

JOAKIM OJANEN



Courtesy Joakim Ojanen, Richard Heller Gallery

Interrupted Boredom

February, 21st - March, 18 2017

Opening Tuesday, February, 21st 2017
Cocktail from 6pm to 9pm

Galerie Lefebvre et Fils
24, rue du Bac - 75007 Paris
lefebvreetfils@gmail.com // +33 1 42 61 18 40
www.lefebvreetfils.fr

LEFEBVRE & FILS

JOAKIM OJANEN

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Louis Lefebvre is pleased to announce the first exhibition in France of the Swedish artist Joakim Ojanen. The exhibition is the result of work done during his stay in Versailles at The Residency.

The characters of Joakim Ojanen, both melancholy and mischievous, comic and tragic, plunge us into a naive universe.

These small caricature figures, both human and animal, like ventriloquist mannequins, remind us of our childhood and the vulnerability that comes from it.

The artist works to create real scenes between these small characters, caps and cans of soda in hand and elements of daily life that complete these sketches, such as boxes of pizza on the floor or footballs.

Joakim Ojanen sees his work as a diary in which he expresses feelings, sometimes deeply intimate, that he can not show in society.

He chooses to unite all his fragmented sculptures to give a complete picture of himself, like a puzzle.

© Christopher Hunt

Born in 1985 in Vasteras. Lives and works in Stockholm.

Joakim Ojanen was initially interested in comics and graffiti. He began painting and ceramics while studying at the Konstfack University College of Arts, Crafts and Design, of which he has graduated since 2014.

Joakim Ojanen has been regularly exhibited in Sweden or Belgium for a few years, and more recently for his first solo show in the United States at the Richard Heller Gallery in Los Angeles.

Works by Joakim Ojanen have been featured in numerous Swedish and European public and private collections, as well as the Ryerson & Burnham Libraries, The Art Institute of Chicago.

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LEFEBVRE & FILS GALLERY

135 years of existence, 135 years of expertise, of profound knowledge of objects, good taste and a good eye, of exchanges with museums curators and unbreakable links made with private collectors. Immobilism was not one of their value and the members of the Lefebvre family knew exactly how to discover and propose very refined objects and works for a cosmopolitan and international clientele.

It is therefore completely natural that since 2009, Lefebvre & Fils Gallery has started to pose a new perspective on ceramics, in particular contemporary ceramics, with the leitmotiv to show the real permanence and the perpetual renewal of this medium.

Since 2009, Lefebvre & Fils Gallery has shown works by well known contemporary artists such as Ettore Sottsass, Ron Nagle and most recently Beverly Semmes, however she also engages in promoting the young artistic scene with exhibitions by Brie Ruais, Robin Cameron or Jennie Jieun Lee.



From practical and common objects of the previous centuries, today we have works of art in the real sense of the term. If the gesture continues, the artistic scope is completely different. The idea of a container or a domestic object disappears in favour of a dialogue between the artist still modeling it and the artistic intention he gives it.

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THE RESIDENCY

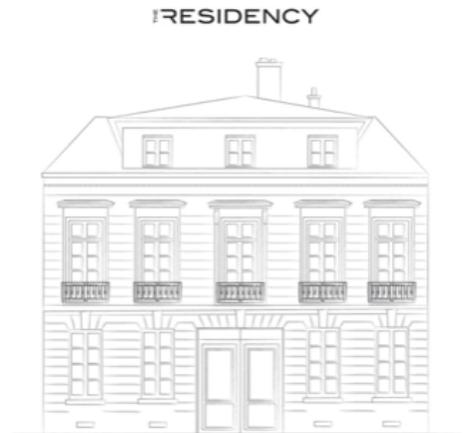
Located in Versailles, and founded in September 2015 under the patronage of Louis Lefebvre, **The Residency** welcomes ceramists and plastic artists in residence all year round, for a period ranging from 6 weeks to 3 months depending on their options with a "Solo show» following in the gallery of the rue du Bac.

The residence occupies the ground floor of the family home, a former music pavilion of Madame Elisabeth, the sister of King Louis XVI, transformed into an orphanage during the First World War, then residence of Elie Wiesel on his return from Auschwitz. "The Residency", a place already full of history, is going to see a succession of great international talents dedicated to the arts of fire.

Combining living and working space, the residence is as studios as it is convivial and family: large workshop equipped with all the tools of production, comfortable apartments to accommodate the artist, an assistant or the family, and the use of the family garden.

Versailles and its prestigious past, Paris and its intense cultural life, inevitably appeal to artists who came almost exclusively from the United States where the art scene of ceramics is particularly active. The imposed exercise of the Sunday lunch is devoted to the pleasures of the table and to the conversation, with a weekly report on the creation in progress; and the exhibition in full process is part of the menu ...

If Louis Lefebvre, passionate gallery owner and specialist in his field, enjoys both receiving and exchanging with his artists, The Residency is here the privileged tool to "promote ancestral expertise and allow the creation of complex and unique works" which will soon take their place in the beautiful environment of his Gallery.



PROGRAMME 2017 // THE RESIDENCY



Cammie Starros
Julia Haft-Candell
Jasmine Little
Daniel Firman