

Jean-Pierre Bertrand
SAMOUT AND MOUTNEFRET
29/11/2008 - 17/01/2009

Samout and Moutnefret is Jean-Pierre Bertrand's third solo show at galerie Michel Rein.

The exhibition unfolds around ***Samout and Moutnefret***, a black and white 16-mm film with sound (9'18"") shot in the Egyptian department of the Louvre Museum in 1993. Its sound-reel and editing were remade in 2008.

- ***Samout and Moutnefret*** is the name of an Egyptian stone statue. The Moutnefret woman speaks with the artist's voice. Image, sound and montage create a different space in which the spectator participates to a sensible experiment, to a time breakthrough, to the emergence of a re-animated object.

Opposite to the black space where the film is projected, the artificially-lit gallery space will gather a number of works from diverse media which all evoke the presence of a transfigured living:

- ***Cinq Corps rouges (Five Red Bodies)*** create lines of force on the wall and respond to each other. These are large-format paintings where substances characteristic to Jean-Pierre Bertrand's work--honey paper/red acrylic paint and plexiglas--are contradicted by the application on their surfaces of a parchment-coloured paint that recalls a mat complexion. A strong shimmering effect emanates from those delimited plasmic bodies.

- ***Un=six (one=six)***, a visual, bodily and architectural equation, is composed of seven elements made of honey paper/ red acrylic paint and white crystalline salt paper. The organisation of those white and red surfaces creates a physical dynamic which reveals the vibratory aspect of their content.

- ***It contains***, a glass case of human dimensions, includes the vital elements of an imperishable physical body: a pile of folded salt papers, a roll of honey paper displaying a red print and three freshly-picked yellow lemons with their green leaves.

- ***Les anges ou une seconde à Buenos Aires (The Angels or One Second in Buenos Aires)*** is a group of 12 photographs which come from the 24 images/ second of a 16-mm film that was shot in a taxi in 1972 in Buenos Aires, in which five men parade in front of the camera like ghosts.

A public commission realised by Jean-Pierre Bertrand for the stained-glass windows and the front door of the crypt of the Pantheon in Paris is now on view. It will be officially inaugurated in January 2009.

Images available upon request, please contact Loïc Chambon: galerie@michelrein.com

Next exhibition: Maria Thereza Alves, opening reception: 7/02/2009