

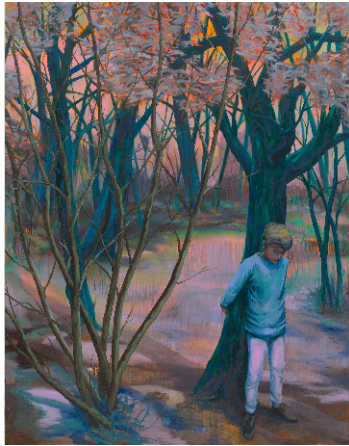
HdM GALLERY

ROMAIN BERNINI | TRISTES TROPIQUES

2020.12.05-2021.01.16



Grans Bwa XXIII, 130x130cm, 2010



Chipko III, 180x140 cm, 2020



The Diplomat II, 100x80cm, 2020

About the Exhibition

HdM GALLERY is pleased to present “Tristes Tropiques”, a solo show of French artist Romain Bernini. Opening on December 5th, it will include 14 new paintings and will last until January 16th. This is the artist’s second collaboration with the gallery after his 2018 solo show in London.

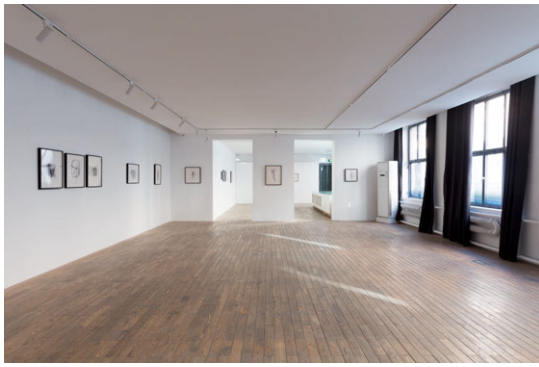
Romain Bernini’s work is influenced by a variety of sources: cargo cult, animism, voodoo symbolism etc. The current exhibition features three types of works. In the first, exotic birds are set against an entirely abstract background. This lends the birds a mythical aspect. Coming from the void, they appear statuesque and preternatural. A continuation of a previous group entitled Vahana, they are named Diplomat in reference to a work by the philosopher Baptiste Morizot discussing the relationship between man and wild life.

The second group of works features jungles. Lacking any kind of animals, these jungles gradually recess into a colored plane of color. Composed with elements from the artist’s everyday environment: plants in waiting rooms, trees from a nearby park and local florists, the sheer stillness and imposing appearance of the plants, as well as the impossibility to identify them geographically suggests a supernatural character. Yet their origin suggests a commentary on the meaning of exoticism and on the definition of the studio as the embarkment room of a plane or as an exotic destination in itself.

Finally, the third group of paintings includes men, women and children in everyday clothes set into colorful forests. Perhaps the most representative of Bernini’s works, they seem to symbolize the melancholia of modern men in their contemporary environment. Lost in pathless jungles, the characters are unable to make sense of their surroundings. This perhaps epitomizes Bernini’s thought on the role of his artistic practice: to give body and aesthetic value to a shared feeling between the artist and his audience.

About the Artist

Born in 1979, Romain Bernini is a graduate from the Sorbonne University. His work has been shown in many solo shows especially in Paris and New York. His paintings have been included in many group shows at the Tripostal in Lille (FR), the Musée des Beaux-arts in Tourcoing (FR), the Wooyang Museum of Contemporary Art, Gyeongju, Korea, and the Museum of Chambéry, France. He has been also commissioned for permanent works in Paris and in Macao . He has been a resident of the Villa Medici in Rome (IT).



Beijing Space



London Space



Gallery Contact

+86 10 59789320

press@hdmgallery.com

798 Art District, No.4 Jiuexianqiao Lu
Chaoyang District, Beijing, China

Duration: 5 December 2020 - 16 January 2021

Opening Hours: Tuesday - Saturday from 11am to 6pm
(Or by appointment)

www.hdmgallery.com

HdM GALLERY

HdM GALLERY is a leading contemporary gallery with a special focus on Contemporary Chinese Art. Founded on a passion for Chinese art, the first HdM GALLERY was opened in Beijing in 2009 - the success of which leading to a subsequent gallery opening in Hangzhou in 2013. Founders and partners Hadrien de Montferrand, Laurent Dassault, and Olivier Hervet have garnered over 10 years of experience and understanding of the art market in China, witnessing first-hand China's rapidly evolving art ecosystem.

HdM GALLERY proudly represents a wealth of emerging Chinese artists among which are He An, Chen Han, Hao Shiming, and Wang Yi. Having established a reputation as a leading gallery in the field of Chinese contemporary art - working with established Chinese artists such as Mao Yan and Liu Xiaodong - HdM GALLERY is dedicated to using their expertise to nurture and develop the careers of these new artists. Exhibiting regularly at prominent fairs such as Art Brussels, Photo London and Art Basel Hong Kong, HdM introduces contemporary Chinese artists to a worldwide client base and broadens perceptions, understanding and appreciation of these engaging contemporary works.

Though initially specialising exclusively in Chinese Art, the ethos of the gallery has since seen a development. HdM has evolved to work with noted Western artists - often exhibiting their works alongside their Chinese contemporaries, bridging the Chinese and Western art markets through this previously unexplored approach. The result is an exhibition with a unique and thought-provoking fusion of influences and on this topic, founder Hadrien de Montferrand defines the identity of the gallery as 'an international gallery with strong Chinese DNA'. Western artists such as Martin Kollar, Ivan Messac, Romain Bernini, Manuel Mathieu and Barthélemy Toguero are currently represented by HdM GALLERY.

FOUNDERS

Hadrien de Montferrand has long served as a bridge between the Art worlds of China and Europe. His more than seven years at various auction houses and Art institutions included roles as marketing director for ARTCURIAL, the largest French auction house, and for the Ullens Center for Contemporary Art in Beijing.

Laurent Dassault, an entrepreneur to the core, helped to found Arquna, continental Europe's leading horse auction house, in 2006. His entrepreneurial spirit extends to his charitable activities as well: Laurent serves as the administrator of the "Friends of Pompidou Museum's Association" in Paris, and heads the development committee for the auction house ARTCURIAL.

Olivier Hervet graduated with an MA in Classics from Oxford University in 2008. After working for Hadrien de Montferrand Gallery since its inception in 2009 where he developed the gallery's network of young collectors, he became a partner in 2012 with the goal of opening a second space in China.



WeChat