



CABINET DA-END 02 OR THE NEW "HOUSE OF WONDERS" **May 10 to July 25, 2012**



Exhibition with:

Marion Auburtin, I. Barbara, Marcel la Barceló, Irène Billard, Dobrawa Borkala, Laëtitia Bourget, Danielle Chanut, Philippe Charles, Marcos Carrasquer (Galerie Samantha Sellem), Daria, Nicolas Darrot (Galerie Eva Hober), Lola B.Deswarte, Mr Djub, Lou Dubois, Kim Duong, Vincent Floderer, Coco Fronsac, Yoko Fukushima, Matsui Fuyuko, Céline Guichard, François Michel Hilderl, Karine Jollet, Toshimasa Kikuchi, Jean-Jacques Lebel, Philippe Lemaire, Philippe Le Meur, Daïdo Moriyama, Eudes Menichetti et Maël Nozahic (Galerie Maïa Muller), Stéphane Panchréac'h, Toshio Saeki, Satoshi Saïkusa, Victor Soren, Murielle Belin et Paul Rumsey (Galerie Béatrice Soulié), Jim Skull, Szajner

With the kind participation of :

Pierre Bazalgues, Alexandre Bernand, Paul-Emmanuel Dubois, Galerie Serge Le Guennan, Judith Schoffel et Christophe de Fabry

I do not know if my friends at the DA-END gallery thought of George Perec when conceiving their new exhibition CABINET DA-END 02, but I certainly thought of them when re-reading the novelist.

No, 'classifying' does not 'work', however, 'imagining' allows one to further imagine. The artists and their works have found their home in this rare gallery. On the walls, the shelves and in the corners they create new parallels, spontaneous light shows, astute comparisons and as such that which is incoherent becomes coherent. Freed from my preconceptions, I throw myself I enter into the CABINET DA-END 02 and as my eyes adjust to the darkness, the installations, the skulls 'revised and corrected' begin to 'grab my eye'. The 'macabre dances' become jubilant and modern, whilst the *Memento Moris* have yet to give their final breath.

The DA-END cavern becomes a Wunderkammer, or a 21st century wonder chamber. The works have changed and they have changed us. I find myself in the world of Ulisse Aldrovandis, the man of the world, frenetic naturalist, traveler, polyglot. A fine wit who almost single-handedly embodied the Renaissance spirit. Here I am surrounded by witnesses handed-down over time. Here I am among the heirs of cabinets of curiosities. It is a Re-Birth, a Re-Naissance. The artists displayed do not bring us closer to the living, quite the opposite, they invent a new life. A revival. Cabinet DA-END 02 is both a tribute to centuries old and a true reflection- a proposal, dare I say, both pictorial, artistic, aesthetic and new. The bias of Da-End remains, it has asserted its identity over the past two years and it is summarised in this annual event: young artists, recognised or unclassifiable with singular works and with ambitions of creating a new collection, a new start/a new base. Here, paint comes of age, the installation is connected to its century and the sculptor knows no barrier. The mediums have evolved, the techniques are modernised and the preoccupations a no longer those of times bygone. Glass Sculptures and porcelain sculptures, skulls and masques, oils and drawings, photomontages and collages, machines and installations. They all question us on the passing of time. Humanity is at the heart of this strange artistic contraption maintaining a dialogue between the present and past. The presence of taxidermist, antique dealers, tribal art galleries, contemporary art galleries and collectors is also remarkable as they have all leant unusual or interesting pieces to the exhibition. All contribute to the development of this multifaceted, rare and ephemeral cabinet. The exchange and the sharing of a certain conception of Art today are the foundations of the CABINET DA-END 02.

The fossilised cabinet of curiosity no longer exists, but in paying tribute to it CABINET DA-END 02 is all the more able to transfigure it.

Eric Poindron

Author & director of « Curiosa & cætera » à Le Castor Astral Editeur