



# IMPATIENCE

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JEAN-FRANÇOIS SPRICIGO

EXHIBITION FROM MARCH 25TH THRU MAY 7TH, 2016

Entitled *Impatience*, Jean-François Spricigo's photographs, showing at FLAIR Galerie March 25th thru May 7th, exhibit in a mesmerizing fashion a proximity to the animal kingdom transfigured by an unfailing oddity. Often denuded of any depth of field, dipped into an intense black and white, each vibrant image of this bestiary, springing at the confluence of poetry and reverie, testifies to a singular sovereignty, offering itself as an epiphany.

.../...

... This highly controlled fragility delineates the character of Jean-François Spricigo's photographs in that they don't show or capture their objects, but are made to spring within a precarious duration, by way of a chastened and enduring embrace. In a jewel box of luxurious silence claimed by the dignity of each living entity, lifted to the level of a natural event, of a small miracle of Being.

Whether it be a motionless owl, a leaping squirrel, a flock of ducks – a fortiori, cats and dogs startled in their solitude – never have we felt the otherness of these creatures, that they belong, as familiar as they are, to a world apart, a foreign world we can only envy for its wild beauty, nobility and more importantly, its innocence.

Because, on the edge of an apparition which seems to threaten to disappear, the eye operating does not project outside, but introjects the radical alterity of each animal, collecting it in an almost ghostlike flickering, on this diamond point where the most ordinary becomes disturbing, the most banal foreign, the most intimate unknown. One will easily recognize here a very sensitive derivation of "the uncanny", so dear to Freud who defines it as a repressed representation giving free rein to an affectivity transformed into anxiety. With the difference that Jean-François Spricigo's timeless impressionism defuses the anxiety through a gentleness, a delicacy that is another name for grace.grace.

**Cécile Guilbert, 2015**

Translation by Pierre Guglielmina

a breath  
I expected  
an air of departure  
over there, elsewhere  
no longer from here,  
I listened to myself  
so much angst  
abandoned  
I cursed the stars  
the wind replied  
I listened

Driven by impatience I roam the world, contemplating the unravelling of my strategies.

Huge world, short legs, and my head in the clouds. I was going around in circles in the closed circuit of habit, seeking a perspective to lean on. Absurd.

Walking again, aimless now, already my steps crash through the certainty zone; I quit the city. World erected by and for Man – *comfortable*, by prison standards – *reassuring*, yoked to a justice of vested interests – *reasonable*. As I attempted to leave, the outer disquiet led to the inward calm. And yet, only seconds from myself, I couldn't make it. *Know nothing, sniff everything*, whispered the wind, *you are nothing*, observed the bird, *so stop trying to be*, the wind confirmed. *Your solitude is your freedom, released from attachments, the encounter is possible*.

Thus Life is expressed through those who embody it. The language doesn't matter, immemorial language confined in the flesh comes to life precisely when it is not feared. No Magic, just listen, pay attention and the miracle will emerge.

**Jean-François Spricigo, 2015**  
Translation by Nissim Marshall

## BIOGRAPHY: JEAN-FRANÇOIS SPRICIGO

Jean-François Spricigo was born in 1979 in Tournai, Belgium. He started taking photographs at age 16, studied cinema, and earned a degree in the image at INSAS Brussels in 2012.

His work has been exhibited regularly in many galleries across the world. He has won several distinctions, including the photography prize of the Academie des Beaux Arts of the Institut de France in 2008, the Discovery prize at the Rencontres d'Arles in 2009. He was resident at the Casa de Velasquez for a year in 2012, and is associate artist of CentQuatre-Paris since 2014.

He regularly collaborates with other artists, including the pianist Alexandre Tharaud, the singer Albin de la Simone, the writer Marcel Moreau, and the cineaste Olivier Smolders.

Jean-François Spricigo is represented by Louis Stern in Los Angeles, Agathe Gaillard and Galerie Maeght in Paris, Contretype in Brussels, and the Flying Gallery in Warsaw.

## MAIN SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2016 *impatience*, FLAIR Galerie, Arles
- 2015 *corpus Scripti*, Promenades Photographiques, Vendôme
- 2014 *toujours l'aurore*, CentQuatre, Paris  
*carnets du ciel*, Galerie Maeght, Paris
- 2013 *le loup et l'enfant*, Institut Français Madrid, Espagne  
*carnets du ciel*, Casa de Velázquez, Madrid, Espagne
- 2012 *romanza*, Musée de la Photographie, Charleroi  
*le loup et l'enfant*, Galerie Agathe Gaillard, Paris
- 2011 *en Famille*, Libera Accademia di Belle Arti, Brescia, Italie  
*partir*, Délégation Wallonie Bruxelles, Prague
- 2010 *anima*, Louis Stern Fine Arts, Los Angeles, USA  
*settembre*, Galerie Agathe Gaillard, Paris
- 2009 *anima*, Institut de France, Paris
- 2008 *prélude*, Galerie Agathe Gaillard, Paris
- 2007 *notturno*, Botanique, Bruxelles, Belgique
- 2006 *silenzio*, Artcore, Paris
- 2005 *silenzio*, Contretype, Bruxelles, Belgique
- 2004 *ici, hier*, Parvis, Scène nationale Tarbes Pyrénées

