

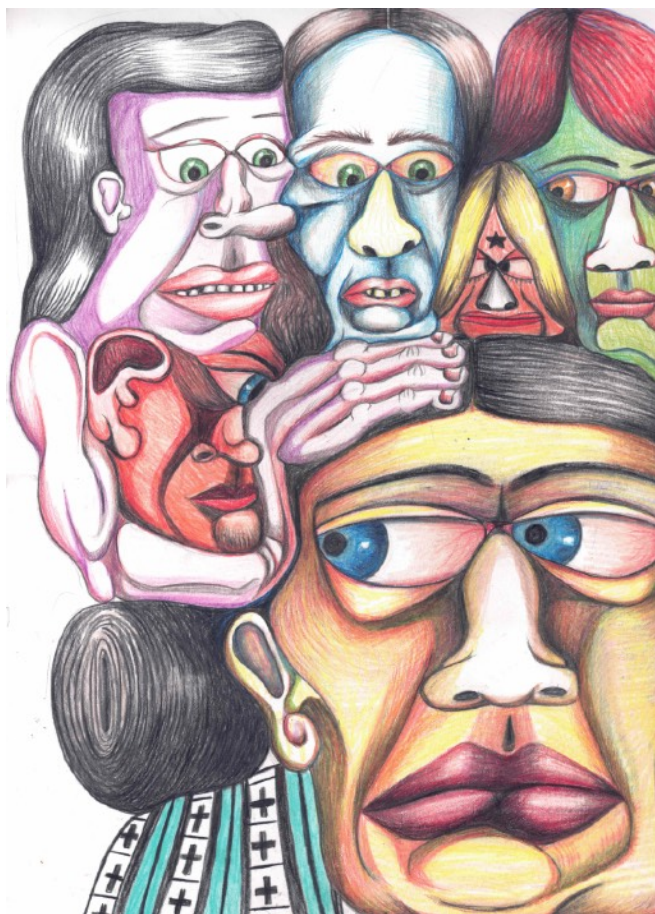
# LEFEBVRE & FILS

CONTEMPORARY ART CERAMICS

presents

## LEIGH BARBIER & LAURENT NICOLAS

*Taunt and tortured*  
June 2 - July 30, 2022



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

**Leigh BARBIER**  
*A team of worriers, 2021*  
Drawing  
30,4 x 22,8 cm  
12 x 9 in.

**Laurent NICOLAS**  
*Agglomérat 1, 2022*  
White sandstone, black sandstone, terracotta, brass, felt, burnt  
waxed wood  
32 x 25 x 25 cm  
12.5 x 9.8 x 9.8 in.

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Lefebvre et Fils gallery is pleased to extend the exhibition of drawings by the American artist Leigh Barbier, and new sculptures by the french artist Laurent Nicolas.

### **LEIGH BARBIER**

Born in Los Angeles, California  
Lives and works in San Francisco, CA.

«I was born and raised in the San Fernando Valley, California, and grew up on a gravel road, running barefoot and free between neighbor's homes. I attended a Christian Science church every Sunday and Disneyland once a year. I remember thinking as a small child that Sees Candy (Candy and chocolate store in the US) was a religious destination and God looked like a tube of toothpaste. Later museums replaced Sees candy and I found order in the universe through art.

I am drawn to religious art, admire Thomas Hart Benton's line and color, adore the muralist of the Mexican Revolution and can't get the images of Disney from my 1960s childhood out of my visual vocabulary.

I have found that the work I have done to earn a living has impacted me more than anything I learned in college. From museum model-making to digital painting for the special effects industry; they have both shaped and condensed my hands on skills and sharpened my eye. The highlights have been working on dioramas for the California Academy of Sciences, being part of an all girl team to make a giant baseball mitt for the Giants stadium and digitally painting on Star Wars, Episode 2 and 3. My best freelance opportunity to date has come from my experience working with the San Francisco musical group, The Residents over the last 15 years. This has been the perfect combination of work and art, an opportunity to combine my vision with the narrative visuals of the Residents' myth-making.

For me, making drawings, paintings and sculpture is a simple and direct process of giving emotions form. This compulsion, along with my over-active imagination that perceives peril around every corner, drives my image making.»

### **LAURENT NICOLAS**

Born in France, lives and works between France and Finland.

Designer by training, Laurent apprehends the object through materials with a strong attraction for ceramics.

The edition of objects and furniture crystallize collaborations with companies such as Domeau & Pérès, Christophe Delcourt, Ecart International, Collection Particulière among others.

At the same time, he designed high-end fashion products for many years, which led him to meet various craftsmen and industrialists. The discovery of know-how, techniques, technologies, and various materials enrich his vocabulary. His coherent professional and multidirectional career will show that craftsmanship has always been an obvious concern for him.

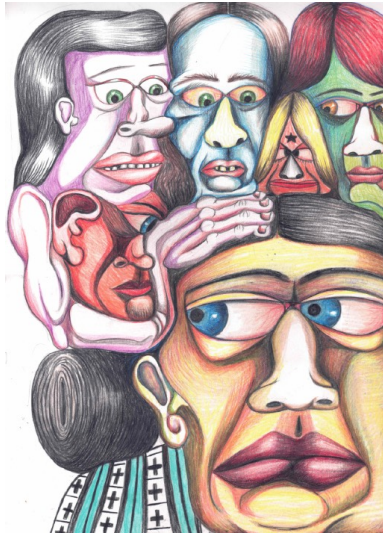
On the strength of these different experiences, Laurent has undertaken for fifteen years a work of visual artist where photography, drawing and sculpture are mixed in a serial way questioning our relationship to time and space, to materiality, and to the place that agrees the human in the environment.

In the series of ceramics associated with strings, Laurent summons the notion of connection by appropriating ancestral and multicultural techniques to bring out "object-materials" surmounting a support which he calls "context", carved wood, accumulation of textiles, leather-wrapped volume.

The idea of connections between individuals, times and places are at the heart of this research. Considering the paradigm of the infinitely small to the infinitely large, from quantum physics to string theory, shows that links, networks, meshes, structure us, whether they are natural or not, they make part of the ingredients of our evolution.

Physiologically, psychologically, societally, institutionally, naturally.... everything leads us to realize that everything is linked and connected, and of course beyond the means of communication. The current period reveals to us, more than ever, the importance of the ties that unite us and their necessity.

## Practical Informations



LEIGH BARBIER  
& LAURENT NICOLAS  
***Taunt and tortured***  
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**Galerie Lefebvre & fils**  
24, rue du Bac  
75007 Paris

From Tuesday to Saturday

11am - 1pm and 2pm - 7pm

Monday by appointment

01 42 61 18 40  
lefebvreetsils@gmail.com  
www.lefebvreetsils.fr