and shifting the sense of the industrial objects and images that people our modern society. This is how he evokes the way in which we look at our reality and uses the endemic ideas of our mental and psychological landscape to this end. His work researches the work of art through the banal, taking its source from exclusivism and elitism in order to make it playful and casual. Ironically decorative, his works are constantly engaged in a dialogue with the history of art. A history that he takes the liberty of mixing with these elements, thereby creating distanced links and ramifications while giving life to an harmonious environment.

### **Tatiana TROUVÉ -Installations**

Born in 1968 in Cosenza (Italy), lives and works in Paris

Galerie Emmanuel Perrotin, Miami; Almine Rech Gallery, Bruxelles

Reporter: Elie During, Philosopher, Professor at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts de Lyon and at the Ecole d'art d'Annecy.

An Italian by birth with an African childhood, then Nice and its Villa Arson, since 1997 Tatiana Trouvé has conceived an evolving overall work: the Bureau des Activités implicites (BAI). These are modules linked to the development of the artistic process through the reconstruction of a workspace where the artist has elaborated her work from the conflicting relationship that she has entertained with her own art, with administrative bodies, time, waiting...

Since 2006, she has started a series of "Polders", structured thoughts to "contaminate" a given space within an exploration of memory and retentivity.

### **Jury for the 2007 Marcel Duchamp Prize**

**Blake BYRNE**, Collector (Los Angeles, United States)

**Gilles FUCHS**, President of the ADIAF (France)

**Jacqueline MATISSE-MONNIER**, Artist (France)

**Alfred PACQUEMENT**, Director of the National Museum of Modern Art, Pompidou Centre

**Silvio PERLSTEIN**, Collector (Belgium)

**Joëlle PIJAUDIER**, Director of the Museums of Strasbourg (France)

**Adam SZYMCZYK**, Director of the Basle Kunstalle (Switzerland)

## **2007 MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE: CONTACTS**

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## **WINNERS OF THE MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE**

### **PRIX MARCEL DUCHAMP 2006 – Philippe Mayaux**

Born in 1961 in Roubaix (France), lives and works in Montreuil  
 Galerie Loevenbruck, Paris  
 Painting, sculpture, installation  
 Creation for the exhibition in the Pompidou Centre: "A mort l'infini" (2007)

Philippe Mayaux is like a high diver, capable of the most insane somersaults. This unrivalled stunt man likes to land systematically on the stomach in a voluntarily grotesque posture, generously splashing the sides of the pool. A painter of placebos for domestic use, sculptor of electric logs, poet of the « fire that glows in the hearth-stone in placo-plaster», technician of the endless screw and promoter of the «advanced post in the Desert», Philippe Mayaux is a magnificent traitor. He makes us touch the sublime in order to break the toys that fascinate us even more effectively. He flatters. He pierces through. And then begins again.

### **MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE 2005 – Claude Closky**

Born in 1963 in Paris – Lives in Paris  
 Laurent Godin Gallery, Paris  
 Multimedia  
 Creation for the Pompidou Centre exhibition: "Manège" (2006)

An extremely inventive artist, Claude Closky calls upon all sorts of supports to develop his vocabulary. Web sites, projections of images, books, paintings, drawings, collages, wallpaper or urban electronic billboards... anything is good for commenting on the contemporary world. Closky proposes inventories, builds montages, aligns words and signs and manipulates figures, all those things with which the media inundates us on a daily basis. He underlines the absurdity and the contradictions of it all. Behind his apparent lightness, there is work with multiple meanings that he constantly reinvents with a lot of subtlety.

### **MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE 2004 - CAROLE BENZAKEN**

Born in 1964 in Grenoble – Lives in Paris  
 Nathalie Obadia Gallery, Paris  
 Painting  
 Creation for the Pompidou Centre exhibition: "Search for the New Land" (2004)

Carole Benzaken made a strong impression on the 90s artistic scene with her series *Tulips* and her commitment to the pictorial medium. She is perpetually in quest of fleeting moments and shifting images that she likes to jumble together using painting, drawing and video or even a more traditional technique like mosaics. For us, she revisits the strategy of appropriating medium images, seducing us into casting a new eye on the world around us, in works that combine the decorative with a documentary-like dimension.

