

Identification absurde n°9
[Absurd Identification n°9]
2009
Wool painting
Photo: Aurélien Mole, 2011
Courtesy Jérôme Poggi
gallery, Paris

GEORGES TONY STOLL

Associate curator: Jean-Marc Avrilla

3 December 2011 – 11 February 2012

Opening Friday 2 December 2011, 6:00 – 9:00pm
Press preview 5:00 – 6:00pm in the presence of the artist

*A free shuttle will leave Paris (République square/metro République/central strip facing the exit Rue du Temple) at 6:30pm. Estimated return time 9:30pm.
No advance booking; seating subject to availability.*

Contact :

Marjolaine Calipel / Communication, press and publications officer
T: +33 (0)1 49 42 67 17 / marjolaine.calipel@noisyseec.fr

GEORGES TONY STOLL

Georges Tony Stoll's exhibition at La Galerie in Noisy-le-Sec offers a fresh interpretation of his work. Long considered as essentially intimate, his photography is in fact only one facet of an oeuvre and an intellectual agenda which have been taking shape for twenty years. The artist's chosen forms and media reflect his speculation about the experience and the actual making of art, and about the concept of abstraction in a society in which the dominance of the real can extend even to the domain of the imagination. Stoll's photography, video, painting, wooden structures and "wool paintings" are all ways of exploring the act of creation. In their foregrounding of the artistic experience they investigate the gap between the real and "the making of the real"; and this experience of reality and its representation are the oeuvre's twin catalysts.

Stoll sees his practice as a journey through what he calls "Abstraction territory", "The archive basement" or "The hole". The same shapes are to be found throughout, from his painting to his photography: placed on canvas or paper in strong or pale colours, his circles, cones, triangles and oblongs are the same as those caught by his photographer's eye: the round cloud over the mountain, the two jackets hanging above the door and the black hand on the white tablecloth are all equally abstract; and the repeated, intermingling flights of these forms arising out of the history of painting come together as photographs woven like a canvas. Stoll's exploration of this "territory" and the experience of the gap between the real and the fabricated is matched by a subterranean structuring of an oeuvre dominated by collage and the association of shapes, things and beings all given equal status, as in the recent gilded wood constructions.

Taken together, this range of media and this structure serving as the exhibition's central axis tend to demonstrate that the media in question are indissociable, even while retaining their individual autonomy. The paintings, photographs, constructions, videos and texts do not amalgamate like complementary entities, but rather give rise to the interweaving connections of an oeuvre truly singular on today's art scene. An oeuvre referencing not only Modern Art – we note the impressive echoes of Hans Arp in the works on paper and canvas, and of Surrealist photography – but also some of the founding works of Contemporary Art as well: Joseph Beuys, in its transfiguration of the world and, even more so, of human relationships; and Blinky Palermo, in its choice of materials and its reinvention of an abstract language with its roots in the real world.

To curate a Georges Tony Stoll exhibition is to rework an approach that has given rise to certain misunderstandings, the artist not in fact being the French photographer of the intimate who has made the switch to painting. The task of his curator today is to come to grips with a history and a landscape in all its topographical variety. In the move from one medium to another, some of the videos turn out to be paintings which themselves turn out to be photographs. Similarly, in the move from one figure to another, the bodies are coloured shapes, the clothes are landscapes, the landscapes are objects, and so on. Rather than a retrospective, it would be more appropriate here to speak of a panorama or procession – of shapes, people and colours – whose movement, rather than following some single line, takes us to the heart of a labyrinth.

— *Jean-Marc Avrilla*

The artist

Born in Marseille in 1955. Lives in Paris and works in Saint-Ouen (Seine-Saint-Denis, Paris suburb).

www.georges-tony-stoll.com

He is represented by Jérôme Poggi gallery, Paris:

www.galeriepoggi.com

After graduating from ESBAM, the national school of art in Marseille, Georges Tony Stoll continued his art education during stays in Germany and the United States. A painter who became a photographer and video maker while also working as a movie production designer, Stoll sees his oeuvre as a fruitful dialogue between all these disciplines. In this back-and-forth between painting, photography, drawing and writing, he operates in what he calls "Abstraction territory", a space open at any and every moment to the appearance of multiple possibilities and ambiguities.

