

HdM GALLERY

DAMIEN DEROUBAIX

2020.06.22



Baum VI, 200×150cm, 2020



Seeds, 200×150cm, 2020



Great american nude 3, 250×180cm, 2020

About the Exhibition

HdM GALLERY is honoured to present a show by French contemporary artist Damien Deroubaix. This is the artist's first solo exhibition with HdM GALLERY.

Background, Use of Techniques and Interests

Having multiple influences from France to Germany, Deroubaix studied at the Fine Art University in Saint-Etienne (1992 to 1994) and the Academy of Fine Arts in Karlsruhe (1994 and 1998). He uses a variety of techniques from drawing, painting, sculpture, installation to lithography. In recent years, Deroubaix mainly works with paper cut-outs, wood engraving prints and oil on canvas.

As an artist, he is interested in revealing the violence that is hidden in our social power, investigating the incarnations of Capitalism such as advertising, models, slogans – and he thinks that vanity and death are lurking behind these incarnations.

References and Influences

Deroubaix uses a lot of references symbolically in his works: popular culture elements, biblical citations, Grindcore Culture imagery. He uses these to express his cynicism towards the materialism and conformity of the masses. Besides, historical references such as Nazi symbols and death camps represent the ultimate evil, whilst references to the Dada Movement, Francis Bacon, and especially to Pablo Picasso and the meaning and iconography of his work Guernica (1937), which shaped the artist's conception of art – all together are a nod to art history.

Key Themes

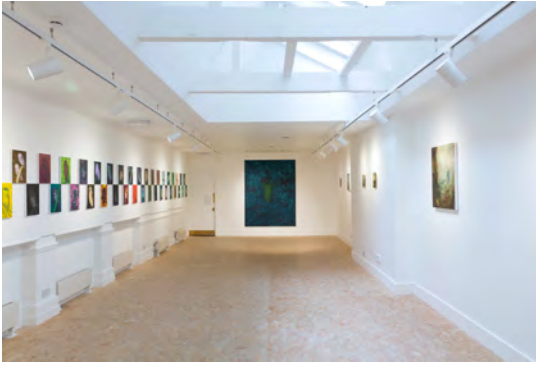
The artist's recent works depict monstrous twilight landscapes with human, animals and plants in bizarre compositions. Like Robert Rauschenberg, Deroubaix also experiments with collage – mixing modern and identifiable iconography with a morbid and apocalyptic universe populated by monsters, skeletons, weapons of war and an abundance of images symbolizing disaster and death. His motifs come from the medieval Danses Macabres with tragic from Modern history. Altogether, Deroubaix portrays a dark, chaotic and violent universe on the border of reality and nightmare based on mythology lodged in the heart of Surrealism.

About the Artist

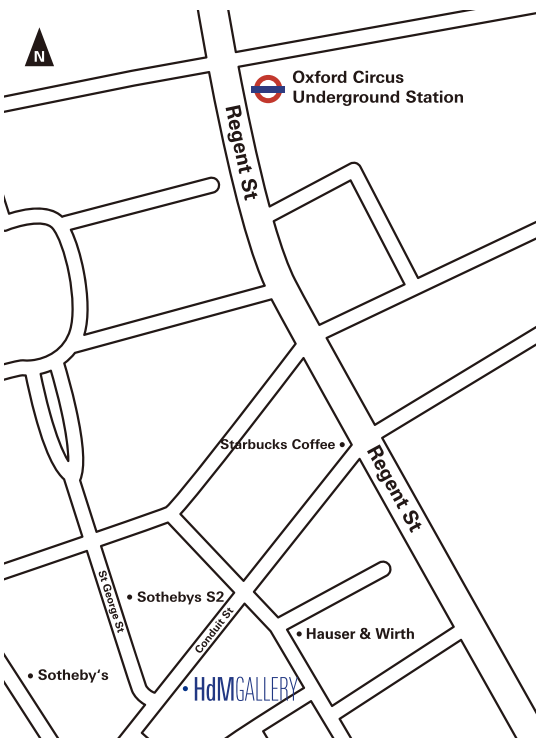
Born 1972 in Lille, France, Deroubaix lives and works in Meisenthal and Paris, France. Deroubaix had many solo shows, particularly in France, Switzerland and Germany. His works have been exhibited widely in many leading European Institutions. He held residences at Künstlerhaus Bethanien in Berlin (2005) and ISCP in New York (2008). Deroubaix was nominated for the Marcel Duchamp Prize (2009). His works are included in public and private collections, such as the Kunstmuseum St. Gallen; the Museum of Modern Art, New York; Grand Duke Jean Museum of Modern Art, Luxembourg; the Centre Pompidou, Paris; the Saarlandmuseum, Saarbrücken; the Musée d'Art Moderne, Paris; the MAMC, Strasbourg; the FRAC Midi-Pyrénées, Toulouse; the Musée du Dessin et de l'Estampe Originale, Gravelines; the Museu Coleção Berardo, Lisbon and the Albrecht-Dürer-Haus-Stiftung, Nuremberg



Beijing Space



London Space



HdM GALLERY

HdM GALLERY is a leading contemporary gallery with a special focus on Contemporary Chinese Art. Founded on a passion for Chinese art, the first HdM GALLERY was opened in Beijing in 2009 - the success of which leading to a subsequent gallery opening in Hangzhou in 2013. Founders and partners Hadrien de Montferrand, Laurant Dassault, and Olivier Hervet have garnered over 10 years of experience and understanding of the art market in China, witnessing first-hand China's rapidly evolving art ecosystem.

HdM GALLERY proudly represents a wealth of emerging Chinese artists among which are He An, Chen Han, Hao Shiming, and Wang Yi. Having established a reputation as a leading gallery in the field of Chinese contemporary art - working with established Chinese artists such as Mao Yan and Liu Xiaodong - HdM GALLERY is dedicated to using their expertise to nurture and develop the careers of these new artists. Exhibiting regularly at prominent fairs such as Art Brussels, Photo London and Art Basel Hong Kong, HdM introduces contemporary Chinese artists to a worldwide client base and broadens perceptions, understanding and appreciation of these engaging contemporary works.

Though initially specialising exclusively in Chinese Art, the ethos of the gallery has since seen a development. HdM has evolved to work with noted Western artists - often exhibiting their works alongside their Chinese contemporaries, bridging the Chinese and Western art markets through this previously unexplored approach. The result is an exhibition with a unique and thought-provoking fusion of influences and on this topic, founder Hadrien de Montferrand defines the identity of the gallery as 'an international gallery with strong Chinese DNA'. Western artists such as Martin Kollar, Ivan Messac, Romain Bernini, Manuel Mathieu and Barthélemy Togo are currently represented by HdM GALLERY.

FOUNDERS

Hadrien de Montferrand has long served as a bridge between the Art worlds of China and Europe. His more than seven years at various auction houses and Art institutions included roles as marketing director for ARTCURIAL, the largest French auction house, and for the Ullens Center for Contemporary Art in Beijing.

Laurent Dassault, an entrepreneur to the core, helped to found Arquana, continental Europe's leading horse auction house, in 2006. His entrepreneurial spirit extends to his charitable activities as well: Laurent serves as the administrator of the "Friends of Pompidou Museum's Association" in Paris, and heads the development committee for the auction house ARTCURIAL.

Olivier Hervet graduated with an MA in Classics from Oxford University in 2008. After working for Hadrien de Montferrand Gallery since its inception in 2009 where he developed the gallery's network of young collectors, he became a partner in 2012 with the goal of opening a second space in China.

Gallery Contact

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Opening Hours: Reopen by appointment from 22 June, 2020

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www.hdmgallery.com