

Laurent Le Deunff



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Laurent Le Deunff
Chewing-gum, 2010
Pink quartz
16 x 6 x 13,5 cm
unique artwork
Photo : Claire Soubrier
Courtesy Semiose galerie, Paris
INV Nbr. LLD-10-004

Laurent Le Deunff



Laurent Le Deunff
Os, 2010
Alabaster
14 x 1,2 x 4,5 cm
unique artwork
Photo : Claire Soubrier
Courtesy Semiose galerie, Paris
INV Nbr. LLD-10-003

Laurent Le Deunff



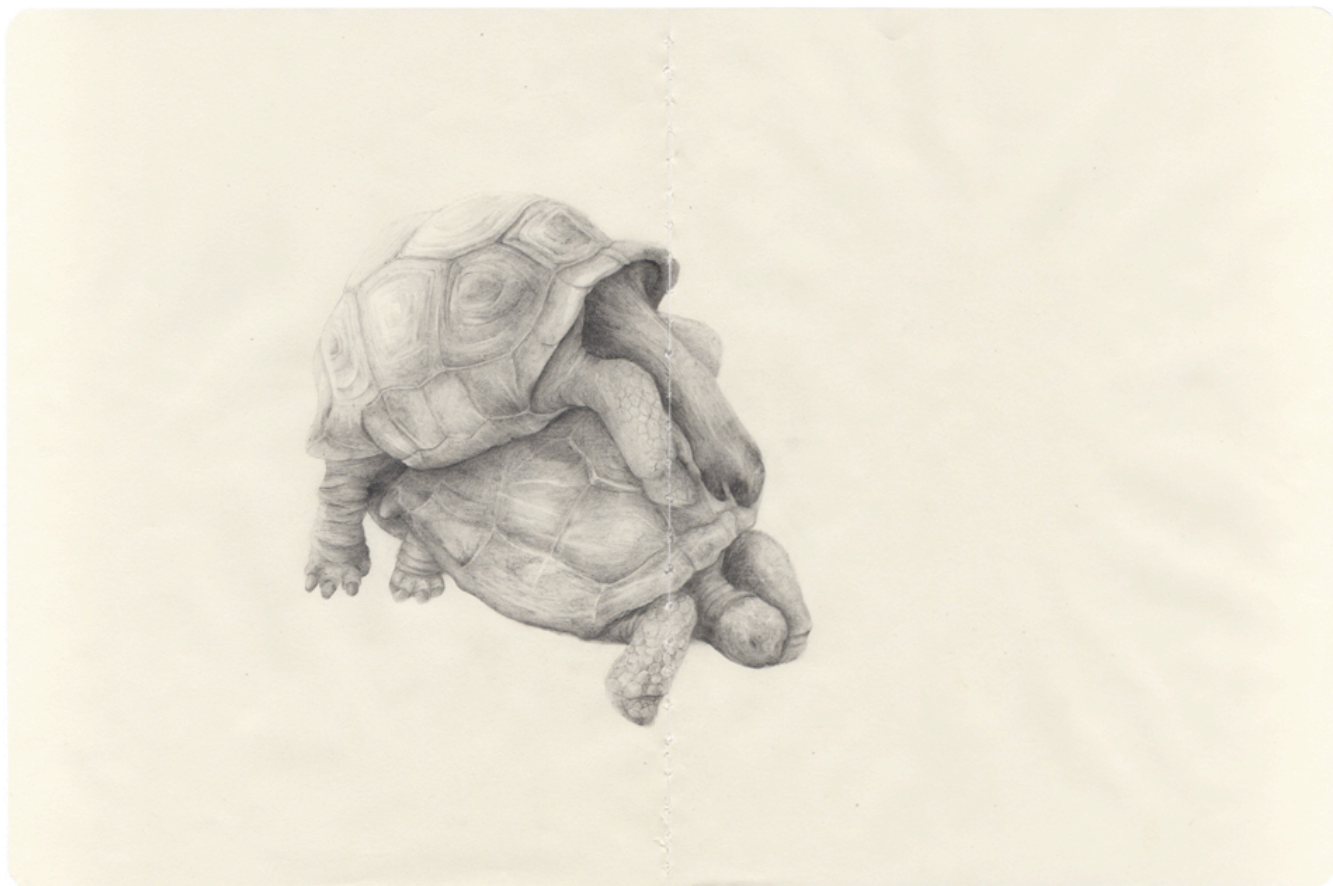
Laurent Le Deunff
Massue, 2010
pine
50 x 20 x 20 cm
unique artwork
Courtesy Semiose galerie, Paris
INV Nbr. LLD-10-005

Laurent Le Deunff



Laurent Le Deunff
Rut (elephants de mer), 2011
pencil on moleskine paper
18 x 35 cm
unique artwork
Courtesy Semiose galerie, Paris.
INV Nbr. LLD-11-010

