



# ALL FRIENDS

DRAWINGS AND PAINTINGS BY BALTASAR DÜRRBACH

**EXHIBITION FROM SEPTEMBER 5 TO NOVEMBER 28, 2015**

PRIVATE VIEW SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 5, 6:30PM - 9:00PM

With this exhibition entitled "All Friends" presented for the first time at FLAIR Galerie, Baltasar Dürrbach assembles a rich bestiary, in a score of Indian ink drawings and three paintings. Both for the animals he encounters in his everyday environment, like the donkey, the rooster and the dog, and other more exotic specimens like the elephant, the rhinoceros and the giraffe, each translates the inner state of the artist at the precise moment when he indulges his artistic bent.

Born in Provence in 1962, under the dual sign of Capricorn and the Buffalo, Baltasar Dürrbach is an earthling entirely impregnated by culture. For him, cultivating the soil or cultivating his mind exemplifies the same passion. Raised in the world of Cubism with artist parents who were close associates of Pablo Picasso and Albert Gleizes, nurtured on the tales of Jean Giono, who glorified the peasant world in his prose, our gentleman farmer spends half of his time cultivating his garden, and the other half painting and, especially, drawing.

This scion of high culture in biological communion with nature, passed his youth observing his father, the painter and sculptor René Dürrbach, and acquired his drawing and painting skills in the studio of his tapestry making mother, who had been commissioned by Picasso to transcribe a selection of the master's paintings into tapestry. As his older brother became one of the region's foremost vintners, Baltasar dabbled briefly in oenology, finally trading the study of wine for the intensive practice of art in a farm setting.

He threw himself into easel painting and endeavored occasionally to set his colors aflame, but as a rule, simply let his hand run across the paper, intuitively depicting his fauna and flora in an inspired material minimalism.

A white page, a pen and black ink were sufficient to create a world where color only intervenes to punctuate a line, to stress a rhythm, to highlight a detail of the composition.

While Cubism is implicit in his work through Picasso, Gleizes and Delaunay, it is tinged with an abstraction and a spirituality dear to Kandinsky, and yet enjoys the intuitive freedom of the Surrealists. Yet appearances can be misleading, and the impulsive naturalism that Baltasar Dürrbach stages for our delectation is solidly anchored in an authentic 100% organic present.

To get there, Baltasar Dürrbach works in a monk-like seclusion, without preconceptions, guided willy-nilly to wonderment, line by line, by what he sees emerging on the white page. Landscapes, and also people, each stranger than the other, surge from his works.

The exhibition "All Friends" depicts a strange but familiar world in which all animals have their place, and reminds us that man, too, is an animal.

Anaïd Demir, 2015

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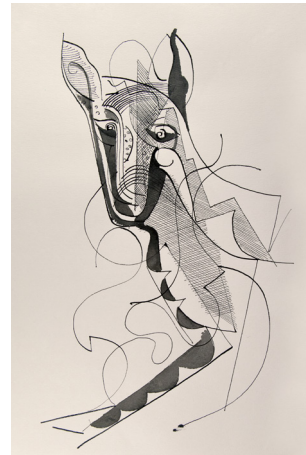
*Bengal cat*, 2007-2015  
Painting by Baltasar Dürrbach  
Oil on canvas  
100 x 100 cm  
© Emilie Ballif

*Donkey or...*, 2015  
Drawing by Baltasar Dürrbach  
Pen and wash on paper  
37,5 x 27,5 cm  
© Emilie Ballif

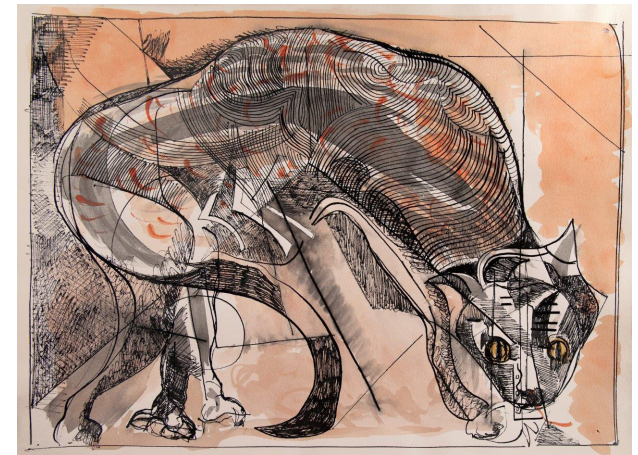
*Cat*, 2013-2015  
Drawing by Baltasar Dürrbach  
Pen and wash on paper  
37,5 x 27,5 cm  
© Emilie Ballif



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## 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

The gallery will be open in September Wednesday to Saturday from 11am to 1pm and 3pm to 7pm, and by appointment; and in October and November on Fridays and Saturdays from 11am to 1pm and 3pm to 7pm, and by appointment.

## COMING EXHIBITION

December 5, 2015 to January 9, 2016

Illustrations by Jenifer Corker

Sculptures by Holy Smoke



Holy Smoke



Jenifer Corker