

JE NE SUIS PAS CE QUE TU VOIS DE MOI.

05 OCTOBRE 2023
26 JANVIER 2024



Jakob Lena Knobl, *Portrait of a Lady, Green*, 2022. © Photo Georg Petermichl



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I AM NOT WHAT YOU SEE OF ME

« In a time where fixed concepts and norms can no longer exist, identity as the experienced inner unity of the self is replaced by a concept of subject characterized by transformation, fragmentation, and heterogenization. Following an illusion of free will, the body appears as a variable that can be changed at will. »

(Pierre Bal-Blanc, « The Left Hand », 2017)

From Thursday, October 5, 2023 to Friday, January 26, 2024, the Fondation presents *I am not what you see of me*, an exhibition exploring different perception of the body, feminism and gender. Taking an installation by Ashley Hans Scheirl and Jakob Lena Knebl as its starting point, the exhibition highlights multiple discursive approaches, highlighting expressions of the body and gender negotiated outside the frameworks imposed by heteronormative and heterosexist societies.

Jakob Lena Knebl's *Portrait of a Lady, Green* and Ashley Hans Scheirl's *The So-Called Money Shot* form what the duo call a *Soft Machine*, a heterotopic space combining architecture, design, visual arts and fashion, among others. Bodies are exploded, staged, juxtaposed, hybridized, in perpetual transformation. In the wake of Donna Haraway's *Cyborg Manifesto*, they transgress established social norms and conventions to celebrate a fluidity of genders and identities, as well as artistic techniques and media ("My art is 'trans': transgender, transgenre, transmedium", Ashley Hans Scheirl).

Drawing on the questions raised by this space of resistance, we wanted to highlight various critical stances, often feminist, which, through the body in action and lived experience, question the way in which social constructs and codes shape our behaviours, language and self-expression.

Discursive, reflexive, political and polemical, the works on display elaborate various strategies of resistance and opposition: the performance and distortion of gendered clichés and stereotypes; the spotlighting of invisibilized bodies; the reappropriation of violence of all kinds, used as a creative tool and a means of reparation; the subversion and emancipation of representations of the body.

Based around the body and its socially-determined representation, each of the works points to a personal or shared experience which, once it has been named and given form, becomes political ("the personal is political").

Through performance, painting, sculpture, installation and photography, the various artists presented undermine traditional hierarchies and challenge established normative frameworks. Their artistic practices open up spaces of discontinuity where alternative and plural narratives unfold and where decentralized histories shift the gaze from the norm to its margins.

I am not what you see of me highlights the expression of dissident and reflexive subjectivities, and extends the reflections on the body and its image, raised in our previous exhibition *All these looks turn me away from myself*. It summons questions dear to the Foundation and the collection, which over the past twenty years have been constantly nourished by the discursive views and commitments of contemporary artists.

The artists on show : Marina Abramović, Kader Attia, Romain Bernini, Jonny Briggs, Michael Ray Charles, Nina Childress, Tracey Emin, Nina Mae Fowler, Nan Goldin, Oda Jaune, Sarah Kaliski, Lebohang Kganye, Phumzile Khanyile, Jakob Lena Knebl, Senzeni Marasela, Roghayeh Najdi, Nazanin Pouyandeh, Valérie Oka, Amadou Sanogo, Ashley Hans Scheirl, Sandy Skoglund, Mircea Suci, Jeanne Vicérial, Bri Williams, Philemona Williamson...

Between resistance and generosity, the Fondation Francès is an art center founded in Senlis in 2009. The in-situ exhibitions are accessible to all, free of charge, and offer everyone the opportunity to discover techniques and periods in the history of art, through the prism of contemporary art. Created by Estelle and Hervé Francès, the eponymous foundation is conceived as a laboratory for reflection around a collection of nearly 800 works of contemporary art. Located in Senlis in a desire to democratize contemporary art, the foundation weaves partnerships with public and private institutions on its territory. The Francès collection, built up through the discoveries of Estelle and Hervé Francès, a posteriori reveals a common thread, that of "Man and his excesses", and thus becomes a source of inspiration and asserted convictions. As an exhibition curator, Estelle Francès has always initiated exhibitions in dialogue with a chosen theme, offering open perspectives and correspondences that sometimes lead to unexpected encounters between artists with similar, unsuspected consonances. Exhibitions that aspire to create new views, new emotions, to excite the intellect and awaken the desire for art. Like the solo shows at the Fondation Francès, inviting an internationally renowned artist for a carte blanche, Gavin Turk, Claire Morgan, Mircea Cantor or Kader Attia. A priority given to sharing and freedom of expression.

