

JOHN M ARMLEDER / MORGANE TSCHIEMBER

01.12.2017 – 20.01.2018

"Species"

When the bill came after a meeting between Morgane Tschiember and John M Armleder in a tearoom, it was adorned with tiny stars. Those stars have now reappeared in the white cube of the gallery, which has been transformed with glittery pink wallpaper (neither artist is worried about art playing a decorative role). The bubble-gum-pink wallpaper is adorned with a constellation of silver patterns, each one a sort of target – although it's not easy to hit the bull's-eye – and a cross resulting from the enlargement, deformation and pixelation of the stars on the bill. Wallpaper is sometimes the backdrop only for itself, but that is not the case here. In the gallery, it provides the setting for ceramics placed on a podium shaped like the steps of a pool, with the pink walls in the background. The painting here is not on the walls but on these "Species," on which the drips are not intended to express inner depths but just to adorn the vases, different ones for each artist. They are presented in pairs and were produced in pairs using the mold stamping technique. The molds were also fired in pairs, and the ties that bound the two pieces disintegrated in the heat, leaving behind strange traces. Something happened in the kiln causing the two objects to come out in different states: one is impeccably fired, while the other is partially broken. What conflict are these disparate pairs an allegory for? It's up to you to find an answer. Here we are confronted with painted ceramics and painted paper, high-level craftsmanship and the science of display. Do the "Species" complement the wallpaper, or does the wallpaper complement the "Species"? Anything is possible when John meets Morgane.

Marjolaine Lévy

The ceramics in the show "JOHN M ARMLEDER/MORGANE TSCHIEMBER" were made at Cercco, the Experimentation and Research Centre for Contemporary Ceramics of the Geneva University of Art and Design (HEAD) from a selection of molds, dating from the 19th century to the present, belonging to the NUOVE//Residency collection.

NUOVE//Residency is a residency program for artists interested in learning about, experimenting with and producing ceramic works. In 2013, during her residency there, Morgane Tschiember created "Shibaris," her first series of ceramic works, representative of her artistic practice and her experimentation with materials.

The "enameling" session for the works produced for this exhibition is based on John M Armleder's experiments with color, as was his iconic series of "Pour" paintings, inspired, most notably, by the work of Larry Poons.

John M Armleder

In 1969, John M Armleder, together with other artists involved with Fluxus, founded the Groupe Ecart and the gallery of the same name. He has developed an impressively subtle and complex body of work, ranging from performances and installations in the 1970s to collages, abstract compositions, explicit borrowings from the history of art and the reuse of furniture ("Furniture Sculptures"), which made his name in the 1980s and brought him to the forefront of the art scene with the international recognition of the Neo-Geo movement.
(www.lespressesdureel.com)

John M Armleder is represented by the galleries Andrea Caratsch (St. Moritz, Zurich), Massimo de Carlo (Milan, London, Hong Kong), Mehdi Chouakri (Berlin) and Almine Rech (Paris).

Morgane Tschiember

Since she began her fine-arts studies, first in Quimper, France, and then in Paris, where her degree project was a campaign for JCDecaux advertising panels, Morgane Tschiember has made images from materials, forms and color. She is attracted by photography, but the third dimension takes precedence because of its relation to the real world, made of matter, experiments, experiences, movement and the verification of one's presence in the present, in the moment.

Whether she is building walls, twisting sheets of metal, dancing in front of Ellsworth Kelly paintings, heating steel or pouring concrete, Morgane Tschiember engages in head-on combat with space and time by choreographing her gestures and movements and through the spiritual dimension of these creation rituals.

Winner of the Prix Jeune Création/Espace Paul Ricard in 2001, she has collaborated with such artists as Olivier Mosset and Douglas Gordon. Tschiember has participated in numerous exhibitions around the world (France, Austria, Belgium, Great Britain, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Serbia, Japan, Switzerland and the United States).

"JOHN M ARMLEDER/MORGANE TSCHIEMBER" is part of a series of exhibitions called "AFFINITIES" being held in 2017-2018* at the Loevenbruck gallery, beginning in April 2017. Each exhibition features the work of two contemporary or historical artists. In 2018, Loevenbruck, Paris, will publish a work covering each exhibition.

*2017-2018 "AFFINITIES" EXHIBITION PROGRAM

#1. MARCEL DUCHAMP/JEAN DUPUY (APRIL 28–MAY 27, 2017)

#2. TETSUMI KUDO/KEY HIRAGA (JUNE 2–JULY 29, 2017)

#3. PHILIPPE MAYAUX/PIERRE MOLINIER (SEPTEMBER 22–OCTOBER 14, 2017)

#4. ALLAN KAPROW/ARNAUD LABELLE-ROJOUX (OCTOBER 20–NOVEMBER 25, 2017)

#5. JOHN M ARMLEDER/MORGANE TSCHIEMBER (DECEMBER 1–JANUARY 20, 2018)

Translated by Heidi Ellison

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Gallery opening hours: Tue - Sat, 11am-7pm and by appointment