



GALERIE
CHAMPAKA
Arts of the Comic

Exhibition
***Essence(s)* by Ever Meulen**
at the Galerie Champaka
November 19 to December 12, 2010

Ever Meulen is one of the rare contemporary Belgian designers to have acquired the status of "international illustrator". Highly selective in his creative output, he has seen his style widely plundered across the four corners of the graphic globe. The exhibition *Essence(s)* pays tribute to a creator as modest as he is essential to the Art of Illustration.

The Artist

Ever Meulen, real name Eddy Vermeulen, was born in Kuurne, Belgium in 1946. He has lived for more than 40 years in Brussels, his town. With Joost Swarte (to be exhibited at the Galerie Champaka in 2011), he is the most sophisticated representative of the modern Clear Line. Ever Meulen combines the magic heritage of the trinity Franquin-Hergé-Jacobs with the finest ingredients from the Bauhaus, the De Stijl group and Surrealism, not forgetting Giorgio de Chirico and Escher. *I do not draw reality. I like to play with it to find interesting solutions, a little crazy, surrealist perhaps. As I work on my drawings for a long time, there are plenty of ideas which feed into them while they are gestating.*

The Exhibition

Ever Meulen has been able to capture the spirit of the automobile adventure, deployed with elegance and optimism during a 20th century dedicated to the pursuit of speed. But the essence of the art of Ever Meulen is multiples. Expert at balancing forms, he celebrates the marriage of comics and modern art through graphic compositions constructed according to a delicate balance of lines, architecture, vibrations and colours. Each of them is a graphic triumph. The exhibition *Essence(s)* presents around thirty of these "icons", a good number specially created for the exhibition. He also lets us discover the plans and layout for his asymmetrical car...

The Prototype

For *Essence(s)*, Ever Meulen has imagined the Nisiov, the first asymmetrical car. A 3D mock-up and around ten drawings of 'Racing' and 'Street' versions of it have been created for the exhibition. *The Nisiov recalls the models imagined by Gabriel Voisin, a visionary engineer from between the Wars, who produced unusual, almost 'extreme' cars. The car has two working engines which use a fuel as revolutionary as it is mysterious. This wonderful dream will no doubt never hit the road, but that does not matter.* Ever Meulen has imagined Gabriel Voisin and Monsieur Legrand (the father of Jo and Zette who invented the Stratonef H.22) listening to his atypical queen of the asphalt. This drawing has been used, in colour, for the invitation card and in black and white for a numbered and signed linocut.

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 :

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