The documentation center

A dedicated area of the Fondation Francès, equipped with around 1,400 works available to visitors, schoolchildren, students or researchers. Accessible with membership, the documentation center features references on contemporary artists, including those in the Francès collection. Magazines, artists' books, exhibition catalogs, general works on the major trends in art history, comic strips and cultural policies are regularly added to.



Okó is a multidisciplinary communications agency founded by Hervé Francès in 1993. Since 2005, it has occupied a site totally redesigned by its director, a singular, calm and luminous architecture spread over three levels. This former palm factory has been transformed into an open-plan space, offering uncluttered spaces that have always been home to works from the Francès collection. *oko.fr*



These exhibitions are orchestrated by ARROI, a cultural engineering company founded in 2004 by Estelle Francès and co-founder, with the Okó agency, of the Francès Foundation, for which it manages programming, exhibitions and the collection. *arroi.fr*

As an extension of the exhibitions previously reserved for the agency's internal audiences, in 2023 the Francès Foundation will initiate a cycle of exhibitions accessible to professionals, amateurs, collectors and the general public. This increased accessibility is designed to raise the profile not only of the collection, but also of the Foundation's many commitments and developments over the past 14 years. While continuing its cultural activities in Senlis, the Foundation will be offering new insights into the works in the collection, extending its mission of disseminating works in situ and off-site, and democratizing contemporary art.

A SELECTION OF ARTWORKS



Jakob Lena Knebl

Portrait of a Lady, Green, 2022

Polyurethane, resin, synthetic hair

162 × 150 × 80 cm

© Photo Georg Petermichl



Ashley Hans Scheirl

The So-Called Money Shot, 2021

Acrylic on canvas

160 x 240 cm

© Photo Fabrice Gousset,
Courtesy Loevenbruck



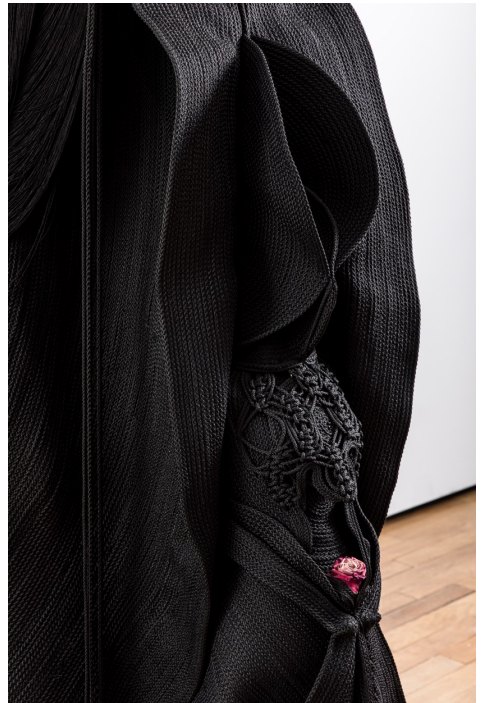
Jeanne Vicérial

Présence à l'enfant, 2022

Ropes, threads, varnished roses, dried roses (removable)

252 x 77 x 65 cm

© Photo Millot, Courtesy Galerie Templon





Oda Jaune
Brown Night, 2015
Oil on canvas
140 x 100 cm

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Fondation d'entreprise Francès


21 rue Georges Boisseau, Clichy
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Visits need to be booked online

 fondationfrances.com

Access

  Saint-Ouen

 138, 174, 274, 341 : Georges Boisseau
66, 173 : Victor Hugo - Sanzillon