

Press release July 2024

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Free entrance Tuesday to Saturday 12 to 7 pm

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L'Atlas invites

Meessen (Brussels)

For the exhibiton Absences, mues et macules 06.09.24—26.10.24

with

Ignasi Aballí, Léa Belooussovitch, Marc Buchy, Lieven De Boeck, Hreinn Fridfinnsson, Ellen Harvey, Rinko Kawauchi, Nicolas Lamas, Benoît Maire, mountaincutters, Cornelia Parker, Benoît Platéus, Claudio Parmiggiani, Jorge Méndez Blake, Evariste Richer, Solène Rigou, Namsal Siedlecki, José Maria Sicilia, Thu Van Tran, Chaim van Luit and Xie Lei

Opening Friday September 6 from 6 to 9pm

49'N / 4°0'W



Meessen *Absences, mues et macules*

L'Atlas is pleased to announce its new collaboration with Belgian gallery Meessen. The exhibition *Absences, mues et macules* will gather twenty one artists from multiple backgrounds : Ignasi Aballí, Léa Belooussovitch, Marc Buchy, Lieven De Boeck, Hreinn Fridfinnsson, Ellen Harvey, Rinko Kawauchi, Nicolas Lamas, Benoît Maire, mountaincutters, Cornelia Parker, Benoît Platéus, Claudio Parmiggiani, Jorge Méndez Blake, Evariste Richer, Solène Rigou, Namsal Siedlecki, José Maria Sicilia, Thu Van Tran, Chaim van Luit and Xie Lei.

As its title suggests, *Absences, mues et macules* is an open exhibition. Under a title allowing us to understand the work of contemporary artists defended by Meessen, a contemporary art gallery established in Brussels since 2008, the exhibition aims to open lines of flight while offering relevant parallelisms on the notions of absence, loss and erasure. The practice of the artists gathered is based on conceptual rigor while not shying away from a certain visual seduction.

Whether via erasure (Aballi, Lamas, Sicilia), erosion (Fridfinnsson, Kawauchi, Lamas), framing (Platéus, Rigou, Xie), blurring (Belooussovitch), recovery (mountaincutters, Richer, van Luit), lacuna (Maire), chemical transformation Siedlecki, van Luit), combustion (Parmiggiani), the works collected here call upon gestures which may seem a priori iconoclastic but which turn out, in a constant paradox, reveal the density of each work.

Going against the tide of gigantism and immediacy, *Absences, mues et macules* brings together artists who could be described as conceptual romantics developing common preoccupations with emptiness, disappearance and silence. They take the opposite view of the need to show everything immediately and question us about the inextricable links that exist between all presence and all absence.

About L'Atlas

Supported by the Emerige Group, L'Atlas invites foreign galleries, foundations or non-profit organizations to exhibit one or more artists from contemporary scenes that are not well represented in France. L'Atlas proposes an original model: the artistic direction of its 5 annual exhibitions is ensured jointly by Emerige's artistic projects department and the invited partner. These exhibitions are coupled with a cultural programme (conferences, talks, readings, screenings or concerts) and with visits or workshops aimed at a wide audience. L'Atlas participates in the Emerige Group's ambitious programme of support for the contemporary art scene, with a programme focused mainly on international artists.

About Meessen

Meessen is a contemporary art gallery that brings a group of strong, international artists. The gallery occupies three floors in a house built in 1911, including a «Wunderkammer», offering a particular look on the theatre of the world. The gallery also publishes catalogues and editions in close collaboration with the represented artists, in order to promote and distribute their work.





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(1) CLAUDIO PARMIGGIANI Senza titolo, 2018 Smoke and soot on wood 59.06 x 45.28 in Unique artwork

(2) EVARISTE RICHER Le lune, la soleil, 2022 Neon (pyrex, neon and argon) 11.02 x 50 x 4.72 in Edition of 3 ex + 1 EA

(3) IGNASI ABALLÍ Orange / Joyce, 2014 Digital print on Hahnemühle paper mounted on aluminum and digital print on glass 39.37 x 39.37 in Unique artwork



(1)





(1) MOUNTAINCUTTERS Supplique pour le beau temps (Archives), 2023 Pigment print on cotton paper 63.39 x 33.46 x 1.57 in Edition of 3 ex + 1 EA (2) NICOLÁS LAMAS *Column*, 2016 Pigment print on cotton paper 63.39 x 33.46 x 1.57 in Unique artwork

(3) NAMSAL SIEDLECKI Exhibition view Sedimentation of the mind, 2023