



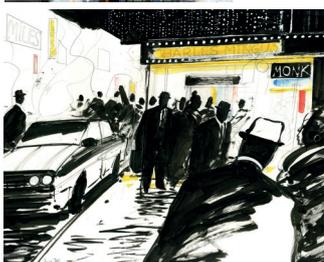
GALERIE  
CHAMPAKA

Arts of the Comic

**Louis JOOS**

**Selling exhibition *Jazz Variations***

**13-03-2014 > 06-04-2014**



**Galerie Champaka Brussels has the pleasure of hosting *Jazz Variations*, an exhibition of forty new works by Louis Joos, the artist who celebrates nights of jazz and drawing.**

### **Louis Joos**

Born in Brussels in 1940, Louis Joos is one of the Belgian masters of contemporary graphics. After becoming known as an illustrator of documentary series, he moved towards comics. In the early 1980s, the publisher Futuropolis released his first books which demonstrated his passion for Afro-American music. These were followed by biographies of jazzmen, full of humanity. As well as being crazy about jazz, since 1991 Joos has developed another facet as an illustrator of children's books (mainly for Pastel, the Belgian branch of l'Ecole des Loisirs). For Renaissance du Livre, he provides acclaimed images to the words of Baudelaire, Verlaine, Queneau, Artaud and Saint-Exupéry. Whether in watercolours, Indian ink, acrylics or oils, dry pastels or pencils : every medium suits him for experimenting or inventing.

### **Jazz Variations**

For the exhibition *Jazz Variations*, Louis Joos dives into the dark world of white nights to extract 40 graphic compositions. The city of cities, New York, is the beating heart of his 'œuvre in noir', pierced through by light. On the streets that are always buzzing, shady nightlife rubs shoulders with the musicians who are creating the music of a century. Thelonious Monk, one of Joos's favourite composers, said this about the Mecca of Jazz: I've never been anywhere where I've felt so good. You want to know what sounds I put in my music? Just go to New York and listen for yourself!. With Charlie Parker and Bud Powell, Monk is one of those unusual characters who mix nonchalance, virtuosity and depth. I had one desire : to draw this music, the artist confides. Learning piano since he was a boy, Joos gets inside the lives and themes of his favourite musicians and gives them substance in his drawings. Piano and saxophone produce new forms of notes through his energetic, thrilling lines. To my eyes, drawing is not a way of moving, but a way of thinking declares this eternally young man.

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### **Opening Hours:**

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

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