



5 > CONTEMPORARY ART GALLERY

press release

Paris, July 2016

5 Contemporary Art Gallery is to host a new exhibition by Françoise SCHEIN. The artist was elected Associate to the Royal Academy of Belgium in spring 2016.

As the retrospective exhibition dedicated to her extra-large and permanent urban installations will continue its world tour to Rio -National History Museum, 2017- after Sao Paulo -FAAP Museum of Art, 2015- and Brussels -CIVA Museum, 2014-, Françoise SCHEIN has just been elected Associate to the Royal Academy of Belgium.

It is difficult to fathom **such an extraordinary and unusual artist, sculptor, cartographer, architect, city planner, human-rights campaigner... able to «make a work of art from the world»**. How is she able to cover as many metro stations - Paris, Brussels, Lisbon (Universal Exhibition), Stockholm, Berlin... - to engrave the **Human Rights declaration** in underground stations and other landmarks? How is she able to achieve as many **participative works of art** with local underprivileged communities and execute ceramic compositions that «repair» our societies and remind us what it means to «live together»? A 20-meter high wall in Copacabana-Rio, the facade of the Library of Les Mureaux - near Paris - as well as the facade of the Town Theater in Ramallah-Palestine, 10 tables for the 10th anniversary -June 2016- of La Centrale Brussels Art Center,... such productions rewrite the elitist art business codes. The building of **Luz metro station**, one of the biggest metro stations of **Sao Paulo**, **made with the help of over one thousand boys and girls from the favelas**, stands above and beyond all frames of reference.

Until November 18th 2016, Françoise SCHEIN's new exhibition at the 5 Contemporary Art Gallery in Paris **takes us on a journey through major spiritual constructions** and ask -at the crossroads of the sacred and the conceptual: «and what about God?» Faced with a changing world - chaos ?-, the awakening of millions of men and women trying to reconnect with the true meaning of their lives while others remain stuck in overwhelmed individualization and power struggles... Françoise SCHEIN seems to evoke - perhaps hope? - a possible «divine intervention».



«We have to make as many connections as possible» said Cezanne in 1906. Layers of cut-outs made of steel, lights, collages, drawings, maps, texts, objects, photographic prints... which combine into a unique language, each work of art by Françoise SCHEIN - whether 2- or 3-dimensional - is a allegory, an open book. Whatever its size, whether an urban permanent installation, sculpture or drawing..., **the work of Françoise SCHEIN forms an unusual network of meaning and beauty.** The combination of beauty - which creates emotions and pleasure for the viewer - and meaning allows the living consciousness of mankind to move forward. Additional surface elements draw our attention on specific details, on a map, a symbol, an abstract idea, a philosophical concept, the picture of a human face, a connection between several elements at last revealed... each work of art questions the human being, connects individuals, calls for our transcending and reinvents the world.

- **Seven illuminated sculptures** perched on steel frames take us on a journey through sacred mountains, from **the Himalaya to the mythic Meru Mount, Sinai Mount, Egyptian Pyramids, Teotihuacán, Great Ziggurat of Samarra, and Acropolis.** Climbing the mountain -the point at which heaven and earth make contact- symbolizes the way of contacting divinity, as a return to the Source. In Hebrew, the word «Elohim» points towards «the Others, those of high locations». The Islamic tradition considers that the higher place on earth is Kaaba in Mecca, as North Star exactly stands above, in the center of the sky. The mountain summit symbolizes the soul's superior qualities as well as human destiny. It is the end of human evolution, the crowning of a human being led to the summit of his development. The same idea stays inside the word «Acropolis» which means the high city, the place where temples or residences for the Soul are build. Each of the seven sculptures has its own paper roll that the collector can discover at home, like the papyrus rolls of the Egyptians.

- A 2-meter high sculpture on wheels is emerging from a dream, in a dark-blue and metallic light. One above the other, sacred mountains stand over a staircase; at the top, the Ladder of Jacob from the Book of Genesis. Do we have another option as to raise ourselves?

- A man, upside-down - drawn by his neural network - has his roots burrowing into the ground. The white-lightened sculpture made of aluminum and plexiglas unveils, like Nietzsche's star, an upright «dancing man»... Aren't we told that the secret is to build a temple in our heart, where seats the link to Consciousness?

With a stunning brightness and concise way, Françoise SCHEIN questions Humanity, History, and our unquenchable quest for essential spiritual development.



About 5 Contemporary

5 Contemporary Art Gallery hosts international artists in Le Marais, central Paris. Painting, photography, drawing or sculpture... each exhibition provides an extra touch of Soul.

A strong advocate of beauty, 5 Contemporary Art Gallery has become a natural and obvious alternative to “blockbusters” for amateurs and collectors.

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