



**FROM MAY 23 TO JUNE 27, 2015**

**FLAIR Galerie will show twelve illustrations by Christian Roux drawn from the book "The wolf and the seven young goats", published in January 2015 by the Editions Seuil Jeunesse.**

For this new version of the popular German fairytale related by the Grimm brothers, Christian Roux has coped jolly well with his story of a nanny goat and her kids, to make his young readers scare to death. To achieve his aim, he has used all available means. Months spent toiling over the concept of illustrations, entirely worked out in black lead, by hand, which were then scanned and transferred onto Photoshop when the time had come to place the colors.

At first sight, his work seems simple whereas it is in fact highly elaborate, much thought over. No showing off, nor any mannerism for this artist who likes to go straight to the point, the better to strike people's minds and help the story along. In his drawings, one is at once seduced by the transparency effects, the blurring of the outlines, the grain and choice of colors, reduced to their strict minimum: a gradation of green, of red and a timid yellow. Not forgetting the spectacular black, embodying his terrifying wolf, ready to resort to every trick in order to crunch the seven kids. As well as the black of shadows and of the oversized scissors, which send shivers down our spines.

From these illustrations, there comes forth a captivating tension, a touching mystery that is due to the manner in which Christian Roux has managed to compose very graphic images, with a great economy of details, and with a cinematic aestheticism. The alternance of close-ups and broad images, of travellings and of zooms, combine to make the quiet universe of the young herbivores and of their super-star mummy goat topple over into the utmost chaos, until the well wrought vengeance and the happy end!

**Amélie de Turckheim**

February, 2015



## CHRISTIAN ROUX: A BIOGRAPHY

After thirty years as a graphic artist, Christian Roux wended his sinuous and untypical cursus in the world of illustration by weaving with brio a path from the media to advertising, from children's books to cartoons. All the types of proved successful for that rare bird who likes to play solo: «*I enjoy doing things on my own. I have always been a loose canon and I never wanted to belong to a chapel or to a clan.*» Without showing off, this discreet character has quite naturally cultivated this freedom of mind since the Seventies and his hippie adolescence, when he taught himself to draw, in his bedroom in Lyon, while listening to rock'n'roll. Being curious he formed his taste and forged his style by exploring others' styles: Rothko, Bonnard, Chardin, El Greco, without omitting, in another range, Topor and Sempé, whom he particularly appreciates. Very focused, he blackened sheets of paper, elaborated worlds and characters, by trusting his instinct, without undergoing the influence of an art school.

One day, aged 17, he jumped aboard a train for Paris and the offices of the magazine *Actuel*, where he decided, brazenly, to show his illustrations to Jean-François Bizot. They were immediately published under his pseudonym at that time: Cathy Millet.

Cathy Millet alias Christian Roux, then met Georges Wolinski who opened wide the doors of *Hara Kiri* and later those of *Charlie Mensuel*. From the 80s onward, and up to today, he added up contributions in France with *Libération*, *Le Monde*, *Glamour*, *Marie-Claire*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Le Magazine Littéraire*, *Lire*, *Psychologies*, *XXI* and with the international media such as: *Italian Vogue*, *The New Yorker*, *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*... He also took part in advertising campaigns (*Air France*, *Kodak*...), in the creation of lithographed original posters, (*Will's Wine Bar*, *Concerto Media*, *Charles Heidsieck*) and also undertook cartoons for *La Redoute*, *Inserm*, *Tamaguchi*.

About ten years ago, at the time when he invented and illustrated stories for his son Abel, he side-stepped towards the illustration of children's books. On this new playing ground, with its rigorous codes and restrictions, Christian managed to impose his extremely graphic style, simultaneously elegant and minimalist, even as he remained faithful to his principle of drawing for children as he would for the grown-ups. His other guideline? Simplicity. This adept of the motto «less is more», loves, in concrete terms, to give the impression that his work was easy to carry out whereas, in fact, it involved a major investment from the very start. «*I don't like one to smell the sweat*» he says smilingly. His home-made recipe works since he has published about twenty books, including the well-received «*Le Lapin et le Tigre*» (Seuil Jeunesse) and «*La boîte à lettres*» (Albin Michel Jeunesse). In 2015, he brought out, the promising «*The wolf and the seven young goats*». This book, originally commissioned by a Korean publisher, was later adapted by Seuil Jeunesse. The twelve illustrations taken from the book are being exhibited for the very first time in FLAIR Galerie.

