

PRESS RELEASE  
24 SEPTEMBER 2012



Institut Culturel  
*Bernard Magrez*  
Bordeaux

The Institut Culturel Bernard Magrez presents

# Beauty and the Beast

*Crossed Beauty in contemporary art*

From 13 October 2012 to 27 July 2013

Bringing together major artworks by international artists, as well as new works from the Bernard Magrez Collection, the Institut Culturel proposes an exhibition of modern and contemporary art with the artists:

Adel Abdessemed, David Altmejd, Valérie Belin, Marie Bovo, Bernard Buffet, Mircea Cantor, Johan Creten, Wim Delvoye, Camille Henrot, Bharti Kher, Yves Klein, Rachel Labastie, Sigalit Landau, Liza Lou, René Magritte, André Masson, Boris Mikhailov, Moataz Nasr, Shirin Neshat, Jean-Michel Othoniel, Paola Pivi, Martial Raysse, Germaine Richier, Raqib Shaw, Djamel Tatah, Xavier Veilhan and Yang Fudong

With the exceptional support of the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris for the loan of

*Les Oiseaux, le Rapace*, 1959 by Bernard Buffet

And installations in the Château's Pavilions of the artists in residence at the Institut Culturel:

**Claire Adelfang** exhibits a selection of her photographic work on water in the Pavilion Gallery

**Guy Limone** offers a new view on the 'sleeping beauty' city of Bordeaux in the reception Pavilion

**Judith Avenel** installs her bronze women's busts in the Garden Pavilion

**Artistic curator**

Ashok Adicéam

**Catalogue text**

Paul Ardenne (art historian)



Valérie Belin  
*Cleome Spinosa*  
(Spider Flower)  
2010



Bernard Buffet  
*Les Oiseaux,*  
*le Rapace*  
1959



Xavier Veilhan,  
*Marine*, 2011



Boris Mikhailov,  
*Case History*, 1997

**The Institut Culturel Bernard Magrez's new exhibition of modern and contemporary art crosses men's and women's views on Beauty, bringing forth the paradox of Beauty induced by the confrontation of thirty artworks.**

Referring to Jean Cocteau's eponymous film of 1946, adapted from a story written in the tradition of the French literary salons of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, *Beauty and the Beast* invites us to reflect on the duality of Beauty, one of art's fundamental subjects that questions the notions of otherness, of one's reflection in the eye of another, of the identity that is built in the strange mirror of one's kind. This observation is particularly striking in the connection the artist has with his model, who sometimes becomes the alter ego that he needs to represent himself in the world. This double often provokes ambivalent relationships of domination and subjection, avid voracity or an insatiable quest of the singularity of oneself in the other... It is one of the keys to understanding the famous Bernard Buffet painting, *Les Oiseaux, le Rapace*, 1959, that displays in a naked and perfect body the person who will become from then on the artist's muse, the artist represented as a monstrous hawk that is devouring her.

Based on this artwork, this exhibition will mainly be made up of major works on loan from prestigious institutions and artists, as well as a selection from the Bernard Magrez Collection: paintings, sculptures, photos, videos and installations. **An ensemble of heterogeneous media to bring light to a contemporary itinerary of *Beauty and the Beast* in the salons of Château Labottière, transformed into a new space of visual poetry and emotions.**

'To live upright, to respect the other, to never give up, to gain temperance', are the values that Bernard Magrez and the Institut Culturel wish to share with young artists through its exhibitions and its collection. Inscribed as an autograph on the front of the residency in neon letters, they are, in an eclectic manner, proof of the passionate view and singular experience of a man's life, attached to the question of Beauty, to symbolism in art and the search for the universal. These are the values brought to light by the Masters and masterpieces of the *Beauty and the Beast* exhibition, a new journey of the Institut Culturel Bernard Magrez.

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

### Opening hours

Friday, Saturday and Sunday, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

**Wednesday and Thursday: groups by appointment only**

### Rates

Full rate: 6 €

Reduced rate : 4 €

Free for children under 12 years of age and job seekers

### Institut Culturel Bernard Magrez

5 rue Labottière

33000 BORDEAUX

Tel: +33 (0)5 56 81 72 77

[www.institut-bernard-magrez.com](http://www.institut-bernard-magrez.com)

[blog.institut-bernard-magrez.com](http://blog.institut-bernard-magrez.com)

### CONTACTS

Institut Culturel Bernard Magrez

Bernard Magrez, president

Ashok Adicéam, director and exhibition curator

Alice Cavender, coordinator

[a.cavender@institut-bernard-magrez.com](mailto:a.cavender@institut-bernard-magrez.com)

+33 (0)5 56 81 72 77

Press Relations

CLAUDINE COLIN COMMUNICATION – +33 (0)1 42 72 60 01

Mathilde Beaujard – [mathilde@claudinecolin.com](mailto:mathilde@claudinecolin.com)