

ART PLURAL GALLERY

PRESS RELEASE
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Fabienne Verdier: A Solo Exhibition

Singapore, November 2012 - Art Plural Gallery is pleased to announce the inaugural solo exhibition of French artist **Fabienne Verdier** in Southeast Asia. The exhibition runs from **25 January to 9 March 2013** and features her latest drawings and large-scale paintings.



Fabienne Verdier will be sharing about her work and philosophy in an invite-only private tour organised by the gallery. A comprehensive, fully-illustrated art book will be published on this occasion. For her Southeast Asian premiere, Fabienne Verdier explores the theme of abstract landscapes inspired by her journey by the coastline of Norway. Verdier seeks inspiration from the living – the movement of life forces through stone and soil. Encapsulating the transience of things, Verdier's forms are restrained yet spontaneous.

"Most recently, I have been impelled to explore the genesis of living matter, the spontaneous emergence of structures, movements, folds, the natural dynamics of the birth of land forms. With my brush as my companion the flow of matter becomes a landscape, the canvas a physical map, a kind of geography of the spirit which brings us to perceive the hidden framework of the world."

- Fabienne Verdier

As the only French artist who has ever mastered traditional ink painting, Verdier has dedicated almost a decade to spending her life in China for an apprenticeship with master calligraphers in the 1980's, as related in her bestselling novel *Passagère du Silence*. More than honing her craft, she had left with a heart of asceticism and a profound understanding that beneath the trajectory of a brush stroke lies the spirit of life.

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Memories of Norway #1, 2012
Mixed media on canvas
211 x 180 cm

Fabienne Verdier transcends borders, bridging Asian philosophy with Western minimal abstraction which she had later revisited. Paying homage to early Flemish masters of the 15th Century, she transcribes the essence of her being onto the canvas with bright flashes of colours. Ultimately, the seeds that she had sowed had bloomed into her own artistic language. To the artist, each new painting is an experiment of the moment as a way to encapsulate the intensity and the reflection of a precise instant. Placing herself at the centre rather than the edge of the canvas, Verdier identifies herself with the painting, an embodiment of a synthesis between the body and the flux that surrounds it. Fabienne Verdier paints in repose, a pure reflection of the maelstrom of life.

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About Fabienne Verdier

Fabienne Verdier uses space to capture the intrinsic forces of life in a perfect stroke. It is a complete dialogue through the chosen spiritual elements transcending to the material world that drives her creations. The cosmic power of existence is expanded through her art in a philosophical manner at a given instant, beyond boundaries. Verdier works vertically using gravitational force as a tool to enhance the transmission of the matter through movement, captured into a moment's time in the essence of equilibrium. Painting with animal brushes such as horsehair or rooster feathers, her instruments funnel energy onto the work from their own living spirit. The canvas arena is occupied by incandescent colors that bring the artist back to her western sparkle and black, to the ultimate power: "the color by which all is materialized". Ten years in China working with masters in traditional ink painting and a lifetime of inspiration through the icons of art history, have led the artist's innate East-West spirit to be driven by the quest of oneness with the universe.



Color Flows 7, 2012
Mixed media on canvas
143 x 257 cm
Horizontal Triptych

Born in Paris in 1962, Verdier graduated from the Ecole des Beaux-Arts of Toulouse in 1983 while studying Chinese at the Institut des Langues et Civilisation Orientales in Paris. Verdier's solo exhibitions include the Chongqing Fine Arts Centre, China, Peking Fine Arts Centre's international calligraphy exhibition, The French Embassy Beijing, Maison de la Chine, Paris, the Center for Contemporary Art, Hong Kong, Galerie Joyce, Palais Royal, Paris, and the Pacific Cultural Foundation, Taiwan. An important solo exhibition will take place at the Groeninge Museum in Bruges in March 2013. Verdier has created several important private commissions as well as having works in important private and public collections such as Francois Pinault, Barbier-Mueller, the H. Looser Foundation, Centre Pompidou, and Cernuschi Museum in Paris. The artist lives and works in France.

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Exhibition Details:

Fabienne Verdier: A Solo Exhibition
25th January to 9th March 2013

Art Plural Gallery
38 Armenian Street, Singapore 179942
Monday - Saturday from 11 am to 7 pm

About Art Plural Gallery

Art Plural Gallery is a unique space dedicated to Modern, Contemporary Art and Design in the heart of Singapore's cultural district. This innovative platform nestled in a four-storey Art Deco heritage building presents solo and group exhibitions, installations, public art projects, conferences, and art publications.

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