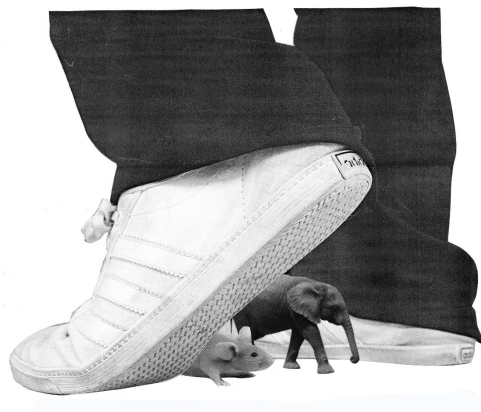


Alexandre Singh
Assembly Instructions: *The Pledge*

10 Septembre - 12 Novembre 2011
September 10th - November 12th 2011

Communiqué de presse
Alexandre Singh
Assembly Instructions: *The Pledge*

10 Septembre - 12 Novembre 2011
vernissage : samedi 10 Septembre 18⁰⁰ - 21⁰⁰



Assembly Instructions: The Pledge est la première exposition personnelle d'Alexandre Singh à la galerie art: concept. À cette occasion, l'artiste propose trois nouvelles *Assembly Instructions*. Cette série, en cours depuis 2008, s'inscrit dans un corpus d'œuvres plus large qui comprend des performances, des conférences, des installations, l'écriture de pièces de théâtre et des enregistrements radiophoniques.

Les trois diagrammes muraux ici présentés sont respectivement les portraits de Marc-Olivier Wahler (directeur du Palais de Tokyo), Alfredo Arias (dramaturge, metteur en scène et comédien) et Leah Kelly (neurobiologiste à la Rockefeller University de New York). L'artiste a composé ces *Assembly Instructions* à partir d'interviews de ces personnes qu'il a éditées et dans lesquels il a librement inséré des bribes de fiction, la plupart du temps sous forme de didascalies ou de fragments de récits. Ces dialogues aux accents fantasmagoriques, concomitants des *Assembly Instructions*, ont paru dans le numéro de septembre 2011 du magazine Palais*. La carte blanche qui a été confiée à Singh dans cette publication constitue ainsi la base de l'exposition *Assembly Instructions: The Pledge*.

Par des jeux d'assemblage et de manipulation des faits, des propos de chacun et des potentielles images qui émergent de ces conversations, l'artiste dépasse la simple transcription visuelle de la réalité. S'inspirant de la philosophie platonicienne, du théâtre antique autant que du talk-show, Singh propose de faire vivre les idées autrement, en les donnant à voir sous des formes enchantées.

Le principe formel de composition et de distribution des images des *Assembly Instructions* est caractéristique de l'œuvre de Singh. Chaque ensemble offre de nombreuses possibilités d'interprétations, comme un système à choix multiples à partir duquel des fictions autant que des rapprochements formels sont envisagés ou envisageables. Ce sont des liens graphiques qui relient les collages encadrés, mais ces simples lignes noires ne disent rien ou pas grand-chose de la nature du rapprochement qui existe entre deux images. Ce lien se renouvelle à chaque intersection combinant sans complexe divers registres et méthodes de classification, chaque collage demeure donc un nœud ou une jonction propice à plusieurs chemine-ments de la pensée et de la vue. La contingence de ce processus emprunte autant à l'écriture automatique des surréalistes qu'au flâneur contempo- rain qui déambule quotidiennement sur Internet.

Caroline Soyez-Petithomme

*LANCEMENT EN PRÉSENCE DE L'ARTISTE LE JEUDI 15 SEPTEMBRE DE 18H à 20H / LIBRAIRIE DU PALAIS DE TOKYO

art: concept, Paris_13 rue des Arquebusiers 75003 Paris_ www.galerieartconcept.com
Horaires d'ouverture : du mardi au samedi de 11 à 19 heures

Press release
Alexandre Singh
Assembly Instructions: *The Pledge*

September the 10th - November the 12th 2011
opening : Saturday the 10th of September 6 p.m - 9 p.m



Assembly Instructions: *The Pledge* is Alexandre Singh's first solo exhibition at art: concept. On the occasion of this exhibition, Singh has created three new Assembly Instructions. This series, that the artist has been working on since 2008, forms part of a large and variegated practice that includes performances, lectures, installations, radio, and theatre plays.