Solo exhibitions (selection):

2008 > Les Rencontres d'Arles - Photography

2007 > Frac Alsace, Sélestat

Constellations, galerie cent8-serge le borgne, Paris

2004 > *Georges Tony Stoll, Moby Dick, photographs, 1994-2000*, MNAM, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris

2002 > Galerie du jour agnès b., Paris

1999 > *Contre moi* [Against me], Glassbox, Paris

1998 > *Solo 6*, Galerie Jennifer Flay & Georges Tony Stoll, Kunstmuseum, Bonn, Germany

1996 > ARC, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris

Group exhibitions (selection) :

2010 > Villa Médicis, Rome, Italy

La pesanteur et la grâce, Collège des Bernardins, Paris

2009 > *La Force de l'art 02*, Grand Palais, Paris

Nobody owns me, l'art à porter, galerie du jour agnès b., Paris

2008 > *Darkside*, Fotomuseum Winterthur, Winterthur, Switzerland

2005 > *Big Bang*, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris

The associate curator

Jean-Marc Avrilla is art historian, curator and art critic.

Associate curator at the CAPC Museum of Contemporary Art in Bordeaux (1990-99), he curated solo exhibitions with Céleste Boursier Mougenot, Xavier Boussiron, Frank Eon, Tony Ourslet or Jack Pierson. He was director of the Espace de l'Art Concret - Donation Albers-Honegger (2006-09) where his work focused on the classification limits in art history from conceptual art and the current relationship with nature in the framework of thematic exhibitions.

Press visuals



Anonyme défait [Unmade unknown], 2004
Photograph
100 cm x 75 cm
Private collection, Paris



Constellation, 2010
Wood, acrylic paint
180 cm x 200 cm x 200 cm
Installation view, Collège des Bernardins, Paris
Photo: Antoine Delage de Luget, 2010
Courtesy Jérôme Poggi galley, Paris



Dessin anonyme [Anonymous drawing], 2007
Pastel on paper
50 cm x 65 cm
Photo: © Aurélien Mole, 2011
Courtesy Jérôme Poggi galley, Paris



Absurde n°13 [Absurd no. 13], 2011
Acrylic on canvas
100 cm x 67 cm
Photo: © Aurélien Mole, 2011
Courtesy Jérôme Poggi galley, Paris



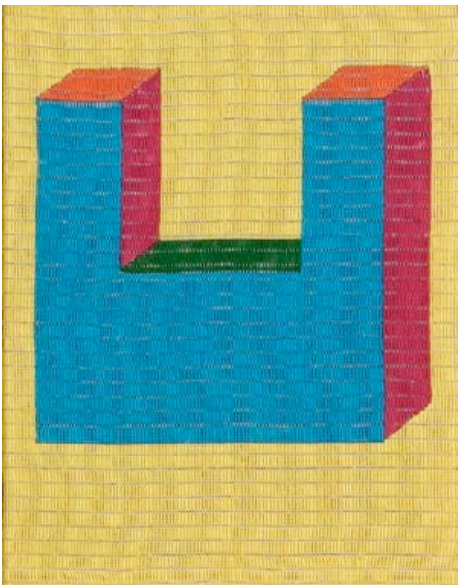
Le Couloir [The Corridor], 1995
 12 photographs
 each 37 cm x 23 cm
 Courtesy Jérôme Poggi galley, Paris



Nuage n/b [Cloud b&w], 2011
 15 min video loop
 Courtesy Jérôme Poggi galley, Paris



Rouge, bleu, jaune [Red, Blue, Yellow], 2007
 Photcollage and acrylic on paper
 50 cm x 65 cm
 Photo: © Aurélien Mole, 2011
 Courtesy galerie Jérôme Poggi, Paris



Identification absurde n°15
 [Absurd Identification no. 15], 2009
 Wool painting
 Photo: © Aurélien Mole, 2011
 Courtesy Jérôme Poggi gallery, Paris

Visuals 300 dpi available on request from Marjolaine Calipel
Exhibition views available from mid-December
T: +33 (0)1 49 42 67 17 – marjolaine.calipel@noisysec.fr

AROUND THE EXHIBITION

Three specific projects:

- **Publication of a supplement with Kaleidoscope magazine**



A supplement with Kaleidoscope magazine n°13 winter 2011-2012 (color, English, 48 pages) accompanies the exhibition at La Galerie. Texts by Jean-Marc Avrilla, Vincent Simon, Chris Wiley
Distributed with the Kaleidoscope magazine n°13

- **Documentary video about the artist**

Directed by Belladone association (Elise Picon et Lorenz Findeisen), it will be broadcasted in La Galerie's basement during the exhibition time.

