

RUIZ STEPHINSON RAIN OF PERSONAL ECSTASY

du 16 décembre 2017 au 13 janvier 2018



Untitled (to repel evil spirits). Concrete, dried thistle, 2017

Mannerheim Gallery is pleased to announce the opening of Ruiz Stephinson, Rain of Personal Ecstasy.

The exhibition features an entirely new body of work that occupies the gallery space in an unfamiliar way, anchoring the pieces to the floor and the ceiling, with a vocabulary that is both structural and material, playing with the hierarchies that are inherent in the materials themselves. The works are formally connected to cave paintings as much as they are to emblematic works of modern and contemporary art, in conscious dialogue. Rain of Personal Ecstasy reproduces the fertile life force energy that travels through its forms, in cyclical motions, endlessly.

"You see, unfortunately I am an explorer. Today's youth are living through a period of crisis but also of evolution..." one of them said glancingly.

"Reality lies in the essence of things," the other retorted, "and not their external forms. Hence, it is impossible for anyone to produce anything real by merely imitating the external form of an object."

With a curled lip, snarling, "I tried to break the material with colour because what annoyed me was the slavery of the material"

"The artist should know how to dig out the being that is within the material," the other uttered, "and be the tool that brings out its cosmic essence into an actual visible essence."

"I deplore people who make a mystique of technique." One of them murmured, turning away. "Matter must continue its natural life when modified by the hand."

"Would you like some water?" the other asked.

"Yes, though only to satisfy the taste of collectors. It is a kind of ecstasy of fragile things and half tones. I look for something else. I took a great lump of plaster, gave it the rough shape of a seated man and then threw tar over it. Just like that, as a violent reaction." One answered.

"... I believe in a confrontation without mercy between the hand and the materials." The other muttered, to no one in particular..."

Ruiz Stephinson is an artist duo consisting of Coralie Ruiz (FR) and Anthony Stephinson (UK). Together, they explore relationships between spaces and, through a process of extraction, they connect, and utilise, developing forms in constant evolution. In parallel to their practice, they have the artist-run-space and editing house Goswell Road, that they founded in 2016, housed in their atelier in the 10th district of Paris.

The gallery is open from
Wednesday to Saturday, 2-7pm,
and by appointment.
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