The three wall diagrams displayed in the gallery operate as proxy-portraits for Marc-Olivier Wahler (director of the Palais de Tokyo), Alfredo Arias (playwright, director and actor) and Dr. Leah Kelly (neurobiologist at the Rockefeller University of New York). Singh has developed these new Assembly Instructions from a series of interviews he conducted with each of his subjects that were subsequently re-edited and fictionalised through the liberal addition of stage-directions, narrative fragments and visual re-imaginings. These dialogues, of a highly fantastical nature, are together with the collages from the Assembly Instructions the basis of Singh's 'carte-blanche' intervention in the current September 2011 issue of Palais magazine*.

Through the reassembling and manipulation of the facts, personal opinions and potential imagery evoked by each interview, Singh's diagrams create something beyond the simple illustration of reality. Drawing his inspiration from platonic philosophy, ancient theatre and the conversational model of mass-media, the artist attempts to bring the interviewees ideas to life by giving them shape in a novel and visually enchanting form.

The compositional elements and rules that govern the display of images in the Assembly Instructions is characteristic of Singh's work in general. Each arrangement suggesting multiple possible interpretations, like a multiple choice questionnaire in which the fictions and visual relationships of the different elements are either shown explicitly or open to suggestion. Though the collages are all concretely linked together through the use of simple graphic lines, the lines themselves reveal little as to the possible relationships between any two images. These same pencil lines that connect each frame; constantly crossing and splitting off; never suggest any hierarchy or method of classification. In each diagram, the individual collage acts like a knot or junction from which different thought patterns and visual pathways emanate. These processes of connection share as much an affinity with the surrealists' methods of automatic-writing as they do with the daily wanderings of the contemporary flaneur as he journeys upon the world wide web.

Caroline Soyez-Petithomme
traduction: Frieda Schumann

*LAUNCH IN THE PRESENCE OF THE ARTIST ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH FROM 6PM TO 8PM / PALAIS DE TOKYO'S BOOKSTORE

art: concept, Paris_13 rue des Arquebusiers 75003 Paris_ www.galerieartconcept.com
Openings hours : Tuesday to Saturday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.



vue de l'exposition *Assembly Instructions: The Pledge*, art: concept, paris, du 10 Septembre au 12 Novembre 2011
exhibition view *Assembly Instructions: The Pledge*, art: concept, paris, 10th of September to 12th of November 2011



vue de l'exposition *Assembly Instructions: The Pledge*, art:concept, paris, du 10 Septembre au 12 Novembre 2011
exhibition view *Assembly Instructions: The Pledge*, art:concept, paris, 10th of September to 12th of November 2011



vue de l'exposition *Assembly Instructions: The Pledge*, art: concept, paris, du 10 Septembre au 12 Novembre 2011
exhibition view *Assembly Instructions: The Pledge*, art: concept, paris, 10th of September to 12th of November 2011



Assembly Instruction (The Pledge : Marc-Olivier Wahler), 2011

43 tirages impression jet d'encre encadrés, lignes murales de points au crayon, dimensions variables, édition de 3+2ea
43 framed inkjet ultrachrome archival prints and dotted pencil lines, dimensions variable, edition of 3+2ap



Assembly Instruction (The Pledge : Marc-Olivier Wahler), 2011

43 tirages impression jet d'encre encadrés, lignes murales de points au crayon, dimensions variables, édition de 3+2ea
43 framed inkjet ultrachrome archival prints and dotted pencil lines, dimensions variable, edition of 3+2ap



Assembly Instruction (The Pledge : Marc-Olivier Wahler), 2011

43 tirages impression jet d'encre encadrés, lignes murales de points au crayon, dimensions variables, édition de 3+2ea
43 framed inkjet ultrachrome archival prints and dotted pencil lines, dimensions variable, edition of 3+2ap



Assembly Instruction (The Pledge : Leah Kelly), 2011

37 tirages impression jet d'encre encadrés, lignes murales de points au crayon, dimensions variables, édition de 3+2ea
37 framed inkjet ultrachrome archival prints and dotted pencil lines, dimension variable, edition of 3+2ap



Assembly Instruction (The Pledge : Leah Kelly), 2011

37 tirages impression jet d'encre encadrés, lignes murales de points au crayon, dimensions variables, édition de 3+2ea
37 framed inkjet ultrachrome archival prints and dotted pencil lines, dimension variable, edition of 3+2ap