**Amélie de Turckheim**

February, 2015

Christian Roux is represented by the Galerie SIT DOWN, Paris

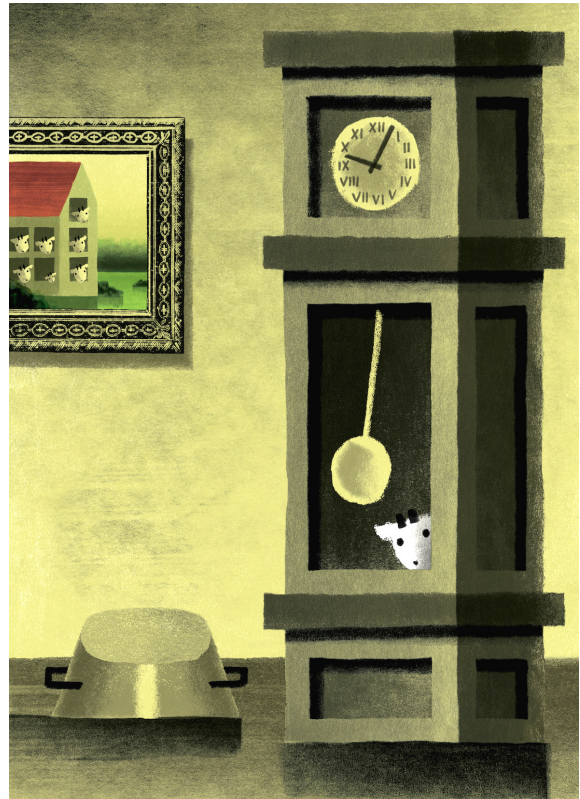
### Exhibitions

2015 FLAIR Galerie, Arles  
2010 Galerie Sit Down, Paris  
2012 Galerie Sit Down, Paris  
2013 Galerie Sit Down, Paris  
1996 Galerie Médicis, Paris  
1995 Upla, Paris  
1994 Fondation Lilti, Tanger  
Vente à Drouot, Paris  
1990 Tea follies, Paris  
1987 Blue China, New York

### Bibliography

*Le loup et les sept chevreux*, Seuil Jeunesse  
*Conte du chat maître zen*, texte d'Henri Brunel. Calmann-Lévy  
*Humour zen*, texte d'Henri Brunel. Calmann-Lévy  
*Contes et légendes d'Afrique d'Ouest en Est*, texte d'Yves Pinguilly, Nathan  
*Contes et légendes des jeux d'Olympie*, texte de Brigitte Evano, Nathan  
*Lettres à Prunelle*, texte d'Alain Ayache. Editions n°1  
*La Bible illustrée par 30 illustrateurs*. Bayard presse  
*Comment asphyxier un éléphant ?* Texte de Pierre Larousse. Tallandier  
*Un musée*, L'Atelier Médicis  
*Maman*, Seuil Jeunesse  
*Miam*, Seuil Jeunesse  
*Lune*, Seuil Jeunesse  
*Le lapin et le tigre*, Seuil Jeunesse  
*Le petit chaperon rouge*, texte de Charles Perrault, Seuil Jeunesse  
*Le petit poucet*, texte de Charles Perrault, Seuil Jeunesse  
*La boîte à lettres*, Albin Michel Jeunesse.

VISUALS OF THE EXHIBITION – FREE OF RIGHTS



*The wolf and the seven young goats / Seuil Jeunesse 2015*

Illustrations by Christian Roux

Black lead 6B & Photoshop CS6

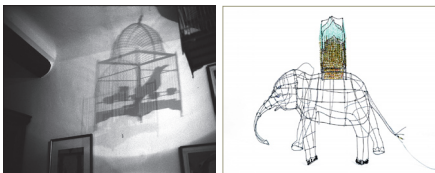
Digital printing on Rag Hahnemühle 350g

© Christian Roux

FLAIR Galerie offers artists's exhibitions and a contemporary art objects collection specifically carried out by artists for the gallery itself. Other rare objects, books and magazines are also available. The only condition for their entry in this original place: the common theme of animals.

FLAIR Galerie is a member of Arles Contemporain network 

## NEXT EXHIBITIONS



**From July 4 to September 5**

Photographs by Nicolas Guilbert

Sculptures by Marie Christophe



**From September 12 to November 28**

Paintings and drawings

by Baltasar Durrbach



**From December 5, 2015 to January, 16 2016**

Illustrations by Jenifer Corker

Sculptures by Holy Smoke

## USEFUL INFORMATION

Opening hours:  
from Wednesday through Saturday  
from 11AM to 1PM and from 3PM to 7PM  
and by appointment

Press visuals on request:  
Press relations: Pascal Scuotto  
Tel: + 33 6 11 13 64 48  
mail: [pascal.scuotto@gmail.com](mailto:pascal.scuotto@gmail.com)

Press kit design: F.R. S&C  
Logo: Eve André-Philippot  
Translation: Ann Cremin