- **T-shirts designed by Georges Tony Stoll / Limited edition**

Especially for the show
On sale at La Galerie.

THIS EXHIBITION IS PRESENTED WITH THE SUPPORT OF:

- **The Clarence Westbury Foundation, under the auspices of the Fondation de France**
- **Jean-Michel Attal.**

OTHER EXHIBITION EVENTS

East Trail #8

Free shuttle service to exhibitions in eastern Paris:

"Plutôt que tout..." at the Maison Populaire (Montreuil), "Georges Tony Stoll" at La Galerie Centre for Contemporary Art (Noisy-le-Sec) and "Marrying Stephen King" by Barbara Manzetti at Khiasma (Les Lilas)

> Saturday 10 December, all afternoon

Meet at 2:00 pm, Place de la Nation, Paris 12, outside the Le Dalou restaurant

www.parcours-est.com / Free, subject to reservation at resa@parcoursest.com

Encounter-discussion with Georges Tony Stoll and associate curator Jean-Marc Avrilla

> La Galerie, Saturday 21 January at 5:00 pm

Screening of films by Georges Tony Stoll in the presence of the artist

> Friday 3 February at 7:00 pm: Mains d'Oeuvres, Star Trek Room

1 Rue Charles Garnier, 93400 Saint-Ouen

Metro: Porte de Clignancourt or Garibaldi

SATURDAY FOR KIDS: CREATIVE WORKSHOPS

Free subject to reservation

- **Ages 4-5**

All on Our Own: every Saturday, 4:30 - 5:15 pm

With parents (plus a snack!): Saturday 11 February, 4:30 - 5:30 pm

- **Ages 6-12**

All on Our Own: every Saturday, 2:30 - 4:00 pm

With parents (plus a snack!): Saturday 11 February, 2:30 - 4:30 pm

All La Galerie activities are free.

LA GALERIE, CONTEMPORARY ART CENTRE, NOISY-LE-SEC / PARIS

La Galerie is a contemporary art centre founded in 1999 and housed in a nineteenth century villa located in the suburb of Paris offering to a wide audience a program based on the notion of art as a sensory experience and a reflection of our relation to the world.



Four exhibitions a year (two monographic, two thematic) accompanied with reference publications, offer hitherto unseen works by internationally recognized artists together with those of emerging French artists.

Following H el ene Chouteau from 1998 to 2004, Marianne Lanav ere was appointed in 2005 as artistic director.

Supporting French artists by **producing art works and residencies**, La Galerie is identified on the international art scene by **hosting foreign curators** since 2006 and by publishing a bilingual publication for each show.

In the framework of each exhibition, the team proposes **educational and cultural activities**, as well as guided documents. All activities are **free**. A mediation specialist welcomes visitors in the exhibition space. A **documentary area** has recently been installed in the basement.

La Galerie is a member of:

d.c.a, French association for the development of art centres : www.dca-art.com

Tram, Contemporary Art network, Paris/ le-de-France : www.tram-idf.fr

La Galerie is financed by the City of Noisy-le-Sec, with support from the  le-de-France Cultural Affairs Office/Ministry of Culture and Communications, the Seine-Saint-Denis d epartement and the  le-de-France Region.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Press

Marjolaine Calipel/Communication, Publications and Press Relations Officer
Tel. +33 (0)1 49 42 67 17 – marjolaine.calipel@noisylesec.fr

La Galerie

Contemporary art centre
1 Rue Jean Jaurès
93130 Noisy-le-Sec, France
Tel. + 33 (0)1 49 42 67 17
lagalerie@noisylesec.fr
www.noisylesec.net
Admission free

Opening hours

Tuesday – Friday, 2 – 6 pm
Saturday 2 – 7 pm
La Galerie is closed from 18 December
to 2 January / open by appointment

How to get to La Galerie

RER E from St Lazare/Haussmann or Gare du Nord/Magenta (10 minutes).