Assembly Instruction (The Pledge : Alfredo Arias), 2011

47 tirages impression jet d'encre encadrés, lignes murales de points au crayon, dimensions variables, édition de 3+2ea
47 framed inkjet ultrachrome archival prints and dotted pencil lines, dimensions variable, edition of 3+2ap



Assembly Instruction (The Pledge : Alfredo Arias), 2011

47 tirages impression jet d'encre encadrés, lignes murales de points au crayon, dimensions variables, édition de 3+2ea
47 framed inkjet ultrachrome archival prints and dotted pencil lines, dimensions variable, edition of 3+2ap



Assembly Instruction (The Pledge : Alfredo Arias), 2011

47 tirages impression jet d'encre encadrés, lignes murales de points au crayon, dimensions variables, édition de 3+2ea
47 framed inkjet ultrachrome archival prints and dotted pencil lines, dimensions variable, edition of 3+2ap



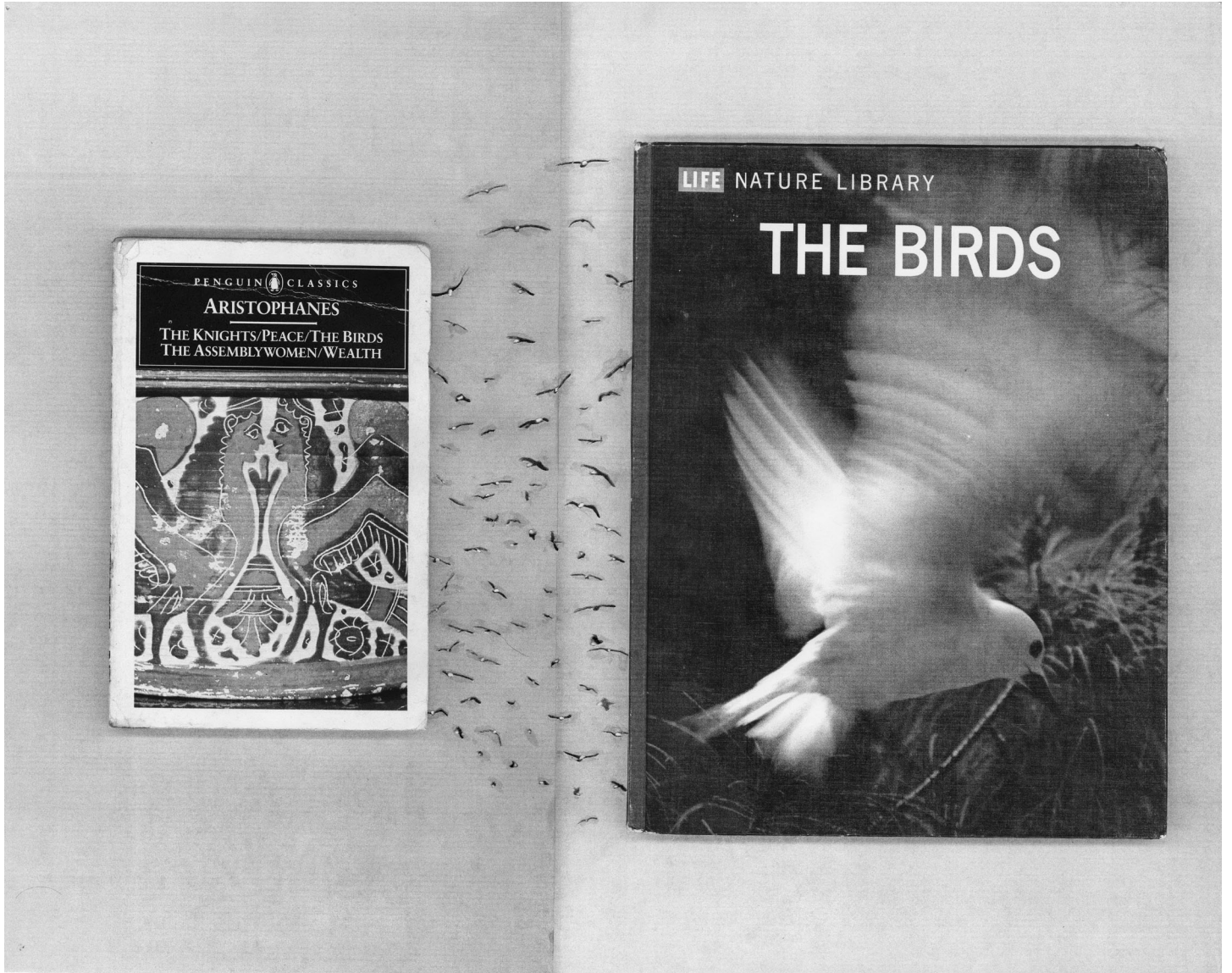
Assembly Instruction (The Pledge : Alfredo Arias), (détail) 2011

