

Samuel Richardot

Solo exhibition

19 September – 21 November 2009

Opening night Friday 18 September 6-9pm

Press preview 5-6pm

The artist will be present

On the evening of the opening, a free shuttle will leave Paris (Place de la République, Metro République, exit Rue du Temple) at 6:30pm. Return to Paris: 9:30pm. No reservation required, seating subject to availability.

La Galerie Centre for contemporary art in Noisy-le-Sec/Paris is inviting Samuel Richardot, a painter born in 1982, for his first institutional solo exhibition. Since graduating from the Paris art school in 2006, Richardot has been working with Balice Hertling in Paris, where he had a one man show in 2008. He followed up the same year with the Printemps de Septembre festival in Toulouse, France.

At La Galerie he will be presenting new paintings dating from his recent stay in Berlin, together with a large paper installation.

From the very beginning, Richardot has drawn from expression of sensory qualities, each element finding a possible origin into a fragrance, a touch, a sound, etc.: kinds of resurgences that his memory associates to senses. Yielding painting that is figured without being figurative, the vocabulary furnished by these "mental" images – mental in that they depict a virtual reality – is a run-through of strangely familiar symbols we cannot quite pin down. Some are taken from the medical repertoire – bodily organs – while others are natural entities like branches, puddles and stones reduced to their simplest state. More recent additions to the Richardot practice are the outcome of such painting-related gestures and incidents as runs, stains, bubble wrap prints, sticky tape, burns, etc.: controlled accidents conjuring up a history of process art.

The exhibition at La Galerie fans out from a hanging of works in which motifs painted on canvas are to be found side by side with paper cut-outs. Deliberately subjected to the constraints inherent in the use of standard formats – either large and horizontal (such as landscapes and screens) or very small – Richardot's works juggle with changes of scale: from picture as overview to the detail of each element depicted. Because emptiness looms large in these works, the forms seem to emerge from a blank field. Clearly contoured yet at the same time left incomplete, they are created without any preliminary drawings; the result is works driven by a quest for spontaneity while remaining, paradoxically, highly controlled.

To complement this hanging, an installation laid out horizontally in La Galerie's Column Room comprises paper from different sources – cut-outs, stencils, trial pieces – accumulated by the artist during the creation of his paintings. Initially used as tools, these conserved fragments were then treated as elements in their own right – as sources of residual content. While signalling both a new formal direction and a shift from painting to sculpture, the installation is nonetheless emblematic of the method behind Richardot's early works: a just-in-time output whose loop structure reflects a cyclical conception of time and within which radically diminished means provide tiny variations. As a trace of this method, the composition represents a fixed point in time, while still retaining the potential for expansion or reduction in later exhibitions.

Biographical background

Samuel Richardot was born in 1982 in Aurillac, France.

After graduating from the Paris art school in 2006, he showed in several group exhibitions amongst which the Printemps de Septembre festival in Toulouse (curator: Christian Bernard) in 2008.

The same year he had a solo exhibition at Balice Hertling in Paris, who represents his work: www.balicehertling.com

Events associated with the exhibition:

Discussion between Samuel Richardot and Christian Bernard, director of Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Geneva (MAMCO)

> Saturday 21 November from 6:00 to 7:30 pm

Cross-disciplinary lecture programme: a panorama of today's painting by Tristan Trémeau, art critic

> Thursday 12 November from 7:00pm to 8:30pm, Roger-Gouhier multimedia library, Noisy-le-Sec

And also...

Artistic walk by RER E train between La Galerie and the Centre photographique d'Île-de-France in the framework of "Hospitalities", an event initiated by tram regional contemporary art network.

> Saturday 17 October, appointment at 2:00pm at the bookshop La Balustrade, 25 rue d' Alsace 75010 Paris

Saturdays at La Galerie

Art workshops for children aged 6 – 12 from 2:30 to 4:00pm

Saturday Afternoon Tea: a guided tour and tea

Available images for press



Samuel Richardot, *Untitled*, 2008
Mixed media on canvas, 200 x 250 cm
Courtesy of the artist and Balice Hertling, Paris



Samuel Richardot, *Untitled*, 2008
Mixed media on canvas, 200 x 250 cm
Courtesy of the artist and Balice Hertling, Paris



Samuel Richardot, *Peau*, 2008
Acrylic on canvas, 33 x 41 cm
Courtesy of the artist and Balice Hertling, Paris

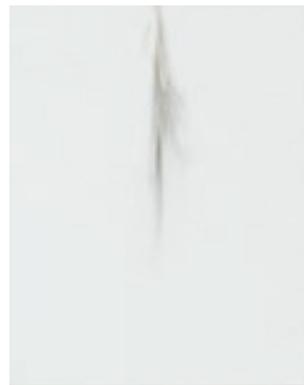


Samuel Richardot, *Untitled*, 2008
Mixed media on canvas, 200 x 250 cm
Courtesy of the artist and Balice Hertling, Paris



Samuel Richardot
Exhibition view at Balice Hertling gallery, Paris
Untitled, 2007
Mixed media on canvas, 200 x 250 cm

Untitled, 2008
Lineoil turpentine on canvas, 33 x 41 cm
Courtesy of the artist and Balice Hertling, Paris



Samuel Richardot, *Untitled*, 2008
Burn on canvas, 33 x 41 cm
Courtesy of the artist and Balice Hertling, Paris

In parallel... Hospitalities 2009

Noisy-Combault / Pontault-le-Sec : artistic walk by RER E train

With Simon Boudvin, Blanca Casas Brullet, « Ça se visite ! », Nogo Voyages, Denis Moreau...

In partnership with the Centre photographique d'Île-de-France in Pontault-Combault

> Saturday 17 October, journey from 2:00 to 6:00pm

In the framework of « Hospitalities 2009 » initiated by tram regional contemporary art network, La Galerie Contemporary Art Centre and Le Centre Photographique d'Île-de-France suggest an unusual journey through the suburbs between the 2 venues. Programme: performances, works in public space, town planners' guided tours...

www.tram-idf.fr / www.transilien.com / www.cpif.net



In partnership with Transilien SNCF (French national railway company)

PRESS OFFICER

Marjolaine Calipel
Communication & publishing
T : +33 (0)1 49 42 67 17
marjolaine.calipel@noisysesec.fr

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

La Galerie
Contemporary Art Centre
1 rue Jean Jaurès
F-93130 Noisy-le-Sec
T: +33 (0)1 49 42 67 17
lagalerie@noisysesec.fr

Tuesday to Friday: 2-6pm
Saturday: 2-7pm

Closed on Wednesday 11 November

www.lagalerie.noisysesec.fr
(website under construction)

How to get to La Galerie from Paris :
By RER E train / Tramway T1 / Bus 105 ou 145

Entry to La Galerie is free

La Galerie is a member of:
tram, Paris/Île de France contemporary art network (www.tram-idf.fr)
d.c.a, French association for the development of art centres (www.dca-art.com)

La Galerie is a publicly funded contemporary art centre, receiving assistance from the City of Noisy-le-Sec, the Ministry of Culture (DRAC Île-de-France), the Seine-Saint-Denis Departement and the Île-de-France Region.

