

Nicolas DERNÉ**Pression "En tropiques"**

12.05 - 23.06.2018

caryl * ivrisse-crochemar & [creative renegades society] are pleased to welcome and present the solo exhibition of Martinique self-taught photographer, Nicolas Darné.

Nicolas Darné's artistic approach is based on the use of photographic print both as an imprint of an ongoing creation and as a material that reintegrates the creative process of a new photograph.

Through the accumulation of materials, shapes, and colors Nicolas Darné makes a new image that he calls "residual photography".

As in Plato's quote, it is metaphorically the photograph of time, in perpetual movement. This is what remains of the lived experiences that accumulate in strata like on a magnetic strip or in sediments in the layers of our memory.

Theoretically, these residual images speak of the passing of time, traces of experiences lived on memory and consequently arise as a reflection on time ...

Exploring several forms of "over-development" of his photographs, first of all digital mixtures between photo and scanned material, then the accumulation of paint and diverse materials or even the digital overexposure, but also the use of light and of colored gelatins as part of a recent creation residency at the hospital, at the University Hospital of Martinique.

In each of his creative processes, each stage of creation is frozen by photography. Nicolas Darné refers to his images as "residual images" whose meaning he diverted. Residual images in optics are ghost images caused by retinal persistence following a strong impression.

Shooting and printing allow him to restart the initial process of manipulation on this residual basis ...

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As part of his exhibition, "Pression "En Tropiques" the series of photographs presented leans on a quote from the astrophysicist Hubert Reeves.

"Man is the most senseless species, he worships an invisible god and massacres a visible Nature without knowing that this Nature that he massacred is this invisible god whom he worships ..."

On this basis, Nicolas Darné has sought to capture the traces left by man by focusing on the fragility of the latter in the face of Nature. Far from being a dramatic serie on the environment, he does not seek so much to denounce a situation, but to question Man about his own place in an ecosystem obviously more powerful than him.

However, one cannot help questioning the reality of the consequences of the activity of modern man on Nature, even if the latter has a funny way of telling us - or rather to show us - that we are not as intelligent as we could imagine.

We all like to think we appreciate the beauty of nature. But to really know it and appreciate it, we need to keep in perspective a critical understanding of what may be termed the human fixation. This is the modern mindset of constantly putting our human-oriented concerns, desires and schemes first.

We want to acquire or grab material things and experiences to maximize short-term comfort and gratification. Nature becomes invisible or abstract. Why? We are besieged by man-made vibrations, toxic drugs, impure food and water, and poor air. So we're being deviated subtly from even wanting Nature, and are just programmed to consume more advertised manufactured products. We are left with trying to buy happiness, without realizing or caring that this tragically and dangerously consumes Nature. Nature can never be minimized, because it is none other than reality. But the illusion of being divorced from nature is prevalent in consumer culture and in the images and stories from the corporate media bombarding the population. The question is, then, how can the beauty of nature and the opportunities to have a fulfilling, natural life be elevated to where they should be? How can people find greater consciousness required for survival in the changing natural world? That the world is becoming less natural is partly illusion, yet true from the standpoint of ever more pollution and disruption of the climate.

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