### **MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE 2003 – Mathieu Mercier**

Born in 1970 at Conflans Saint Honorine – Lives and works in Paris

Galerie Chez Valentin, Paris

Sculpture and installation

Creation for the Pompidou Centre exhibition: "Sans titre" (2003)

Confessing to a passion for what the French refer to as System D, Mathieu Mercier became known in the 90s for his work inspired by leisure activities: screws, pegs, neon lights, electrical sockets and cheap building wood are his favourite materials. He fixes, customizes and rearranges the standards of mass consumerism. Nourished by a critical reflection on contemporary society, Mathieu Mercier's work discusses his interest in the object and its relationship to architecture and design. Mischievously reformulating the fundamental notions of artistic activity, he makes sculptures and installations that invite each of us to reflect and to doubt.

### **MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE 2002 - Dominique GONZALEZ-FOERSTER**

Born in 1965 in Strasbourg – Lives and works in Paris

Installation and video

Creation for the Pompidou Centre exhibition: "Exotourisme" (2002)

Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster belongs to a generation of artists who place their work at the crossroads of several disciplines and re-think the traditional forms of art. Her favourite themes include absence, disappearance, expectation... Simultaneously, her installations give free run to a narrative thread rather like a multiple perceptual experience. In the same way, her films play on cinematic codes, while remaining in keeping with what is real or create environments that take the shape of habitable and strangely familiar "rooms".

### **MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE 2000-2001- Thomas Hirschhorn**

Born in 1957 in Bern (Switzerland) – Lives and works in Paris

Chantal Crousel Gallery, Paris

Installation

Creation for the Pompidou Centre exhibition: "Pôle Self" (2001)

The initiator of highly identifiable aesthetics calling upon commonly used materials, Thomas Hirschhorn questions the artist's commitment to life and to history. He revisits the strategies of the Dadaists or the Russian Constructivists with the use of poor materials like adhesive tape, bits of cardboard or images taken from the media. These big, very often spectacular installations, question the notion of monument as well as exhibition. He develops "bugs" which propagate at the core of his works but also beyond the traditional exhibition space to spill over into public space.



## **PARTNERS**

### **OF THE 2007 MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE**

#### **LOMBARD ODIER DARIER HENTSCH** - [www.lodh.com](http://www.lodh.com)

Private bankers since 1796, the Lombard Odier Darier Hentsch Group specializes in individual and institutional asset management. The group supports the Marcel Duchamp Prize for the fifth consecutive year as part of their commitment to preserving and enhancing our artistic legacy for future generations.

#### **INLEX CONSEIL - All intellectual property** - [www.inlex.com](http://www.inlex.com)

Inlex Conseil is the most representative French law firm in matters of the defence and protection of intellectual property rights (brands, designs, models, technological innovations, royalties...). Since its creation eleven years ago, Inlex Conseil has been part of an international and pluri-disciplinary approach aiming to promote and protect the artistic and creative efforts of its interlocutors. "Talent must be encouraged especially when it is creative, original and new"... Inlex and its specialist department "ARTinLEX" have wished to promote contemporary art by joining the ADIAF in the awarding of the Marcel Duchamp Prize.

#### **ARTCURIAL**- [www.artcurial.com](http://www.artcurial.com)

The leading French auction house Artcurial Brist-Lefur-Poulain-F. Tajan enjoys an ever-growing international reputation. Endowed with a very active modern and contemporary art department, Artcurial joined forces with the ADIAF in 2006 and gives its support to the MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE.

#### **DAY TRADE ASSET MANAGEMENT**- [www.dtam.fr](http://www.dtam.fr)

DTAM is a young asset management firm, established in Paris since 2002 and recognized by the AMF. It offers its private and corporate clientele a range of dynamic funds that have achieved substantial and regular performances by developing a particularly innovative method of management: Day Trading. DTAM has also become a forerunner in "French hedge funds" with its ARIA EL funds: Day Trade Leverage. By revolutionizing the usual modes and criteria of asset management, DTAM has imposed this new style of Day Trading to the great financial benefit of its clients. In supporting the ADIAF and its artists, DTAM demonstrates the same spirit of perpetual and enduring innovation.

#### **AXENSE** - [www.axense.fr](http://www.axense.fr)

The Axense agency was founded on the determination to "communicate differently". At the core of this approach, there is a reflection on communication but also on the principles of business governance and societal values. Because a business does not only play an economic role, it is important to communicate its values and to promote its social commitment. Axense proposes a communication focused more on the brand's environment than on the product. It privileges ethical communication in order to durably position the image of its clients.

#### **CREATIVTV** - [www.creativtv.net](http://www.creativtv.net)

The MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE is also present in high drive video on Internet with CreativTV, the online television devoted to the visual arts. A partner of the MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE, CreativTV invites the public to meet the winner with a multimedia portrait including a filmed interview, photo journalism, art criticism texts or documentaries.