

HANS-PETER FELDMANN

Exhibition from October 13th to December 15th

"Willendorf, Willendorf!" he calls out, and so do I. Willendorf is a woman of about 40, 100 and 23,000 years of age! She is also called Venus like Lespugue (who was two), Brassempouy, Vestonice, Milo, Stenton and many others. Ten million years ago, acclimating to a new landscape of beautiful meadows and woodlands, their - and our - ancestors stood up, a curious home improvement for better living. And this new stance pushed breasts out, made a boastful belly, sheltered the genitals and encouraged generous buttocks to balance out the build. Woman turned into Venus. Forget that she is a symbol of fertility. How trite. But if with Feldmann and his dolls she's simply called Beauty, and a hint of eroticism is added, then we've got a wholly shared world elegance, a universal, regardless of gender.

Yves Coppens, October 2018

The Galerie Martine Aboucaya is pleased to announce the fourth solo exhibit of Hans-Peter Feldmann. Feldmann, born in 1941, burst onto the art scene at the end of the 1960s by composing and exhibiting notebooks made up of found images like post cards, newspaper clips or posters. These images are part of his impressive archive, organized in his very own personal system of series. He's a compulsive collector and wild about images and stories, and an original thinker.

He has an often-eccentric relationship with art: in the 1980s he left the art world and sold thimbles by mail order, opened a shop in Dusseldorf, manufactured pewter trains and published artist books. A decade later, he resumed his art right where he had left off.

His work recontextualizes our quotidian objects by cataloguing the commonplace and applying new meanings.

In this exhibition, he broaches the nude taboos and shows full size sex dolls in daily and familiar situations. One is reading a book and the other is crying. As is his wont, he removes objects from their original context and endows these dolls with the status of a human representation, figurative sculptures without any hierarchy.

The history of humanity and the history of art glorified the female body. The representation of nudity is a universal theme. Here, Feldmann kindles our interest in morality, the forbidden and sexuality. The simplicity of his art practice and his curiosity resonate with his immense knowledge of images and works throughout history.



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List of presented works:

main room :

Régine
Sex Doll reading
silicone
1,60 m high

Françoise
Sex Doll crying
silicone
1,60 m high

second room :

FlowerPicture #11
color photo
170 x 120 cm

FlowerPicture #13
color photo
170 x 120 cm

Painting of Light
2 hooks
dimensions variable

AirPlane on cardboard
cardboard
45 x 135 cm

Cushion on pedestal
cushion
48 x 65 x 30 cm

Desk :

FlowerPots
flowerpots
15 elements
dimensions variable

3 Gracies
painted plaster
34 x 35 cm

Family photo clipped in a wooden frame
b/w photo clipped in a wooden frame
65 x 95 x 4 cm

Modigliani with wool
inkjet and collage on canvas
45 x 70 cm