

BEAUTIFUL

Press release

Joseph Klibansky

BEAUTIFUL TOMORROW

Solo exhibition
by Joseph Klibansky

Istituto Veneto
di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti
sede di Palazzo Franchetti,
Campo S. Stefano, Venice

March 24 — May 1, 2016

Beautiful Tomorrow is the title of the first solo show in Italy by Joseph Klibansky.

The exhibition, hosted in Palazzo Franchetti, the prestigious headquarters of the Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti, is curated by Luca Berta, Francesca Giubilei and Demetrio Paparoni. It opens to the public from March 24th to May 1st, displaying more than 30 works that narrate the spectacular creative path of one of the most interesting young artists from The Netherlands.

A 7-meter spaceman precariously balances on top of a giant chair along the Grand Canal. A frowning gorilla blows a toy trumpet in the ballroom of a luxurious noble palace. The rainforest grows between silk brocades to reveal a golden sculpture. The photo-paintings by Klibansky, in which familiar urban landscapes overlap with remote wild environments, will be displayed along with his irreverent and poetic sculptures in resin, bronze, gold leaf. The exhibition catalogue will be published by Skira.

“Klibansky”, as claimed by curators Luca Berta and Francesca Giubilei, “metabolises the stereotyped reality spread by the new media, and gives us back a life beyond the surface, projecting symbols of contemporary multiculturalism and consumerism in the expanded and surprisingly innocent dimensions of his works”.

The use of new technologies is a distinctive trait of his artistic production. The bi-dimensional works originate from the superimposition of hundreds of photographs, on which the artist repeatedly intervenes with acrylic paint retouches on cotton paper, then applying liquid resin for a glossed finish.

The sculptures, mainly cast bronze or resin, involve 3D scanning and printing in the production process. A human touch remains integral to the work in that the final coating or polishing is always operated by the artist, thus reinforcing his interest in the interaction between old and new, cutting-edge technology and craftsmanship.

As stated by curator Demetrio Paparoni, “The works by Joseph Klibansky investigate the relationship between the object and its essence, between what we see and what lies beneath the image. The sense of precarious balance of his recent paintings and sculptures reveals how sadly dystopian an image can be, which looked happily utopian at a first glance. He shows how utopia and dystopia can live in the same image. [...] The whole work of Klibansky evokes contradictory messages, in order to set contradiction as one of the founding elements of his phenomenological research. What interests him is the relationship between appearance and what appears, and the way in which such a correlation enables a better understanding of the relationship between the self and the world”.

JOSEPH KLIBANSKY

Joseph Klibansky was born in South Africa in 1984. He currently lives and works in The Netherlands. Recurrent topics in his works are everyday life in contemporary large cities, recursive overlapping of real and digital, and the conflict between the past and the future. Conceptually close to the New Media Art, he uses innovative techniques that combine digitally altered photographs and pictorial interventions. He also creates sculptures in resin and bronze, often large sized. In spite of his young age, he has gained an outstanding reputation in the art system with displays at major international art fairs, impressive auction sales, and commissions from important corporate collections.

Klibansky was recently named # 1 art star by artprice.com in the top five youngest art stars under 30 (Art Price is the world leader in art market information).

His works have been exhibited in personal and group shows at galleries in Paris, Amsterdam, New York, Geneva, Saint Paul de Vence, Brussels, Honfleur, Moscow, Cannes, Marseille, Crans Montana, Mumbai, Saint Tropez, Chicago, Miami, and Antwerp. Recent art fairs include 2016 Tefaf, 2015 Art Miami, 2014 Scope New York, Scope Basel and Scope Miami/Basel. The Danubiana Museum in Bratislava and the Photographic Museum of the Mauritius Islands have purchased his works and show them in their permanent collections. In 2015 he was invited to be part of TRIO Bienal, the sculpture biennial in Rio de Janeiro. In 2017 the Museum de Fundatie in Zwolle (Netherlands) will host a solo show of Klibansky across two entire floors.

Info

Title:
Beautiful Tomorrow
Solo exhibition by Joseph Klibansky

Where:
Istituto Veneto
di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti,
Palazzo Franchetti
Campo Santo Stefano,
San Marco, Venice

When:
March 24 — May 1, 2016

Opening hours:
everyday 10 > 18
Free admittance

Curated by:
Luca Berta, Francesca Giubilei,
Demetrio Paparoni

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