47 tirages impression jet d'encre encadrés, lignes murales de points au crayon, dimensions variables, édition de 3+2ea
47 framed inkjet ultrachrome archival prints and dotted pencil lines, dimensions variable, edition of 3+2ap



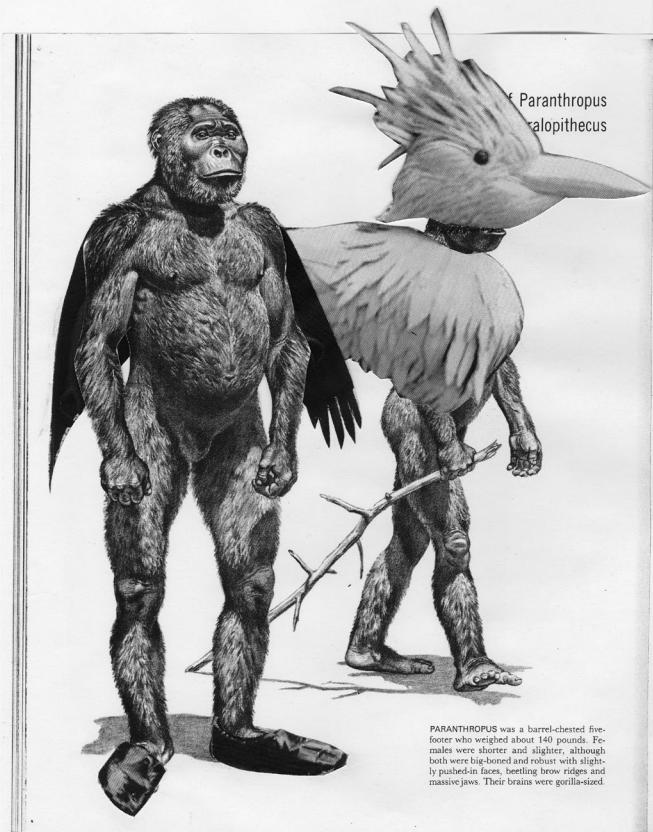
Assembly Instruction (The Pledge : Alfredo Arias), (détail) 2011

47 tirages impression jet d'encre encadrés, lignes murales de points au crayon, dimensions variables, édition de 3+2ea
47 framed inkjet ultrachrome archival prints and dotted pencil lines, dimensions variable, edition of 3+2ap



Assembly Instruction (The Pledge : Alfredo Arias), (détail) 2011

47 tirages impression jet d'encre encadrés, lignes murales de points au crayon, dimensions variables, édition de 3+2ea
47 framed inkjet ultrachrome archival prints and dotted pencil lines, dimensions variable, edition of 3+2ap



Paranthropus
Australopithecus

PARANTHROPUS was a barrel-chested five-footed who weighed about 140 pounds. Females were shorter and slighter, although both were big-boned and robust with slightly pushed-in faces, beetling brow ridges and massive jaws. Their brains were gorilla-sized.

The splendid discoveries and descriptions of Dart, Broom, Robinson and Leakey make it possible to reconstruct *Paranthropus* and *Australopithecus* with some exactness. To portray them for this book, artist Jay Matternes consulted scores of scientific

papers, fossil casts and many experts. To enhance the realism of his charcoal drawings, he first sculpted busts of the figures, adding muscles and skin in clay, combining the latest scientific evidence with a measure of his own intelligent speculation.



AUSTRALOPITHECUS was a slender four-footed, weighing under 100 pounds. Standing erect, he ran with a swaying side-to-side motion, but walked in a short-stepping plod. His jaw was slightly forward-thrusting, a result of well-developed canines and incisors.

Assembly Instruction (*The Pledge* : Alfredo Arias), (détail) 2011
47 tirages impression jet d'encre encadrés, lignes murales de points au crayon, dimensions variables, édition de 3+2ea
47 framed inkjet ultrachrome archival prints and dotted pencil lines, dimensions variable, edition of 3+2ap