

EVARISTE RICHER

Continuum

22 February – 23 March 2013

Always eager to tackle the issues that are gnawing away at him, Evariste Richer offers a new body of work that enable an understanding of the world in its spatio-temporal complexity. His work probes through various disciplines such as geology, geography and astronomy, which condition our perception of things. He observes the mismatches and dividing lines between these disciplines to give a new perspective.

In the **right-hand room**, the visitor discovers the series of *Micachromes* recently exhibited at the Vassivière Art Centre, consisting of 11 enlargements of mica sheets. Fascinated by the transparent quality of this rock, the artist has used each sheet as positive (so there is no actual film) and enlarged it onto Cibachrome paper (a technique threatened with extinction). Having played a significant role in the development of life on earth, mica is seen here in its 'intimacy'. It reveals a natural structure that recalls a formal analogy with gestural art, whether the oriental or Western variant. With *Coprolithe*, presented on a pedestal, it is clear that the association is a common practice for this artist, who is comparing here a pair of Adidas trainers with fossilized dinosaur faeces. There is a measure of humour in the similarity of the colour of the objects but beyond that, it is the confrontation of a sign (in the sense of brand too) of our times with a concretion dating back several million years that challenges us. The rapprochement between two eras is a feat of intellectual gymnastics which motivates the birth of certain works, as can be seen in the forthcoming exhibition by Evariste Richer at the Palais de Tokyo in Paris (27 February to 20 May, 2013).

In the **left-hand room**, *Geological scale*, a polyptych representing the geological scale defined by the scientific community, looks more like a calendar than a timeline. By deleting all the names of the Earth's geological eras, Richer only leaves visible the colour codes CMYK (cyan-magenta-yellow-key and black) and renders perceptible the abstraction that is time. This division of time which dwarfs Man can also be seen in the cross-section of a meteorite that the artist holds in his hand like a painter's palette (*La Palette du Diable*). By holding this specimen found in 1836 in Namibia in this way, Richer offers a fine metaphor for the artist as a key figure complementing the work of the scientist who struggles to explain the world. For *Le Mètre Lunaire* presented on a pedestal, he based the work on the method of calculation use to define the standard metre (which is based on the length of a meridian) and calculated the length a metre would be if it were based on lunar references. *Le Mètre Lunaire* is a copper bar engraved with the inscription "1m equals 27.27 cm" that enables us to ponder the format of our metric system and repositions us in a planetary context. At last, a small work fixed to the wall, *Entre le pôle et l'équateur*, places the blue planet at the centre of reflexions and repositions us in a universal context, which probably helps to put our place, here and now, into context



Exhibition view of *Continuum*, Meessen De Clercq, 2013



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Coprolithe, 2009
Fossilised dinosaur excrement, Adidas trainers



Exhibition view of *Continuum*, Meessen De Clercq, 2013
Le Mètre Lunaire, 2012 (foreground) – *Geological Scale*, 2009 (background)



Exhibition view of *Continuum*, Meessen De Clercq, 2013
Le Mètre Lunaire, 2012 (foreground) – *La Palette du Diable*, 2012 (background)



Le Mètre Lunaire, 2012
Copper, 27,27 cm, edition of 3 + 2 AP



Exhibition view of *Continuum*, Meessen De Clercq, 2013
Le Mètre Lunaire, 2012 (foreground) – *Entre le Pôle et l'Equateur*, 2011 (background)



Entre le Pôle et l'Equateur, 2011
Beetle and azurite, 8 x 4 x 4 cm

EVARISTE RICHER

Born in 1969, Montpellier, France

Lives and works in Paris, France

SOLO AND GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2013

Lumineux! Dynamique! Espace et vision dans l'art, de nos jours à 1913, Grand Palais, Paris (France)

Paint it black, FRAC Ile-de-France, Le Plateau, Paris (France)

La Fabrique des possibles, FRAC Provence-Alpes-Côte-d'Azur, Marseille (France)

Le Grand Elastique (solo show), Palais de Tokyo, Paris (France)

