



GALERIE  
CHAMPAKA

Arts of the Comic

**Nicolas de Crécy**  
**Florence Selling Exhibition**  
**February 11 to March 13, 2011**

**Nicolas de Crécy is an author active across vast fields of experimentation, spanning comics, cartoons, painting and illustration. His meeting with the Galerie Champaka was inevitable. The exhibition *Florence* presents thirty graphic compositions made for the guidebook which recently appeared, from Casterman / Lonely Planet. Not forgetting some unpublished large-format works.**

**Drawing architecture**

*I've always loved drawing architecture you find in Southern Europe, says Nicolas de Crécy. In the process there are plenty of risks of turning a city into a museum, but the designer of *Foligatto* avoids them. The pictorial and architectural wealth of Florence remains an important source of pleasure. Especially when you enjoy working on the spot. The compulsion to stay "classical" in my representations was exciting. This is an exercise that has always interested me, because it allows me to avoid the graphic "ticks" often at work when you realize a comic. For me, this more or less realistic interpretation was the chance to "refresh" from my visual vocabulary.*

**The hills of Florence**

The hills are the less well-known aspect of the city of Florence. *The relationship between nature and architecture becomes exciting when you move away from the Oltrarno district (a part of Florence situated on the left bank of the Arno). The many beautiful gardens, the much larger urban space, the light that leads you on... to be honest, I preferred this. In addition, there are less known monuments and places which inspired me to draw them.* In his numerous illustrations - like the one on the invitation - de Crécy captures the reverie within reality.

**Biographical Notes**

Nicolas de Crécy (1966) was born into a family that emphasised artistic gifts (his sister and brothers are a DJ, graphic designer and animator). After having been part of the first graduates from the Ecole de bande dessinée des Beaux-arts in Angoulême, he worked for Disney Studios in Montreuil. His first book, *Foligatto* (written by Tjoyas, 1991) was hailed by critics. The same reception greets his other works, including *Bibendum céleste* (1994) and *Léon la Came* (written by Sylvain Chomet, 1995). His diverse output explores a variety of fields and processes: fast black-and-white (*Monsieur Fruit*), wordless narration (*Prosopopus*), zany fairytales (*Salvatore*), contemporary design (*New York sur Loire*), offbeat autobiography (*Journal d'un fantôme*), or *Période glaciaire*, an album commissioned by the Musée du Louvre.

Nicolas de Crécy has exhibited in many countries including the United States and Japan.

**Galerie Champaka**

27, rue Ernest Allard  
B-1000 Bruxelles Belgique  
Tel : + 32 2 514 91 52  
Fax : + 32 2 346 16 09  
sablon@galeriechampaka.com  
www.galeriechampaka.com

Opening Hours :

- Monday and Tuesday: by appointment
- Wednesday - Saturday : 11h00 to 18h30
- Sunday : 10h30 à 13h30

**Press Relations:**

Viviane Vandeninden  
Viviane.vandeninden@klach.be  
Tel: + 32 2 351 26 10  
GSM: + 32 472 31 55 37