Laurent Le Deunff



Laurent Le Deunff
Rut (tortues), 2011
pencil on moleskine paper
18 x 35 cm
unique artwork
Courtesy Semiose galerie, Paris.
INV Nbr. LLD-11-012

Laurent Le Deunff



Laurent Le Deunff
Rut (pandas), 2011
Pencil on moleskine paper
18 x 35 cm
unique artwork
Courtesy Semiose galerie, Paris.
INV Nbr. LLD-11-011

Laurent Le Deunff

Laurent Le Deunff works principally with materials drawn from the world of nature. His favoured medium is wood, in which he has produced sculptures so perfectly finished that in certain cases they fall somewhere between art objects, manufactured goods and hand crafted works. The artist has no hesitation in confusing the issue still further, playing on his craftsmanship and the “hand made” aspect of his work, which he pushes to the limit by producing oeuvres made from nail clippings (Crâne, 2002-2003) or sculpted animal teeth (Autoportrait, 2003) that could easily be categorised as being related to art brut.

For Laurent Le Deunff, his choice of material leads naturally to the object created (a bone in alabaster, a club made from stripped down wood...). His work is inspired to a great extent by subjects associated with nature (campfires, animals, tents, caves...), which remains the principal theme of his artistic research as opposed to the proliferation of forms and materials emerging from our post-industrial society.

The accessibility of Laurent Le Deunff’s work however, conceals the aesthetic issues at the heart of his sculpture and it would be a great mistake to see them as simply popular themes that have been reworked to current tastes. On the contrary, reading his work is a much more complex matter.

The subjects of the artist’s work and the techniques he has developed - essentially straight carving but also modelling (both used throughout the history of sculpture) – affirm the absence of any formal hierarchy or category beyond the concept of high or low art, the questioning of which is at the heart of contemporary creativity.

It would be rather easy to speak of a “return to nature” in common with a number of other artists and especially certain sculptors, but Laurent Le Deunff’s work shows his attachment to sheltered world of the forest, which acts as a setting for his work and the cultivation of his own personal sphere.

For his first solo exhibition at the Semiose gallery, the idea is not to recreate a piece of nature within the gallery, but rather to confront the spectator with a diversity of works, whose formal characteristics are both surprising and intriguing (the tunnels of a mole, a giant conch shell, a sculpted animal tooth...) – subjects that Laurent Le Deunff takes great pleasure in re-interpreting, while playing with their scale and the potential of the chosen materials in order to add a fascinating dimension to their representation.

As well as his sculptures, the artist has chosen to show a series of drawings on the subject of animals mating. These drawings are imbued with his usual graphic delicacy, but also have a particular feature in that they suggest a tangle of shapes that one might imagine to be the result of the meeting of the two animals in question.

Valérie da Costa

(Translation Chris Atkinson)

Born in 1977, Lives and works Bordeaux (Fr).

Solo shows

2011

- Laurent Le Deunff, Domaine Départemental de Méréville (Fr).
- Laurent Le Deunff, Abbaye de Saint-André, Centre d'Art Contemporain, Meymac(Fr).
- Laurent Le Deunff, Musée des Beaux-Art de Libourne, Chapelle du Carmel, Libourne(Fr).

2010

- Wigwam, galerie ACDC, Bordeaux, (Fr)

2008

- *Autoportrait dans la nature*, Les Arts au Mur, Artothèque municipale, Pessac(Fr).
- *Sous-bois*, galerie Bonneau-Samames, Marseille (Fr).
- *Laurent Le Deunff*, Orangerie du château de la Louvière, Montluçon(Fr).

2007

- *44°50'54N / 0°34'19W*, CAPC, Musée d'Art Contemporain, Bordeaux(Fr).

2004

- *Pastiche naturaliste*, À suivre... la galerie, Bordeaux (Fr).

Group shows

2011

- *L'avenir du paysage*, Semiose galerie, Paris.
- *Rituels*, Fondation d'entreprise Ricard, Paris.
- *De la neige en été*, Le Confort Moderne, Poitiers.
- *100 dessins contre la guerre du Vietnam*, Komplot, Bruxelles et Le Commissariat, Paris.
- *Le Château*, CAPC, Musée d'art contemporain, Bordeaux(fr).
- *Parking de sculptures*, Le Confort Moderne, Poitiers(Fr).
- *Les assistants*, Galerie Sentiment océanique, Bordeaux(Fr).

2010

- *Parking de sculptures*, Le Confort Moderne, Poitiers(Fr).
- *Dans la forêt*, FRAC-Collection Aquitaine, Bordeaux (Fr).

