

Artists' portraits : exhibition of a collection of works of art

Artists' portraits is a collection started by the SmartBe Foundation. The Foundation decided to put together a collection of contemporary works of art in connection with the artist's portrait, a theme close to the mission and objectives of SMartBe.

This exhibition shows the first acquisitions of this collection and the directions of its development: artists' self-portraits, portraits of other artists or of their work, creations relating to fictitious artists, citations and evocations of works, relations between artists and society.

Its directions and choices make this an open collection. A collection which covers and compares several generations of artists with recourse to a range of disciplines (painting, sculpture, installation, photography, drawing, illustration, literature, music, theatre, video, in particular). A collection which brings together artists recognised on the national and international scenes as well as up-and-coming artists. A collection which compares a panel of aesthetics to improve the outlining of the subject, the face, the image, even a moment of the artists' path. Choices which are based on the quality of the works and on the specificity of their contribution to the collection.

A collection which is in its initial stages. You might say that its directions are not, at present, all of the same significance, that some artistic disciplines are non-existent or barely outlined. So, it must develop over the next few years. This collection is intended for the SmartBe offices, for loans for temporary exhibitions and for the organisation of more extensive exhibitions on the theme of the artist's portrait.

In addition to the acquisitions, this exhibition is supplemented by works loaned by certain artists, by works commissioned by SMartBe for its publications, by a commission resulting from a call for proposals and by a video clip of a music group which SMartBe has given a residence and production grant.

Works by:

Philip Akkerman (NI), Hélène Amouzou (Togo), Alain Bachet (Fr), Stephan Balleux (B), Michel Binstock (B), Roland Breucker (B), Jacques Brissot (Fr), Pierre Buraglio (Fr), Thomas Chable (B), Jacques Charlier (B), Jean-Jules Chasse-Pot (Fr), Philippe De Gobert (B), Lara Denil (B), Manuel Hermia (B), Teun Hocks (NI), Jean Le Gac (Fr), Jacques Lennep (B), Emilio López-Menchero (B), Michael Matthijs (B), Raymond Minnen (B), Pierre Molinier (Fr), Laurent Sfar (Fr), Thierry Zéno (B) and guest artists.

SMartBe, in a few words

The SMartBe Foundation guarantees the financial sustainability of SMartBe as a whole. In the context of a social economy activity, SMartBe defends and represents the creative professions, proposes administrative, legal, fiscal and financial tools to simplify and authenticate the professional activity of full-time and intermittent artists.