

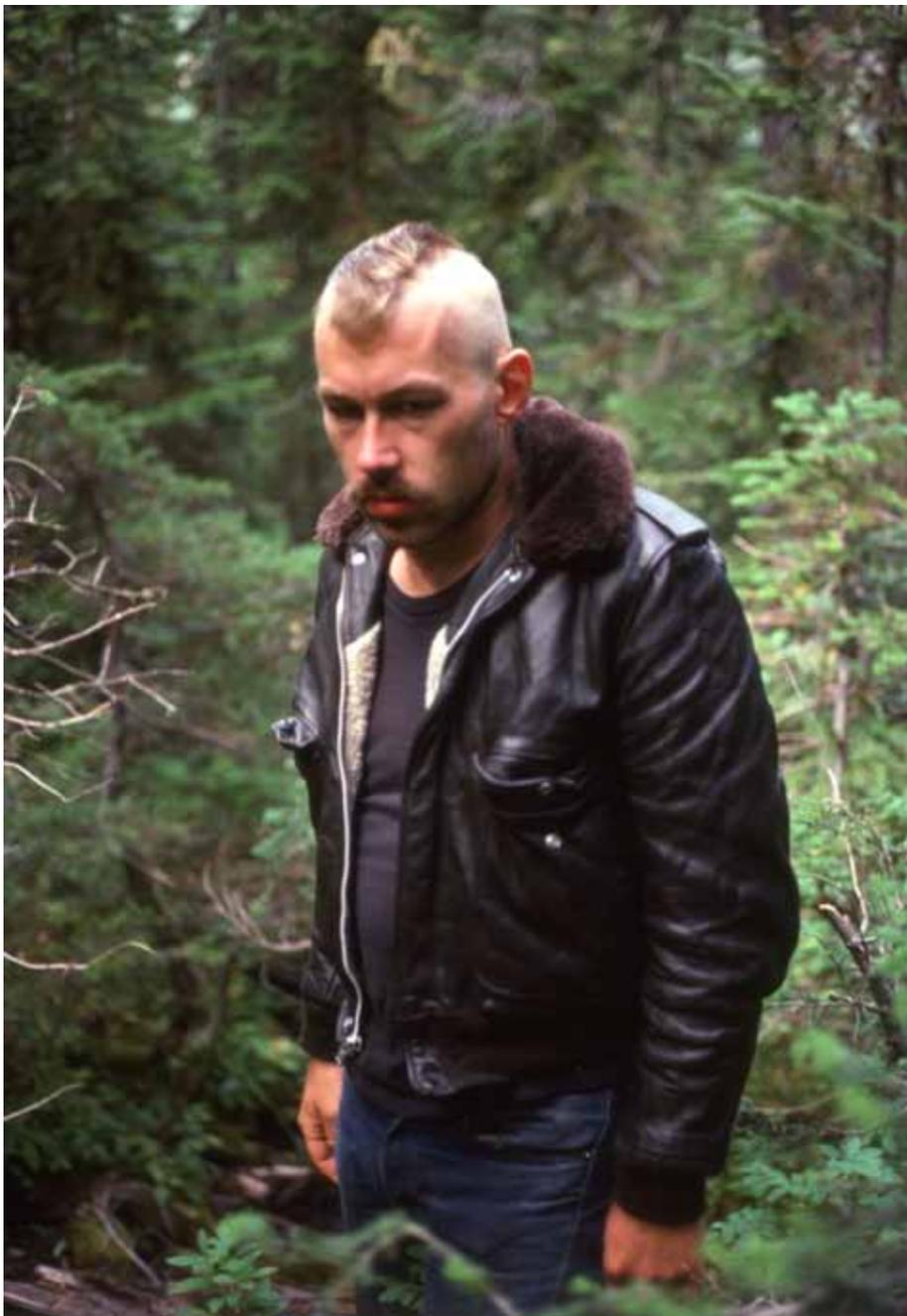
Ralf **Marsault**

HORPE AREA

Ethnographic elements collected
from the Horpe culture.

November 12th 2013 until January 11th 2014

Vernissage November 12th 2013



Horpe Area,
Waterton Lakes
(Alberta), 1978
(30 x 40 cm)

RALF MARSALUT HORPE AREA

An anthropologist and a photographer, Ralf Marsault coauthored with Heino Muller the cult series “*Fin de siècle*”, a set of photographic portraits of marginal figures (Punks, Skinheads, Travellers) which was shown at the Maison Européenne de la Photographie in 1996.

Since Heino Muller’s passing, Marsault has been developing a singular esthetic approach, combining both esthetic propositions and ethnological analysis. His Ph.D. thesis, *Résistance à l’effacement* (2010, Presses du réel), plainly testifies to it.

Marsault’s work received significant attention at feature.inc in New York in 1998, at the comprehensive exhibition curated by Peter Weibel *Phantom of Desire*, at the Neue Galerie Graz in 2003, and at photographer Wolfgang Tillmans’ gallery, *Between Bridges*, in London in 2008.

The *Combats* exhibition (October 2010, Galerie Fait & Cause, Paris) further demonstrated the complex rhizomes of his pursuit.

Now he joins the artists of the Galerie Coullaud & Koulinsky.

The stylistic figure called “*Horpe*” first appeared in Marsault’s practice in his 2003 portfolio¹. But these images, which may be considered choreographic notations, presaged a more complex future ensemble, one that would comprise the whole culture attached to them.