2009

- *Écotone*, La Station, Nice (Fr)
- *Où sont passées les fées ?*, CAPC, Musée d'Art Contemporain, Bordeaux(Fr).
- *100% Vent des forêts*, Le vent des forêts, Fresnes-au-Mont(Fr).
- *Le complexe de Ritteberger*, Glassbox, Cité Internationale Universitaire de Paris.
- 3ème Biennale d'art contemporain du littoral, Anglet.
- *Opéra Rock*, Jean-Luc Blanc, CAPC, Musée d'Art Contemporain, Bordeaux(Fr).

2008

- The Sovereign European Art Prize - An exhibition of short-listed works, Sommerset house, London / UK
- *Nocturama*, galerie LHK, Paris
- *Les Florales*, Garein.
- Group show, galerie Bonneau-Samames, Marseille(Fr).

2007

- *Série noire*, Villa Bernasconi, Lancy / CH
- *Bermudes*, lieu d'art À suivre..., Bordeaux(Fr)

2006

- *Vous êtes ici*, château Bastor-Lamontagne, Preignac.
- *Le chemin des sauvages*, Le Castel, Floirac(Fr).

2005

- *Domaine arboricole*, lieu d'art À suivre..., Bordeaux(Fr).
- *Faune-Flore*, Château de Saussignac(Fr).
- *Recorded spaces*, Ingan, projektraum, Berlin / G

2004

- *Et persée érotise ces époïs*, À suivre...la galerie, Bordeaux(Fr)

2003

- *Deux temps, trois mouvements*, Halle des Chartrons, Bordeaux(Fr).

2002

- 4th festival of nationalities, Municipalité de la Canée, Crète / GR
- *Vous êtes ici*, Saint-Germain d'Esteuil, (Fr)
- *Histoires naturelles*, Muséum d'Histoires Naturelles, Paris.
- *Histoires naturelles*, Parc Zoologique, Clères(Fr).

2001

- *Chevelure, coiffure*, Musée des Beaux-Arts, Bordeaux(Fr).

Residencies

2011

- Residence a l'Abbaye de Saint-André, Centre d'Art Contemporain, Meymac(Fr).

2009

- Residence a Le vent des forêts, Fresnes-au-Mont(Fr).

2008

- Sovereign European Art Prize - Shortlisted / UK
- Programme d'aide artistique D.R.A.C. Aquitaine, Bordeaux(Fr)
- Residence a Shakers, Lieux d'Effervescence, Montluçon(Fr).

2007

- Residence au CAPC, Musée d'Art Contemporain, Bordeaux(Fr).

2005

- Jean-Claude Reynal Prize.

Public Collections

- FRAC-Collection Aquitaine, Bordeaux(Fr).
- Le Ring, Artothèque de Nantes(Fr).
- Les Arts au Mur, Artothèque municipale, Pessac(Fr).
- Artothèque Départementale de la Gironde(fr).

Catalogs and interviews

- DRESSEN, Anne, Interview with Laurent Le Deunff, Catalogue of Dynasty, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris et Le Palais de Tokyo, Paris, 2010.
- Portfolio, Carte blanche, Mouvement n° 56, Juillet - Septembre 2010.
- LEQUEUX, Emmanuelle, Cent œuvres d'art rendent vie aux champs autour de Verdun, Le Monde, Août 2010.
- LEYDIER, Richard, The coming generation, Art Press n° 369, Juillet - Août 2010.
- DUPUIS, Dorothée, Dromen van een nieuwe dynastie, Metropolis M n° 3, Juin - Juillet 2010.
- LAVRADOR, Judicaël, Grey's anatomy, Les Inrockuptibles n° 760, Juin 2010.
- LAVRADOR, Judicaël, Le dessin contemporain sur tous les fronts, Beaux-Arts Magazine, Avril 2010.

- HURET, Lauren, En réserve, ACDC galerie, Bordeaux, 2010.
- BENOIT, Marine, L'appel de la forêt, Les Inrockuptibles n° 717, Juin 2009.
- ARDENNE, Paul, 3ème Biennale d'Art Contemporain, Art Press n° 359, Septembre 2009.
- RAMADE, Bénédicte, Bing Bang Blanc, L'œil n° 313, Mai 2009.
- MOULÈNE, Claire, Fenêtres de dialogues, Les Inrockuptibles n° 694, Mars 2009.
- ARNAUDET, Didier, Laurent Le Deunff, Art Press n° 352, Janvier 2009.
- VAILLANT, Alexis, Catalogue of Opéra Rock, Jean-Luc Blanc, CAPC, Musée d'Art Contemporain, Bordeaux.
- TRAN, Mai, Le Végétal, Revue 303 n° 103, Novembre 2008.
- LIRON, Jérémy, Laurent Le Deunff, Semaines n° 13, Novembre 2008.
- SIMON, Vincent, Laurent Le Deunff, Catalogue of the residence at Shakers, 2008.
- HERMET, Benoît, Les beaux jours du dessin, Le Festin n° 58, Ete 2006.
- COLOMES, Anne, Chasseurs flous, éditions La Cabane, 2004.