

press release

Made in Paris

The Collection of La Maison Européenne de la Photographie, Paris

5 June 2003 – 28 June 2003

Private View: Wednesday 4 June 2003 18:30 – 20:30

David Gill Galleries – Vauxhall are pleased to present for the first time in London a selection of the photographic collection of the Maison Européenne de la Photographie. David Gill and Jean-Luc Monterosso, Director of La Maison Européenne de la Photographie in Paris have selected some 24 artists representing the French arts scene over the past thirty years. The selection covers all disciplines and generations, from renowned painters such as Ben and Luis Jammes to famous photographers.

This current exhibition is neither exhaustive, nor historically representative. It is the child of David Gill's particular vision of photography – a vision that is as relevant and influential as its original. Subjective he may be, but the current exhibition nevertheless turns on two themes – the body and fiction – and represents a particular take on contemporary French photography from across the generations. From Pierre Molinier to Gotscho, via Michel Journiac, Orlan and Mahdavi, the body is exposed and transformed. Where the space of intimacy dwindles, the body becomes the last refuge of the private. Here, fiction too emerges as an antidote to media saturated world. Bernard Faucon's colourful reminiscences echo the chromatic delirium of Pierre et Gilles, while underground in Paris, London and Berlin, Ralf Marsault and Heine Muller tract the last, fleeting figures of revolt and dissent. Body fictions even fuse in Martine Barat's photos of young Harlem boxers dreaming. Gill's collection swings from the familiar to the surprising; a subtle foray into France's visual world.

This show aims at highlighting, through a number of significant works, the diversity, richness, and inventiveness of French contemporary photography. Amongst the works on display, those of Martine Barrat, Christian Boltanski, 25/34 Photographes, Antoine d'Agata, Patrick Faigenbaum, Bernard Faucon, Charles Freger, Gotscho, Louis Jammes, Michel Journiac, Ali Mahdavi, Joachim Mogarra, Piere Molinier, Helmut Newton, Orlan, Philippe Perrin, Pierre et Gilles, Philippe Ramette, Bettina Rheims, George Rousse, Keiichi Tahara, Patrick Tosani.

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Gallery Opening Hours: Tuesday to Friday 10am – 6pm, Saturday 11am – 6pm. Closed Sunday & Monday

