

PRESS RELEASE

BRAFA Art Fair

January 26 - February 2, 2020

Press Preview: Thursday, January 23, 2020, 2:00 pm

DIE GALERIE, Booth No. 56A

Tour & Taxis, Avenue du Port 88 Havenlaan, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

DIE GALERIE is pleased to announce its sixth participation at BRAFA Art Fair with a prestigious presentation of three central aspects of the gallery program: selected works of the Modern Masters André Masson, Max Ernst, Roberto Matta and Pablo Picasso; a high quality collection of paintings and works on paper by CoBrA artists; again the colorful paintings by French artist Alain Clément and for the first time in Brussels a special presentation of the German contemporary painter Johannes Heisig (*1953).

Among the highlights of DIE GALERIE's presentation, special attention deserves the large-size



masterpiece *Retour des Choses* by **Pierre Alechinsky**, painted in 1993-94, a unique work of imaginative strength. It is a typical composition that stimulates the viewer's dreams and thoughts and shows the whole bunch of characteristics that distinguish Alechinsky's rich work: the typical technique of a painting in acrylic on thin Japanese paper, which is then applied to the canvas by the artist himself and which gives the picture its unique scriptural structures and its translucent, refined luminosity. On the other hand, *Retour des Choses*, like many works by **Pierre Alechinsky**, has a central motif surrounded by a painted frame, and in this case also a "predella" with a more or less independent comic-like storytelling. The title of the painting provides a certain interpretation or association, but does not clearly define it.

This is only one of the works of the CoBrA-artists powerfully and freshly attracting the visitors: **Asger Jorn**, **Karel Appel** and **Carl-Henning Pedersen** will contribute likewise.

Pedersen is said to be the "Chagall of the North", and indeed, there are analogies not only in the aspect of color. Both painters are genuine story-tellers, awaking personal memories from the past and from folkloristic myths. Symbols of love and of a life in freedom are dominant elements in their emotional compositions.



-2-

Furthermore, an exquisite cabinet of Modern Classics assembles paintings by the Surrealists **Max Ernst** – we are happy to present the important work *La Forêt* from 1925, one of his earliest frottage paintings. It belongs to one of the most creative periods in Max Ernst's oeuvre, marked by a constant stream of technical experimentation and invention. It was during these years that the artist established his visual universe of themes and images that were to become central to his entire career. One of Ernst's key subjects was the forest, and it was in the series of Forêt paintings of the early 1920s that Ernst first explored his newly developed grattage technique.

Roberto Matta, Max Ernst's long term artistic companion will be featured with three of his beautiful surrealist insight landscapes, next to exceptional graphic works by **Pablo Picasso**.



With two painters, the French **Alain Clément** (born 1941) and the German **Johannes Heisig** (born 1953) DIE GALERIE will represent the contemporary aspect of its gallery program. Like in previous years, the color- and joyful abstract compositions of **Alain Clément** will attract the visitors immediately, whereas Johannes Heisig will be shown for the first time in Brussels showing a bright selection of his multifaceted work.



Johannes Heisig (born 1953) began studying painting and graphics at the Academy of Visual Arts in Leipzig in 1973 while concurrently working in the workshop of his father Bernhard Heisig. Obtaining his diploma in 1977, from 1978 to 1980 he did advance studies under Gerhard Kettner at the Dresden Academy of Fine Arts (HfBK). His art education was followed by a fellowship at the F+F School of Art and Media Design in Zurich from 1979 to 1980. In 1980 Heisig returned to Dresden to accept a teaching position at the HfBK, where he later received a lectureship and was eventually appointed rector from 1989 to 1991. In 2003 he became a professor at the University of Dortmund. Since 1980 Heisig has exhibited regularly both at home and abroad; his work is found in the collections of numerous prestigious museums throughout Germany and Europe. Since 2000 he had been living and working in Berlin and established his new studio in the countryside of Kyritz in Brandenburg in 2015. The selection of his work presented at BRAFA includes landscapes, still-lives and philosophical reflections.

For further information on site please contact Mrs. Elke Mohr, personally at the fair venue, booth No. 56A, or mail to elke.mohr@die-galerie.com.

Press images



Roberto Matta

Être supérieur des oiseaux

1971

Öl auf Leinwand · *Oil on canvas*

101 x 83 cm

Signiert, datiert und betitelt unten rechts ·

Signed, dated and entitled lower right



Pierre Alechinsky

Retour des Choses

1993-1994

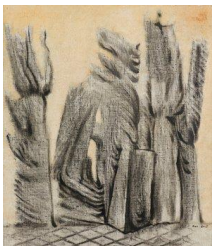
Acryl auf Papier, aufgelegt auf Leinwand · *Acrylic on paper, laid on canvas*

247 x 192,5 cm

Signiert und datiert unten rechts: "Alechinsky

1993-1994" · *Signed and dated lower right:*

"Alechinsky 1993-1994"



Max Ernst

La Forêt

1925

Öl auf Leinwand · *Oil on canvas*

55 x 46 cm

Signiert "max ernst" unten rechts · *Signed "max*

ernst" lower right



Carl-Henning Pedersen

Lampens Ånd

1984

Öl auf Leinwand · *Oil on canvas*

206 x 160 cm

Signiert, datiert, lokalisiert und betitelt verso ·

Signed, dated, located and entitled verso



Alain Clément

17 A 1P

2017

Öl auf Leinwand · *Oil on canvas*

180 x 150 cm

Signiert, datiert und betitelt verso · *Signed, dated*

and entitled verso

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