



## YVES CHALAND

Selling Exhibition *The Big Frames of The Young Albert*  
June 15th to July 28th 2012



After *Freddy Lombard* (2010), Galerie Champaka hosts an important exhibition devoted to *The Young Albert*, the character closest in personality to Yves Chaland. 27 original pages in black and white, of which only 10 will be offered for sale, 8 colour enlargements and 3 large-format facsimiles of mythic pages form a graphic hymn to the post-modern heir to the Brussels and Marcinelle schools of comics.



### Yves Chaland

An exceptional auteur, Yves Chaland (1957-1990) remains the absolute Master of the Clear Line, probably because he knew how to combine the rigour of the style initiated by Hergé (and Jacobs) with the dynamism of Franquin (and Jijé). Through his masterful oeuvre (*Bob Fish*, *Freddy Lombard* and *The Young Albert*), the French artist developed an imaginary universe: of Belgian comics of the Fifties revisited by his incredible fantasies. Without nostalgia. He polished it with taste, whereas so many others were swallowed up due to their lack of imagination.



### The Young Albert

The Young Albert was born in January 1982 in the pages of the monthly magazine *Métal Hurlant*. An acid cousin of Quick and Flupke, this odious brat strolled the Marolles quarter of Brussels. Chaland chose purity and precision in the narrative mechanics of his two-tier strips. Like Gaston for Franquin, The Young Albert allowed Chaland to explore every shade of comedy. For Jean-Luc Fromental, « Surly, cruel, argumentative, lucid and Belgian. From the outset, Albert combines all the qualities required to make him a central pillar of the basilica of Chaland ». While Freddy Lombard favours great exotic adventures (even if he sometime departs from this setting), The Young Albert frequents more intimate locations. Even if he sometimes takes a detour to observe the dark face of the human soul.



### The Big Frames

The twenty-seven original pages, from private collections, all provide the opportunities to (re-)discover a unique work in the history of comics. Each isolated frame can become not only a graphic marvel, but can also contain its own narrative. Chaland's sense of composition transforms each frame into a work of art in its own right. The precision of his brushstrokes stands up to being substantially enlarged and is equal to the outstanding mastery of Franquin, Hergé and Jacobs, as evidenced in the 8 colour enlargements of « magic » frames taken from the pages of *The Young Albert*. Whether in black and white or in colour, in small or large sizes, the Art of Chaland is eternal.

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- Monday and Tuesday:  
by appointment
- Wednesday to Saturday:  
11.00 to 18.30
- Sunday : 10.30 to 13.30

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