

# LEFEBVRE & FILS

CONTEMPORARY ART CERAMICS

presents

## BRIEUC MAIRE

### *DESIRE PATH*

November 23, 2023 - January 14, 2024

Opening Thursday November 23, 2023 from 5 to 8pm



Galerie Lefebvre & Fils  
24, rue du bac - 75007 Paris  
[www.lefebvre-et-fils.fr](http://www.lefebvre-et-fils.fr)

*Hirondelle*, 2023  
Acrylic and oil on canvas  
114 x 145 cm  
44.8 x 57 in.

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## BRIEUC MAIRE

### DESIRE PATH

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Galerie Lefebvre et Fils is pleased to present, in collaboration with HATCH, for the first time a solo exhibition by the French artist Briec Maire with a new series of paintings and ceramics created during the artist's residency in Versailles and in his studio in 2023 .

*"This residency was an opportunity to learn the technique of ceramics and to bring the space represented in painting into dialogue with the physical space of the sculptures. If it was primarily a question of giving shape to objects from my paintings or sketches, certain ceramics were also the origin of new paintings.*

*Desire Path means "desire line", it is a path that is drawn and formed outside the paths marked by the repeated passages of pedestrians, cyclists or animals. In a fictional interpretation, we could say that this path is an access and a symbol to another place, the one where the potatoes germinate.*

*This exhibition invites us to conceive of a non-localized place, which we could compare to an arcadia: at the same time made of real and recognizable elements, of a luxuriant nature but which bears the seeds of the decline of the myth and the ideal. Human bodies (con)melt and become illegible, if they are indeed present in these landscapes, their presence becomes annoying, while conversely, the attention paid to the sometimes grotesque, sometimes poetic forms of the plant becomes asserts itself both in the expressiveness of an unusual portrait, and in the strangeness of a close-up detail."*

Briec MAIRE, November 2023



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A graduate of the Beaux-Arts de Paris, Brieuc Maire's practice is characterized by research focused on polysemy, both of the properties of the materials used through various mediums of which painting nevertheless remains privileged, as well as of the scenes imagined and depicted. Like a theater of objects, physical or figurative, he composes situations in search of meaning and whose final balance reveals equivocity as much as artificiality (interactions as well as technical processes of painting) . It is often a question of having to explore a meaning which, in principle, escapes the immediacy of the glance. In this sense, it is a work which asks the spectator to situate himself: to find the right distance with the canvas by discovering that a detail is always able to contradict the previous one, and to accept that the feelings experienced and sometimes ambiguous come to compensate for the affective neutrality of human presences, if not their substitution by animals or objects, burlesque or incongruous. Beyond the paradoxes, the ambivalences, the misinterpretations and even nonsense, we ultimately find the idea of the obscene. Always linked to the theater, this notion, dear to the artist, invites us to observe these works from a displaced angle, in front of or outside the conformism of the stage as the obvious place of representation. The pleasure of the obscene then opens up to what is indecent it contains in the uninhibited exhibition of fantasies and fantasies which redeploy a parallel scene where the disturbing strangeness of reality represses as much as it fascinates.

Desire Path, the artist's first personal exhibition, must be read in the continuity of this gaze which is carried into the eccentric corners (in the literal sense of a distance from the center) of a reality made curious, which is observed at artificial light more than natural. The title itself designates the trails which form spontaneously outside the paths marked by the repeated passage of users. Like the landscapes and forms of nature found in the paintings, the conception of nature asserts itself in human domestication: neither totally wild nor totally artificial, it would rather be agricultural land, wasteland or meadow .

The exhibition leads us to conceive of a non-localized place that could be compared to an arcadia. Between the real territory and the mythological utopia, Arcadia is a fantasy land, reassuring for its abundance without being hospitable. The world that takes shape in the paintings and ceramics (a technique also discovered by the artist during his residency and this exhibition) seems taken by a nostalgia without a temporal horizon, hesitating to take itself seriously or to deride themselves. Human bodies (con)melt and become illegible; if they are present in these landscapes, their presence becomes annoying. During this time, the sometimes grotesque, sometimes poetic forms of the plant assert themselves as much in the expressiveness of an unusual portrait as in the strangeness of a close-up detail which would bear the seeds of the decline of myth and ideal.

Maki Cappe



## BRIEUC MAIRE

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Born in 1991 in Lannion, France. Lives and works in Paris.

#### EDUCATION

**2020**

DNSAP, Beaux-Arts de Paris

**2017**

DNAT image et narration, ESAL d'Epinal

**2012**

BTS orthoprothèse, lycée d'Alembert, Paris

#### SOLO SHOWS

**2023**

Desir Path, Galerie Lefebvre & Fils, Paris

**2020**

Dnsep, Beaux-Arts de Paris, Paris 6e

#### GROUP SHOWS

**2023**

*Idéalement située*, Galerie Idéale, Paris

*Novembre à Vitry 2023*, Prix de Peinture, Galerie Municipale Jean Collet, Vitry-sur-Seine

*Le retour de la narration*, commissariat de Marie Maertens, Accuracy, Paris

*Art au centre Liège #11*, Liège, Belgique

**2022**

*Méfiez-vous de l'eau qui dort*, Halles, Saint-Briac Sur Mer

*Novembre à Vitry 2022*, Prix de Peinture, Galerie Municipale Jean Collet, Vitry-sur-Seine  
*Décorama*, sur invitation de l'association *Scandale*, Espace Voltaire, Paris

*Bye Bye Flat*, Paris

*Refresh*, sur invitation de *hatch*, Paris

*What we do in the shadows*, exposant sur invitation du collectif *Envie Pressante*, Iveco Nu, Noisy-Le-Sec

It has kind of made me question what all the rush is about, exposant sur invitation du collectif Mycorrhizal, plein jour, Bagnolet

**2021**

*Écoute voir*, exposant, Théâtre des exposition des Beaux-Arts de Paris, Paris

*Troubles*, exposant et commissaire, plein jour, Bagnolet

*Flexistock*, Le Wonder, Clichy

*Bouphonie*, le6b, Saint Denis

**2019**

*Exposition n°1*, hôtel Printemps, résidence artistique, Paris

**2018**

*...mais on peut rester amis?*, exposant et commissaire dans les galeries des Beaux arts, Paris



*Pissenlit*, 2023

Acrylic and oil on canvas

73 x 97 cm

28.7 x 38.1 in.

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## Practical Informations



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*DESIRE PATH*

November 23, 2023 - January 24, 2024



Galerie Lefebvre & Fils  
24, rue du Bac  
75007 Paris

From Tuesday to Saturday  
11am - 1pm and 2pm - 7pm  
Monday by appointment

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