

SOL ! THE REGIONAL BIENNALE #2
SOLEIL TRISTE



If for a long time Sade, the person as well as his writing, remained clandestine, the exhibition makes space for stories and forms that are immaterial, ephemeral, sometimes invisible, in keeping with a region – formerly known as Languedoc-Roussillon – and a city that historically have maintained a hidden and secret visage. As Simone de Beauvoir already noted in her 1953 essay *Must We Burn Sade?*, “he [Sade] attempts to communicate an experience whose particularity is its wanting to remain incommunicable”. If the exhibition gives corporality pride of place, it does not stop from hiding itself in certain works, dissolving or leaving ghostly traces. It may be a blood-red, glass-bead necklace by Jean-Michel Othoniel, created in memory of the artist Felix Gonzalez-Torres who died prematurely in 1996 from an AIDS-related illness. It can be found in Lou Masduraud’s worker-turned-sexual-fantasy, a medley of sweat and testosterone hinted at by the constant drip-drop of water that makes up her voyeuristic installation *Wet Men* (2022). And in Sofia Lautrec’s *Un poème* [A Poem] (2022), the body resides simply in an utterance, as the glass bubbles of myriad shapes spread out across the floor are formed around the enunciation of poem.

As was the case with the Marquis de Sade and Gustave Courbet, both foreigners in this region but whose stays here have left a strong imprint, *Soleil Triste* reconsiders the notion of “territory” and belonging, and includes work by artists who have either adopted this region as their own (Johan Creten, Paul Maheke, Robert Crumb, Aline Kominsky-Crumb and Sophie Crumb), or have grown up or pursued their artistic education here (Lou Masduraud, Renaud Jerez, Soufiane Ababri, Vir Andres Hera).

Des missions variables / *Vue d'exposition individuelle, Mayday, Breda, 2022* © Courtesy de l'artiste ©Mente Schermbach

ers Carbon / La division de la Louisa NV 268 5 / Techniques minees sans rognon / 23.5 x 16 cm / Archaos Combustibles / Advers. Paris 2023



Chloé Viton / Oxygène, 2022 / Velours, cheveux synthétiques, argile, paraffine / 160 x 100 x 90 cm / Vue de l'exposition « Mammatus », Galerie Aperto, Montpellier, 2022 / Crédit Photo : Chloé Viton

With Soufiane Ababri, Joy Charpentier, Enna Chaton, Robert Combas, Johan Creten, Sophie Crumb, Robert Crumb, Aline Kominsky-Crumb, Sylvain Fraysse, Vir Andres Hera, Renaud Jerez, Sofia Lautrec, Paul Maheke, Lou Masduraud, Marion Mounic, Jean-Michel Othoniel, Blaise Parmentier, Dominique Renson, Nesrine Salem, Samuel Spone, Chloé Viton

Under the artistic direction of Numa Hambursin, Director of MO.CO.

Curator: Anya Harrison, assisted by Julie Chateignon

The exhibition is supported by the Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia.

EVENTS PROGRAMME

Summer 2023

ANA MENDIETA

From 3rd June to 17th September 2023

Opening : Friday 2nd June at 6pm at MO.CO. Panacée

NEO RAUCH

From 8th July to 15th October 2023

Opening : Friday 7th July at 6pm at MO.CO.

Autumn 2023

SOL ! LA BIENNALE DU TERRITOIRE #2

From 14th October to 28th January 2024

Opening : Friday 13th October 2023 at 6pm at MO.CO. Panacée

HUMA BHABHA

From 18th November 2023 to 28th January 2024

Opening : Friday 17th November 2023 at 6pm at MO.CO.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

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Open from Tuesday to Sunday, from 11am to 7pm
(june-september) and from 11am to 6pm (october-may)
MOCO. 13 rue de la République, Montpellier

Open from Wednesday to Sunday, from 11am to 7pm
(june-september) and from 11am to 6pm (october-may)
MOCO. Panacée 14 rue de l'École de Pharmacie, Montpellier

Photos and credits
Visuals of the exhibition available online on the press area
www.moco.art
Login : press
Password : moco2019

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