

Galerie Louis Gendre

Jean-Christophe De Clercq's digital figures

Jean-Christophe De Clercq works mainly with ink and gouache on paper and sometimes with acrylic. His singular figures bear resemblance to something almost palpable whilst avoiding any identification arising from his exploration of those mediums.



The medium does not depict the living, rather it gives body and life to these sensitive and autonomous figures. These figures, albeit in appearance, elude the dialectics of the figurative and the abstract. Enigmatic-looking, they are developed by the combination of mediums and tools, and seem to be born from a principle that Kandinsky named as an *inner necessity*.

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Therefore, there is nothing arbitrary about them. Finally, the well-mastered pictorial gesture imprints them with those forces that irrigate and structure the living, forces that are revealed by the artist in coherence with Paul Klee's words: *Art does not describe the visible, it renders it visible.*



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Then, a significant event happened in Jean-Christophe De Clercq's life; a seemingly endless house-moving obliged him to abandon temporarily his brushes, mediums and papers. This temporary setback provided him with the opportunity of familiarizing himself with the digital tool. Consequently, he put his pictorial issues to the test of these new contingencies.



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From that moment on, the figures have resulted from the effects of that new tool. Although the “removal of the hand” and therefore the subjective presence of the artist make them more impersonal. The regrets, the adjustments, the modulation or the trials and errors, unthinkable with the brush, are now rendered possible. The digital tool especially allows the speedy exploitation of subtle and infinite chromatic phenomena: musical modulations of colourful and shaded intensity, variations of transparencies and simultaneous contrasts of heat, luminosity, quality and quantity, as well as colourful new harmonies evolving from one figure to another depending on the subjectivity and personal intuition nourished by former works.

Unprecedented figures, freed from the traditional gesture of the painter-calligrapher, emerge from a tool whose mastery and control today encourages a more immediate interaction between thought and the creative process.

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Exhibition Novembre 18, 2020 - Janvier 16, 2021.

Hours : From Wednesday to Friday 2-7pm, Saturday 10am -6pm.

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