Continuum (solo show), Meessen De Clercq, Brussels (Belgium)

2012

Substrat (solo show), Centre International d'Art et du Paysage Île de Vassivière, Beaumont-du-Lac (France)

Les dérives de l'imaginaire, Palais de Tokyo, Paris (France)

La peinture sans les peintres, La Villa du Parc, Annemasse (France)

Défier l'éphémère, Centre de Création Contemporaine, Tours (France)

Particles, Meessen De Clercq, Brussels (Belgium)

Futur Antérieur: Rétrofuturisme/Steampunk/Archéomodernisme, galerie du jour agnès b., Paris (France)

Atlas Ellipticalis (solo show), Schleicher+Lange, Berlin (Germany)

Décalage, Schleicher+Lange, Paris (France)

2011

Momentarily Learning From Mega-Events, Amman (Jordan)

Le dessinateur comme prestidigitateur, Maison de la Magie, Blois (France)

Le monde en morceaux, Private collection, Brussels (Belgium)

Ecce Homo Ludens, Musée suisse du Jeu, La Tour de Peilz (Suisse)

Les Amis imaginaires, Fonderie Kugler, Genève (Switzerland)

Mundos Nomades, Museo Nacionales de artes visuales, Montevideo (Uruguay)

Cumulonimbus capillatus incus, Collège des Bernardins, Paris (France)

La Vie Mode d'Emploi (Life A User's Manual), Meessen De Clercq, Brussels (Belgium)

Abstraction & Storytelling, MARZ Galeria, Lisbon (Portugal)

Arbeiten aus dem Bleistiftgebiet, curated by Gregor Hildebrandt, Galerie Van Horn, Düsseldorf (Germany)

Pour une République des Rêves, CRAC Alsace, Altkirch (France)

The past is a grotesque animal, In Extenso, Clermont-Ferrand (France)

Architectures, dessins, utopies, The National Museum of Contemporary Art, Bucharest (Romania)

Nouveau festival – 2^{ème} édition, Centre Pompidou, Paris (France)

Nouvelles du jour, Galerie JTM, Paris (France)

2010

The Catalyst (solo show), Meessen De Clercq, Brussels (Belgium)

Collection' 10, IAC Institut d'Art Contemporain, Villeurbanne (France)

Light drifts, Mathieu Foss Gallery, Bombay (India)

Éclats, CEEA et Musée de Minéralogie, Strasbourg (France)

Scavi, Centre Culturel Français, Milano (Italy)

Objects are like they appear, Meessen De Clercq, Brussels (Belgium)
L'hypocentre (solo show), galerie schleicher+lange, Paris (France)
Caesium (solo show), Kunstverein Braunschweig (Germany)
America deserta, Parc Saint Léger centre d'art contemporain, Pougues-les-Eaux (France)
Les élixirs de panacée, Palais Bénédictine, Fécamp (France)
Le pire n'est jamais certain, École Supérieure d'Art de Metz, Metz (France)
Anti anti anti, LOG Gallery, Bergamo (Italy)
Drawing time, le temps du dessin, Musée des Beaux-Arts de Nancy, Nancy (France)
Ellipse / Éclipse, galerie schleicher+lange, Paris (France)
Ellipse / Éclipse, Galerija Gregor Podnar, Berlin (Germany)

2009

Radical autonomy, Le Grand Café - St Nazaire, Centre d'art contemporain, Saint-Nazaire (France)
Esthétiques des pôles, le testament des glaces, Frac Lorraine, Metz (France)
Les nuages... là-bas... les merveilleux nuages, Musée Malraux, Le Havre (France)
L'adorable leurre, Transpalette, Bourges (France)
Spy numbers, Palais de Tokyo, Paris (France)
Le troisième lieu / Der Dritte Ort, Grazer Kunstverein, Graz (Austria)
Pragmatismus / Romantismus – Les matériaux du possible, Fondation d'Entreprise Ricard, Paris (France)
From the corner of the eye – The extra-infra-ordinary, galerie schleicher+lange, Paris (France)

