

GALERIE

INSULA

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mercredi - samedi 14h-19h30



Écorce 3. White concrete, 30 x 9 x 9". 2022

Press Release

Béatrice BIZOT In Materia

24 november / 23 december 2022

Opening on Thursday 24 november at 6.30 pm & on Saturday 26 at 3 pm

The call of the world

"The face imposes itself on me without my being able to remain deaf to its call, nor to forget it, I mean without stopping being responsible for its misery", wrote the philosopher Emmanuel Levinas in his book, Humanism of the Other Man.

Confronting the sculpted faces of Beatrice Bizot, as open in their apparent generosity as they are opaque in their inner mystery, one cannot help but hear this call formulated by Levinas. **Something summons, solicits, and embraces us when we encounter these faces with their extinguished gazes and their closed eyes that pierce us. If not for the grace of their features, it is the density of the questions contained in them that disturbs us significantly. The disturbing effect of these faces is due to their ability to vibrate opposite affects, ranging from serenity to anxiety.** As if one of Botticelli's portraits were merged with one of Munch's and superimposed on the other in a singular hybridization, out of time but at the heart of art history. As much one as the other, one after the other, one inside the other, the two attitudes unfold in the very form of the sculptures exhibited here through an amplitude of gestures, from the monumental to the minuscule, from the tragic to the sentimental.

Beatrice Bizot's sculptures only translate the intensity of our shudders and existential agitations, rather than asserting some truths about the world and our way of looking at it or finding its place. As if, through a poetic echo, they contained within themselves the impossibility of being transparent to themselves and being taken in by the impulse of a one-way affect.

The power of Beatrice Bizot's plastic language, besides allowing herself to move within her own creative space, comes from her dialectical attention to the notions of movement, circularity, wandering, contradiction, and the middle ground. **The whole of her sculptures does not seem to say anything other than the necessity to conjugate the urgency and the patience in the movements of life, to make place for the pure as much as for the impure, for the hard and for the soft, for the raw and for the cooked, for the delicacy and for the brutalism, for the surface and for the depth, for the exteriority and for the interiority. It is not so much an association of opposites as a re-articulation in the artistic gesture of all that determines us: matter as much as spirit, emptiness as well as fullness.**



Concrete Installation 2021

Press Release



Écorce 4. White and Grey concrete. 26 x 10,5 x 9". 2022

The incomplete faces, like the few legs separated from the rest of the body, remind us that everything is fragile, ephemeral, amputable, and crumbly, despite the solid and perennial materials that comprise them (bronze, concrete, wood). **There is often a lack, a hole, a breakthrough, or a breach in her pieces. And all these perforations are waiting to be filled. The visitor's gaze could, perhaps, assume this gesture of filling. As a way of connecting with the artist's gesture. The softness of the concrete, as well as its material and color, evokes their innocence, beauty, and purity, as well as the failure to fulfill their promise.**

Aside from her obsession with breaches, the artist never ceases to work on the alteration of bodies and time, as if her objects, her faces, and her half-bodies were still caught up in the momentum of construction, a becoming. It is indeed this becoming of identity that runs through the plastic work of Béatrice Bizot, in which time, even more than space, constitutes the raw material. Her recent commemorative sculpture, "Les Portes de la Memoria" in Vila-Seca, Spain, built in homage to the victims of the Spanish Civil War in 1938, is not due to the mere chance of a commission; it translates her constant search for our lost time, her quest for aesthetic forms that condition a reactivation of memory and historical consciousness.

In the measure of collective and political history, our intimate histories are also crossed by memories, marks of time; these imprints, etched in us like river silt, were already the subject of her last exhibition two years ago at the Galerie Insula. These stigmata, this march of time, remain the matrix of his latest works, which, from molds to forms, from disarming concrete to fragile plaster, from majestic bronze to quiet wood, populate an inhabited cosmogony at the heart of which each one seeks a place adjusted to its desires, in the making.

Jean-Marie DURAND, Art Critic, 2022



B-52. Steel, photograph on Hahnemüle paper, 60 x 57 cm. 2022



Golden view. concrete, Wood, Brass. 14 x 6 x 4". 2022



Wood dream. Bronze, bois, 20,5 x 16 x 2". 2022

CAREER

Born in 1966 in Milan, Beatrice Bizot is a cosmopolitan French artist. She has lived in Italy, Australia, the United States, France, and since 2004 in Tarragona, Spain where she works. She has been practicing sculpture since her youth and studied it at the Institute of Fine Arts in Milan, Tarragona, and at Delta College Michigan in the United States.

