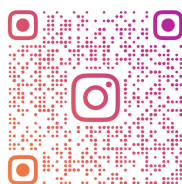


EXPOSITION | HERVÉ BOHNERT

DECEMBER 15 - JANUARY 15 2024

JP Ritsch-Fisch
GALLERY



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Born in 1967, Hervé Bohnert lives and works in Strasbourg. His work has been exhibited numerous times in France and internationally: Wurth Museum, Alsatian Museum of Strasbourg, Contemporary Art Center of Auberive Abbey, La Maison Rouge, La Halle Saint Pierre, as well as at New York, Cologne or even in Paris as part of international fairs.



dieu n'est pas avec nous

HERVÉ BOHNERT

"Dieu n'est pas avec nous"

Vernissage public

15 décembre 18h-20h

Exposition

15 décembre 2023
15 janvier 2024

6 rue des Charpentiers
Strasbourg

Hervé Bohnert's work has character in addition to having character. The force that emerges from his new creation fits - at first glance - into the medieval tradition of dances and macabre "mysteries", widely disseminated after the Black Death epidemic of 1348. But, beyond this set of references, Bohnert affirms the singularity and power of his work by freeing himself from any moral lesson. The grimacing face of Death, once used to emphasize the vanity of life, expresses no "Good News" here.

No white thread in the folds of the Grim Reaper's black dress: Little boy dropped on Hiroshima on August 3, 1945 replaces the newborn child-God. The character is radically different from the writing of the past: Bohnert reduces the dance of death to the contemporary essential. The clinical or chemical formula that he unfolds in its anonymous and coded form no longer fits into the time of social satire formerly practiced by preachers and engravers, such as Jean Geiler and Albrecht Dürer.

No dramatization but a stratified mirror representing social classes like layers of paint highlights. The scene and the paper are as if corrected, as white as a white cube. The printed surface work functions as an indented impression of life, a mirror in the reflected form of Death. This new work by Hervé Bohnert allows us to glimpse a round of life while emphasizing its inanity through the disturbing strangeness of words, in a position to have fun and dance like any living person. Delivered from any agreed and expected message, Hervé Bohnert presents us with a radical work. A violently contrasting vision, relieved of the consolations of the other world: "God is not with us," he writes in a way that is as desperate as it is jubilant.



Danse macabre, 2011, watercolour and mixed media on paper