

Etel Adnan

Leporellos

23 January – 7 March 2020

Opening on Thursday 23 January from 6pm

at 13 rue de Téhéran, 75008 Paris



Etel Adnan, *Signs*, 2018, ink wash and ink on paper

Leporello is the name of Don Giovanni's valet in Mozart's opera. He is the one who unfolds a booklet on which are listed the "*mille e tre*" mistresses of the seducer. By analogy, in Europe this name has been given to small booklets folded in concertina on which Asian artists, Japanese in particular, like to write and draw with ink. This tradition has been adopted by some western artists.

Etel Adnan has long been an adept of this art, since her encounter with Rick Barton at the Buena Vista Café in San Francisco. Either she copies out the poems composed by her writer friends, and illustrates them with water colour or ink, or she repeats a selection of words like a litany, or she simply uses India Ink or gouache to draw what she can see.

This exhibition is the first to be entirely dedicated to the artist's leporellos.

On this occasion, two books will be showcased:

Etel Adnan, *Leporellos*, with texts by Etel Adnan, Anne Moeglin-Delcroix and Jean Frémon.

Etel Adnan, *Un printemps inattendu*, a compendium of interviews given by Etel Adnan between 1983 and 2018.

The artist's latest prints will be exhibited at the bookshop.

Etel Adnan was born in Beirut in 1925. After spending much of her life in San Francisco, she moved to Paris. Her work has acquired an international reputation since it was presented at the Documenta in Kassel in 2012. In recent years, there have been many exhibitions of her work in the leading museums of Europe and the United States.

Requests for visuals: presse@galerie-lelong.com

Next exhibitions: from 12 March to 30 April 2020

13 rue de Téhéran:

Pierre Alechinsky and Karel Appel

in the salon: **Konrad Klapheck** – Drawings

in the book shop: **Richard Serra** – New prints

38 avenue Matignon:

Antoni Tàpies – L'objet

Günther Förg

« *Standomi un giorno solo a la fenestra...* »

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Günther Förg, *Standomi 94*, 2001, watercolour on paper, 36 x 48 cm

« *Standomi un giorno solo a la fenestra...* » is a verse from Petrarca that Günther Förg chose for the title of a series of 100 watercolours with an identical format, produced in 2001 for an exhibition at Galerie Lelong in Paris. This title aptly encapsulates the artist's attitude: he stands at the window and he observes. He paints what he sees: a field, a cloud, a fence, the horizon, a country road, a tree. He paints what he thinks of: lines, marks, abstract signs. He even paints the window itself. And always with the light touch, the suppleness and the grace for which he is renowned.

Today, six years after the artist's early demise, his work is the focus of great interest around the world. Two museum retrospectives, in Amsterdam and Dallas, recently left their mark, showcasing the richness and cohesion of his body of work. A good reason to take another look at a fine selection of these watercolours.

Günther Förg was born in 1952 in Füssen, Germany and died in 2013 in Freiburg in Switzerland. His works, paintings, sculptures, photographs and prints form part of the collections of the leading museums worldwide. Galerie Lelong has exhibited the artist since 1996.

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David Nash

Red, Black & Blue

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Alongside his main activity of wood sculpting, over the last years David Nash has developed a body of work using pastels. In his drawings, he has succeeded in maintaining the main quality of his sculpture: its simplicity. He produces geometric or biomorphic shapes that are often in one single colour and which seem to be alive on the page.

The sculptures of David Nash, mostly made from wood that is untreated or burnt on the surface, have been exhibited in prestigious sites around the world: the Yorkshire Sculpture Park, the Royal Academy of London, Tate St Ives, the Serpentine Gallery, Cardiff Museum and Kröller Müller Museum.

David Nash (born in 1945 in Esher, England) lives and works in Blaenau Ffestiniog in North Wales. He has been a member of the Royal Academy since 1999. A retrospective of his work is currently exhibited at the Towner Art Gallery in Eastbourne, England, until February 2020.

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