At the beginning of her artistic life, she corresponded and collaborated with the Czech artist Jiri Kolar with whom she shared an exhibition in 2012 at the Museum of Modern Art in Prague, Veletržní Palác.

She has also exhibited in Poland and regularly in the United States, France and Spain, where she has created three sets of monumental sculptures for the public space of the Port of Tarragona, a permanent installation in the Roman archaeological circus of the same city and, in 2021, a monumental sculpture in honor of the victims of the Civil War in Vila-Seca, Spain.

Her works are presented every year in different international fairs and are part of public and private collections in Europe and the United States.



Béatrice Bizot in her atelier, Spain

MAIN SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2022

In Materia - Galerie INSULA, Paris

(De)construcció - Gallery Anquins, Reus, Spain

2021

Empreintes - Galerie INSULA, Paris

Monumental memorial in homage to the victims of the Civil War in Vila-Seca, Spain.

2020

Empremtes - Centre d'Art de Reus, Contemporary Art Cycle, Spain

2019

Territoris confluents - Gallery Anquins, Reus, Spain

2018

Public installation of a sculpture in homage to Xavier Dupré, Roman Archaeological Circus, Tarragona, Spain

Inner landscapes - in collaboration with Ramon Cornadó, Museum of Modern Art of Tarragona, Spain

2017

Edifices Ephémères - Galerie INSULA, Paris

Codis - Gallery Anquins, Reus, Spain

2015

De(s)constructions - Galerie INSULA, Paris

2014

Veus silencioses a la ciutat - University Rovira I Virgili Tarragona, Spain

2013

Jiri Kolar- Beatrice Bizot - Gallery Miejska, Wroclaw, Poland

Korespondaz - National Gallery of Prague, Veletržny Palace, Czech Republic

2012

Formigo desarmat - Gallery Pinyol Reus, Spain

2011

Passage - Galerie INSULA, Ile d'Yeu, France

COLLECTIVE EXHIBITIONS

2022

AAF New York - Insight artspace, USA.

Simbiosi - Cerap Riudoms, Spain

2021

AAF Bruxelles - Galerie INSULA, Belgium

AAF Hambourg - Gallery Anquins, Allemagne

2020

Parlem Contemporani, Covent de les Arts Alcover. Los Angeles

ARTSHOW - Galerie Anquins, Spain

Nouveau Souffle - Gallery INSULA Paris

2019

Art Karlsruhe - Gallery Anquins, Allemagne

AAF Bruxelles - Galerie INSULA, Belgium

Art i Natura - intervention with Land art in the Parc naturel dels Ports.

Feria JOYA - Museu del Disseny of Barcelona, Spain

(Dé)masqué - cross portraits, Galerie INSULA & La galerie Africaine, Paris

2018

AAF Stockholm - Gallery Pinyol Reus, Suède

2017

Foire internationale d'Art Bodensee - Gallery Anquins, Autriche

2016

Plural Femení, the celebration of the 40 years of the Museum of Modern Art of Tarragona, Spain

Joies en context - Museum of Modern Art of Tarragona, Spain

2015

Ouvertures - Galerie INSULA, Paris

2013

The Art Fund of Tarragona Port. 25 years Tarragona, Spain



Galerie INSULA

Created in 2008 by Véronique Cochois, the Galerie Insula is a unique place to encounter contemporary art. An innovative and acute artistic selection, but without a priori for a multidisciplinary programme - painting, photography, sculpture, engraving and drawing - where the quality of the works and the sensitivity that they reveal, beyond their belonging to various current trends, somewhere between poetic figuration and abstraction, take precedence. The Galerie Insula invites you to discover emerging and promising talents as well as established artists whom it accompanies in their projects.

Located in Paris in the heart of Saint-Germain-des-Prés since 2011, the gallery organizes six to eight exhibitions per year within its space. The gallery regularly participates in various art fairs and events: Photo Saint-Germain, Art Madrid, Art Elysées, Ddessin and ArtParis ...