2008

Acclimatation, Villa Arson, Nice (France)
(), *Dans le cadre du cycle neutre intense*, Carl Freedman Gallery, London (UK)
Fragile (de l'art du), CAB - Centre d'Art Bastille, Grenoble (France)
Fabricateurs d'espaces, IAC - Institut d'art Contemporain, Villeurbanne - Lyon (France)
Disarming matter, Dunkers kulturhus, Helsingborg (Switzerland)
It's gonna rain, dans le cadre du cycle neutre intense, Centre d'art Mira Phalaina, Maison Populaire, Montreuil (France)
Recent acquisitions – Frac Piemonte, Centro Culturale Cittadella, Boves - CN (Italia)
When a clock is seen from the side it no longer tells the time, Galerie Johann König, Berlin (Germany)
Landscape, Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac, Paris (F) // Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac, Salzburg (Austria)
(touring exhibition)
Unknown land, elastic, Malmö (Sweden)
Recent acquisitions – Frac Piemonte, San Marco church, Vercelli (Italia)
+ de réalité, Hangar à bananes, Nantes (France)
Joseph Alois Schumpeter, OUI centre d'art contemporain, Grenoble (France)
(), *Dans le cadre du cycle neutre intense*, Centre d'art Mira Phalaina, Maison Populaire, Montreuil (France)
3 millimètres par an (solo show), galerie schleicher+lange, Paris (France)
Ultramoderne, touring exhibition, Centre d'art Passerelle, Brest (France)

2007

Utopomorfias / Utopomorphies, galerie Antonio Henriques, Viseu (Portugal)
Raw, Irmaveplab, lieu de création contemporaine, Chatillon sur Marne (France)
La rétine (solo show), La Galerie centre d'art, Noisy Le Sec (France)
Feu de la sonde, galerie De la Châtre, Paris (France)

L'île de Morel, Volets I&2, Centre photographique d'Ile de France, Pontaultcombault (France)
Le million et quarante-quatrième anniversaire de l'art, La Galerie centre d'art, Noisy Le Sec (France)

2006

Precipite / Precipitado, Galeria Paços do Concelho, Aveiro (Portugal)
Premier jour, Irmaveplab, lieu de création contemporaine, Chatillon sur Marne (France)
Découvrir le monde, organised by FRAC Lorraine, galerie Lillebonne, Nancy (France)
Uchronies et autres fictions, FRAC Lorraine, Metz (France)

2005

Fabriques du sublime, La Galerie centre d'art, Noisy Le Sec (France)
Le principe d'incertitude, Public>, Paris (France)
Scape, CAC - Center of Contemporary Art, Vilnius (Lituania)

2004

Détecter, Lelabo, Paris (France)
Les lumières de l'encyclopédie, station St Germain des prés, Paris (France)

2003

22^{ème} biennale d'Alexandrie, Musée d'Alexandrie (ET)

2002

Mental shift, Gallery UKS, Oslo (Norway)
L'ami de mon amie, Ensa, Cergy-Pontoise (France)
Group show, Galerie Corentin Hamel, Paris (France)
Korean Air France, Samzie space, Séoul (ROK)
Korean Air France, Glassbox, Paris (France)
Simulation, abbaye de Maubuisson, Saint-Ouen l'Aumone (France)
Under the rays, work in progress sous les aurores boréales (with Dove Allouche), Eiscat center Tromso (N)

2001

Cergy Memory #3, Galerie La Vitrine, Paris (France)
Hors jeux, gb agency, Galerie &, Paris (France)

GRANTS AND RESIDENCIES

2007

Artist in résidence, Résidence atelier, Point Ephémère, Paris (FR)

2005

Grant by the city of Paris, Prime d'encouragement de la ville de Paris

2002

Grant, DRAC Ile de France, Aide individuelle à la création, DRAC Ile de France

2001

Travel Grant, AFAA, Programme à la carte AFAA, en relation avec la Norvège et le spitzberg
Artist in résidence, Residence atelier, Mains d'œuvres / Saint Ouen (FR)