Indeed, the traces and specters these images evoke, like frantic multitudes, present a full geography of imagination where the state of existence is tied to a state of wandering. The very idea of presence implies a continual change of perspective, a constant paradigm shift. And the notion of otherness cannot be perceived without accepting and respecting a deep spirituality.

Our exhibition unveils a collection of photographs, objects, and sculptures. The photographs - color or black and white, display instances of ritual use, portraits of persons in a process of change or facing a turning point. These photographs participate, within the framework of the exhibition, in a scenography seeking to decipher the exchange of perspective among the statuettes or votive sculptures of volcanic rock, the wooden and composite masks, and the ceremonial weavings.

The rarely projected video *weitermachen*, shot during an experimental incantation leading to the de-victimization of an initiate, will also be shown.

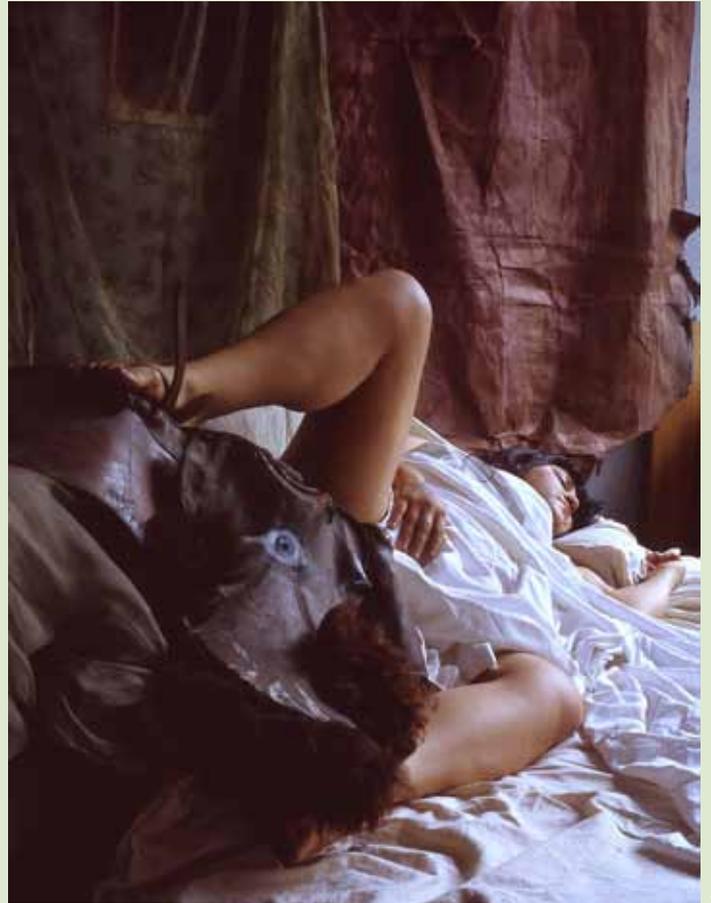
Looking at these documents and testimonies, we share an attempt of transmission, or translation, in which having a point of view on things and beings is not a question, for “*things and beings are the points of view.*”²

No discrimination therefore can be allowed. Nothing that exists can be discarded or left over, since each thing or being is inscribed or drawn in as part of the total represented. And that, specifically through the dynamics of created forms, through their sidesteps and the osmosis of their flows, the elegance of their breakings too.

— ¹ *Un Horpe ailleurs*, Portfolio 12 images, texte from Héléna Bastais, Editions In-Libris Julien Martial, Paris.

² Viveiros de Castro, E., 2009, *Métaphysiques cannibales*. Puf, Paris (P. 80)

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- 1. Rise, Berlin 2013 (60 x 90 cm)
- 2. Artefact, X-Dorf, Berlin 2013 (60 x 90 cm)
- 3. Perspectivismo, Berlin 2013 (60 x 80 cm)
- 4. Bewegtes Leben II, Berlin 2011 (60 x 90 cm)



- 1. « .. ! », Berlin 2013 (50 x 60 cm)
- 2. Tanz des Schreiens, sculpture, mixed-media (50 x 60 cm)
- 3. Archeos I, Berlin 2013 (30 x 40 cm)
- 4. weitermachen, Sachsenhausen, vidéo, 2013
- 5. Willy, hors les murs, Berlin 2013 (24 x 18 cm)



Ralf Marsault
© Yves Benoist

Biography

Ralf Marsault

Born on May 29th, 1957, in Angers (France), Ralf Marsault works and lives between Paris and Berlin. As a photographer and anthropologist, his artistic research questions the visual anthropology of liminal states.

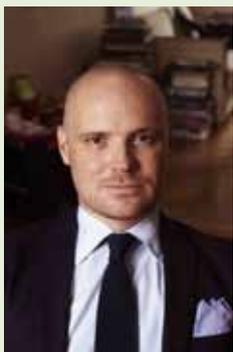
In 1996, he was invited by the Maison Européenne de la Photographie for the « *Fin de siècle* » exhibition, then in 2000 at the Heart Gallery in Paris for « *Paris en marge* ». In September 2012, he presented his video « *Work in progress* » and two other short films at the Gegen Party in Kit Kat, Berlin. His work is regularly exhibited in group shows like « *Made in Paris* » at the David Gill Gallery in London in 2003, « *Around the extreme* » at the MEP in Paris, in 2010.

Gallery

Coullaud&koulinisky



Audrey Koulinisky
© Moki Amar



Mathias Coullaud
© Henry Roy

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