## COLLECTIONS

Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris  
Musée de la Photographie, Charleroi

## PUBLICATIONS

- 2014 *toujours l'Aurore*, Texts and photographs, Editions de l'oeil
- 2005 *silenzio*, Photographs, Editions Yellow Now

## MAIN GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2013 *Agathe Gaillard et la photographie, une pionnière à Paris*, Christie's, Paris  
*Itinérance*, Espace Pierre Cardin, Paris  
Photo España, Casa de Velázquez, Madrid, Espagne  
Paris Photo Los Angeles, Louis Stern Gallery, Los Angeles, USA  
*Mémoires d'une galerie*, Agnès B. Paris
- 2012 *ensemble !*, SER Gallery, Tokyo, Japon
- 2011 *Bestiaire*, Galerie Maeght, Paris
- 2010 *Mois de la Photo*, Galerie Agathe Gaillard, Paris
- 2009 *Ce qu'il y a à voir est ce que vous voyez*, Collection of Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Arles  
Prix Découverte, Rencontres d'Arles, Arles.
- 2008 *Paris Photo*, represented by Agathe Gaillard, Paris

## CINÉMA (DIRECTOR)

- 2014 *en silence je l'ai aimé*, Video installation in collaboration with Alexandre Tharaud  
*la Part de l'ombre*, Short film in collaboration with Olivier Smolders, produced by Arte
- 2013 *Mes épaules*, Video clip for Albin de la Simone
- 2012 *La fuite*, Video clip for Albin de la Simone & Alexandre Tharaud

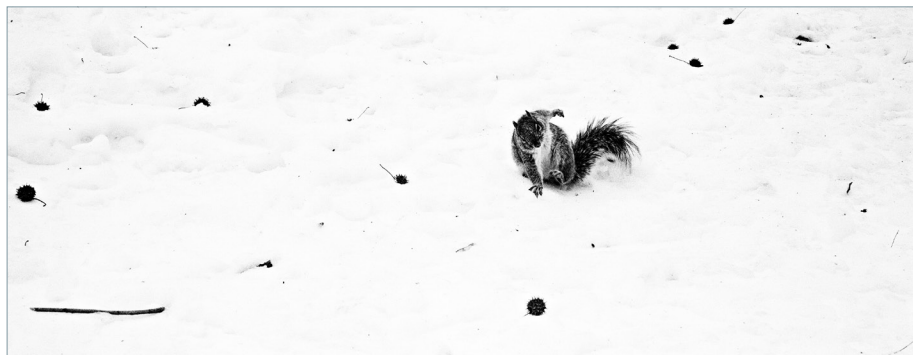
## STAGE (ART DIRECTION AND CONFERENCES)

- 2015 *Lettres à Quelqu'un*, Readings with Albin de la Simone. Centre Wallonie Bruxelles, Paris
- 2012 *Jesus' Blood Never Failed Me yet*, Visual and musical creation at the CentQuatre, Paris

VISUAL DOCUMENTS ON REQUEST



© Jean-François Spricigo



© Jean-François Spricigo



© Jean-François Spricigo

*Brussels, Belgium. 2008*  
Photograph by Jean-François Spricigo  
Traditional negative film, inkjet Fine Art print  
60 x 90 cm

*New York, USA. 2015*  
Photograph by Jean-François Spricigo  
Traditional negative film, inkjet Fine Art print  
60 x 160 cm

*Brussels, Belgium. 2010*  
Photograph by Jean-François Spricigo  
Traditional negative film, inkjet Fine Art print  
40 x 60 cm

Press Relations: Maud Prangey Tél : (33) 6 63 40 54 62 mail : mprangey@gmail.com

## THE GALLERY

FLAIR Galerie is one of those cross-disciplinary venues that offer exhibitions of artists, collections of contemporary art objects specially created for the gallery, books and reviews. This eclecticism ensures that the art is exhibited in a playful montage, echoing the tastes and the personality of Isabelle Wisniak, who created the gallery.

FLAIR Galerie is also exceptional because it is dedicated to animals. Wild and domesticated animals, sublimated animals, legendary animals, endangered animals, beloved animals, necessary animals, buried animals. FLAIR Galerie unveils a unique imaginary bestiary: a world of sensitivity, humor, creativity, and, naturally, art.

An authentic contemporary «cabinet of curiosities», situated in the historic heart of the city of Arles, FLAIR Galerie opened its doors on April 3, 2015.

FLAIR Galerie is a member of the Arles Contemporain network. 

After studying piano at Ecole Normale de Musique in Paris, Isabelle Wisniak began her career at the magazine Egoïste. She went on to be photographer's agent, press attaché for Fnac Galeries Photo, for temporary exhibitions at the Conciergerie, several art galleries, and lately, communication director of Festival a-part, the International Contemporary Art Festival in the Alpilles.

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

## NEXT EXHIBITION

**Urban Menagerie**

Illustrations by Lucy Marshall

from May 14th thru June 25th, 2016



© Lucy Marshall