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“Fixing the point that *escapes*, when representation gets away...”

Antoine Petitprez *familiarités (familiarities)*

Sept. 20 Oct. 30

Start of the new exhibition programme on Sept. 20

Opening on Friday 19th, 5 p.m – 9 p.m /// openings of *NORD* (north Parisian contemporary places such as Galerie Chappe, Kadist Art Foundation...)

With a party in Mains d'Œuvres: concerts featuring Gaspard Royant, Fruitkey, Make the girls dance (Pierre Mathieu), Nicolas Curvier and special guests...

Galerie Paul Frèches is pleased to announce a new collaboration with the French photographer Antoine Petitprez (1961-). The exhibition “familiarités” will feature its most recent series included “Les poules” (“The hens”, 2002), “Alberi” (“Trees”, 2007), and, “Les animaux” (“The animals”, a new series). Their authorship can easily be recognized: a mysterious and silent world, typical in Petitprez’ photography plunges every picture into a metaphysical dimension. With Antoine Petitprez, banal becomes odd, thanks to his mastery of photographic medium, always sublimating the ambivalence of his subject.



Alberi, 2007 (colour print on aluminium, 117 x 85 cm)

Les animaux, 2008 (colour print on Dibond, 120 x 87 cm – variable width)

Key dates

1994 *La Matière, l’Ombre, la Fiction*, group show, Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris (*the matter, the shade, the fiction*)
 1998 *Mannequins*, solo show, Artconnexion, Lille (*models*)
 2000 *Dans le Champ des étoiles*, touring group show (Germany, South Korea), Musée d’Orsay, Paris (*In the field of stars*)
 2003 *Antoine Petitprez*, retrospective solo show, Médiathèque Marguerite Yourcenar, Faches Thumesnil
 2004 *Brainstorming, topographie de la morale*, group show, Centre National d’Art et du Paysage, Vassivière en Limousin (*Brainstorming, topography of ethic*)
 2007 DAP (Ministry of Arts) orders the series *Alberi*
Alberi is exhibited in the famous French photo-festival *Images au centre*, Château de Chaumont-sur-Loire

The tree series were made with **large format camera**, which gives the photographs high precision and richness in textures, light... Each photograph shows a picture in the foreground that stands out against a dark background.

“The device that Antoine Petitprez sets up cannot be considered like an installation. What is given to see is a **physical nature, freed from imageries**: nature without landscape. By doing so, Antoine Petitprez photographs set up a desert, a desert of the vision, a desert as the condition of a sudden appearance.”

Pierre Sanner, *Images au Centre*, 2007

Fall programme

ShContemporary (fair, Shanghai), Sept. 10 – 13, 2008
Show Off (fair, Paris) October, 22 – 26, 2008
 Meeting with Antoine Petitprez, October
 Guillaume Herbaut, 4/7: *Slavoutich*, Nov. 8 – Dec. 20, 2008
 >> within the *European Month of Photography in Paris*

Antoine Petitprez works will be exhibited in *ARBRE(s)*,
 Maison de la culture de Namur, Sept. 13 – Dec., 2008
 14 avenue Golenvaux, 5000 Namur, Belgium.

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