RETROFUTURISM / STEAMPUNK / ARCHEOMODERNISM

GROUP SHOW

GALERIE DU JOUR AGNÈS B. March 24 to May 26 2012
- 44 rue Quincampoix, Paris 4ème -

Part of the artwork will also be displayed at agnès b.’s headquarter from April 5 to May 5 2012

DOVE ALLOUCHE & EVARISTE RICHER / JESSE D’ANGELO / HENRI ARMENGOL / MR. AUDAX
EMILE BAYARD / ADRIEN BEAU / LÉON BENETT / BOB BASSET / FRANCO BRAMBILLA / MATTHEW
BUCHHOLZ RAY CAESAR / MARC CARO / BILL DOMONKOS / LIYOD DUNN / CAMILLE FLAMMARION
LÉON GIMPEL / DIDIER GRAFFET / MAURICE «REDSTAR» GRUNBAUM / LAURENT GRASSO / HUGH
FERRIS / HENRI LANOS / ELISE LECLERCQ / LAURENT MONTARON / HENRI DE MONTHAUT / SAM VAN
OLFFEN / PLONK ET REPLONK / HUGUES REIP / FRANCK REZZAK / EDOUARD RIOU / ALBERT ROBIDA
LUCIEN RUDAUX / RUPERT ET MULOT / MARKUS SCHINWALD / SAMON TAKAHASHI / TEMPUS FACTORIS
KEITH THOMPSON / ETIENNE LÉOPOLD TROUVELOT / XAVIER VEILHAN

Curator: Jean-François Sanz
The intense fascination for the future revealed by certain past works is reciprocated by the equally intense appeal that these past works have for contemporary artists, notably through the historical form of modernism. From the way in which we previously imagined the future, and the retrospective gaze that the present era levels at the past – particularly at its vision of modernity and its often naive or fantastical anticipation of the future – come the questions behind the exhibition FUTURE ANTERIOR.

Structured around the themes of retrofuturism, steampunk and archeomodernism – a concept developed by the academic, critic and curator Arnauld Pierre - the exhibition FUTURE ANTERIOR aims to create a dialogue between past cultural output that imagined the future – what is essentially our postmodern era – with work from contemporary artists, which in both form and substance refer to the past by revisiting and reviving certain visions of the future or of modernity, generated mainly between the last third of the 19th century and the first half of the 20th century.

The exhibition takes a transversal approach, intersecting different aesthetic and temporal veins. A selection of work from contemporary artists will be grouped with older work and documents – each giving perspective to the others. In addition, one section will be dedicated to cinema and another to the various accessories, devices and artefacts developed by the steampunk community. In a separate section, the exhibition will also include the first French retrospective of the American magazine Retrofuturism, in the form of an installation designed by its originator, the artist and editor Lloyd Dunn.

The dynamic explored here rests on a continual shifting back and forth between the past and the future, veritable time travels through creation. These shifts in time, which are brought up to our progressive present by bringing together the cultural output of different eras, are nonetheless defined by a sensibility, an aesthetic and shared interests.

In partnership with ‘La Maison d’Ailleurs (Science-fiction, Utopias and Extraordinary Voyages Museum), The city of Yverdon-Les-Bains, Swtizerland and the internet forum Steampunk.fr

illustrations © Marjolaine Sirieix