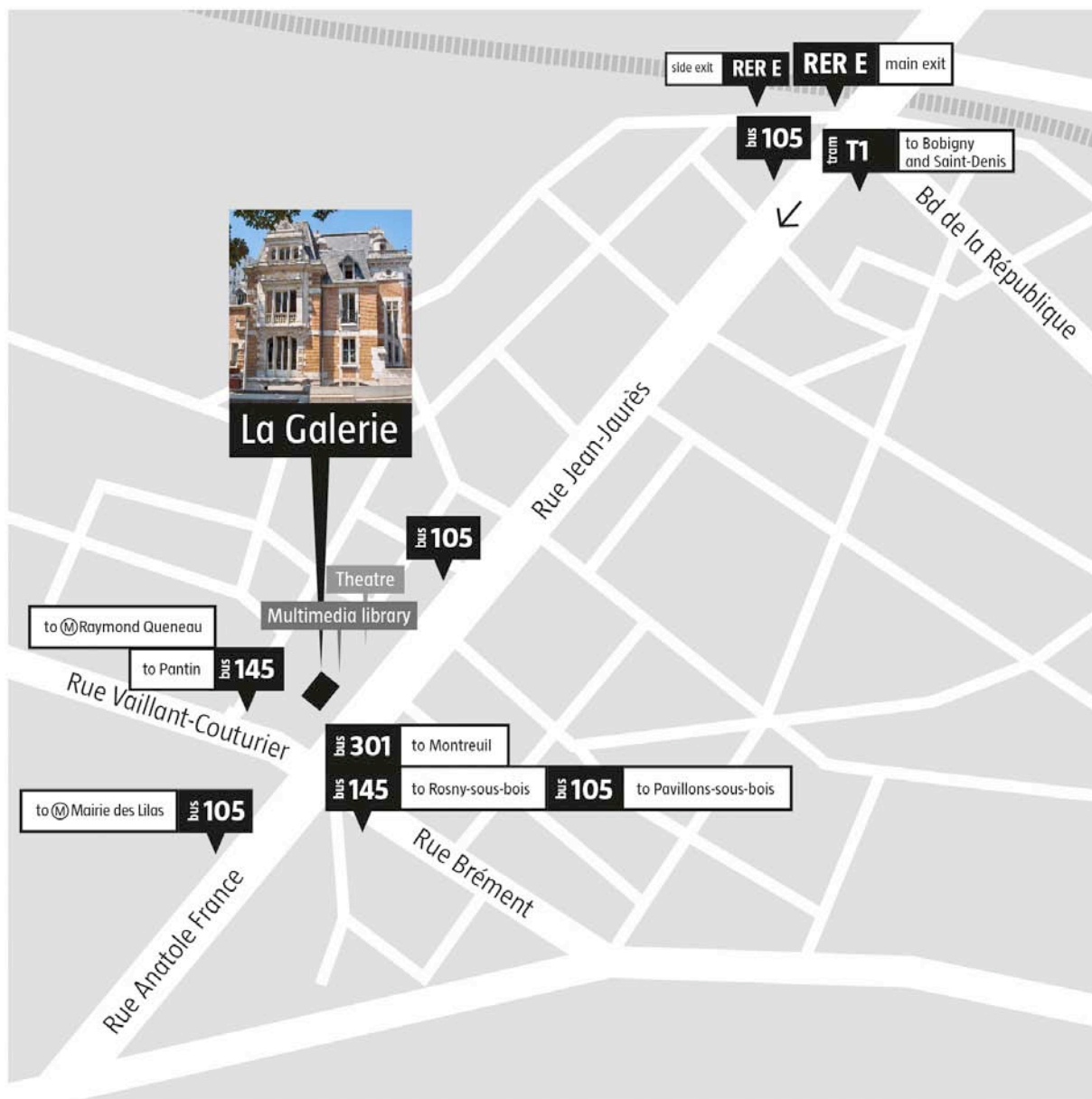
Get off at "Noisy-le-Sec", then 10 minutes walk to City Hall ("La mairie")

Tram T1 get off at "Noisy-le-Sec"

Bus 105 or 145 get off at "Jeanne d'Arc"

Car From Porte des Lilas, follow the signs for Romainville

From Porte de Bagnolet, A3 freeway, Villemomble exit, follow the signs for Rosny
Centre Commercial



SAVE THE DATE/COMING EXHIBITIONS

Pauline Curnier Jardin (resident artist at La Galerie) and her partners

Group exhibition

25 February - 21 April 2012

Opening: Friday 24 February 6:00 - 9:00 pm

In partnership with Mains d'Œuvres, Saint-Ouen

Annual exhibition curated by the foreign resident curator

The call for application 2012 will be sent by the end of November 2011

26 May - 21 July 2012

Opening: Friday 25 May 6:00 - 9:00 pm