

Georges Pacheco :: *Amalthée*

Exhibition from April 5 to May 18, 2014 :: Voies Off Gallery, Arles - France



© Georges Pacheco

From April 5 to May 18, 2014, the Voies Off Gallery presents *Amalthée*, an exhibition by Georges Pacheco.

In 2007, George Pacheco was rewarded by the Voies Off jury for his series '*Le regard des aveugles*'. Since then, we have followed the evolution of his work and have been fascinated by the series '*Amalthée*'. Revisiting the icon of the nursing virgin while questioning its representation in contemporary collective unconscious, this work is one of the major discoveries of the 2012 Voies Off Festival.

AMALTHÉE

« The title of this work derives from the name of the goat that nursed infant Zeus, according to Greek mythology. It consisted of photographing mothers with distinct personalities and diverse figures, each of them actually breastfeeding her baby, in the intimate atmosphere of my studio. It is meant to pay photo homage to this universal act, while borrowing references from Italian or Dutch Renaissance painting. There is also a reference to the sensuality which is common in most of the religious paintings since the Middle Ages, frequently close to profane subjects by including suggestive poses and nude figures.

By revisiting this icon of the nursing virgin, a central and recurring theme from the 15th to the 17th century, to the point of having marked our collective unconsciousness, I try to question the process of representation and incarnation of such an archetypal image by real and present times mothers, whom I ask to be in an «non-self» attitude, whilst fully living this privileged bond and intimate moment with their child.

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One of the aims of this work is revealing the universality of this gesture by conveying a sense of timelessness: leaving out any traces of contemporary days, relieving each mother of everything that might give away a point in time or place, I focus on the mother and child relation, as well as on the beauty and emotion emanating from this breastfeeding moment. In order to achieve it I use minimal veils and drapes, to evoke the idea of timelessness and erase these women's identity features.

Inside my studio, as single spectator of this symbiotic scene, I observe, stare at and thus extract the evasive moments of state of grace, when the outlines of an «out of time» attitude are manifested along with the sensation of a pictorial déjà vu. Far from the idea of intending to plagiarize or imitate this or that representation of a nursing virgin by using a specific model, I try to understand how certain mechanisms of introjective identification operate, in the case of assimilation of simple and yet so powerful images as those of Christian iconography Madonnas. »

Georges Pacheco

GEORGES PACHECO

Born in Portugal in 1964 , George Pacheco lives between Le Mans and Arles. After a Master of Psychology of art and a Master of Experimental psychology of perception at the University of Paris X , he graduated from the Ecole Nationale Supérieure de la Photographie in Arles in 2012.

The human and individual as well as social issues are at the heart of the Georges Pacheco's works, which deeply examines the human condition through his unique photographic approach and « the self-portrait of the other. »

His work has been exhibited, among others, at the Galerie du Château d'Eau in Toulouse, the Portuguese Center of Photography in Porto, Contemporary Art Center Stimultania in Strasbourg and Immix gallery in Paris . George Pacheco received numerous awards, including the Prix de l'Atelier Voies Off 2007 in Arles and the Prix de la Photographie Paris PX3. He has been nominees for the Talent Award # 54 Portrait. He also was one of the 16 finalists for the Photography Prize of the Academy of Fine Arts in 2009 and was named Artist of the Year 2013 by the London International Creative Competition.

More details: www.voies-off.com, www.georges-pacheco.com

→ EXHIBITION FROM APRIL 5 TO MAY 18, 2014

→ OPENING ON SATURDAY APRIL 5, 2014 AT 6:30 PM

→ VOIES OFF GALLERY :: 26 TER RUE RASPAIL, F-13200 ARLES

→ MONDAY - FRIDAY, 10 AM - 12 PM / 3-6 PM

→ ON SATURDAY WITH AN APPOINTMENT

→ THE GALLERY WILL BE EXCEPTIONNALLY OPENED ON
APRIL 6, 12 AND 13, 2014 FROM 11 AM TO 7 PM



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→ Voies Off Gallery :: contemporary Photography :: Arles (France)

Opened in July 2007, the Voies Off gallery is a natural complement to the Voies Off festival whose raison-d'être is the support and promotion of young creative photography. Under Christophe Laloi's direction, the Voies Off gallery schedules emerging or full-fledged artists. The Voies Off gallery is opened year round and located at the heart of the ancient city of Arles. It occupies a 150 m² dedicated to contemporary photography. Its entrance is free.

Useful Informations :: The gallery is open Mon-Fr, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., 3-6 p.m. On Saturdays with an appointment. **Infoline** :: +334 90 96 93 82 - photographie@voies-off.com

Voies Off Gallery is supported by the Regional Council of Provence-Alpes-Cote d'Azur



La Galerie Voies Off est membre de :

