

From 7 July to 12 October 2003, the Villa Arson will be presenting **Lee 3 Tau Ceti Central Armory Show**, based on an idea by Stéphane Magnin (opening: Sunday 6 July). This exhibition is the work of a joint organizing committee composed of the artist and the staff at the National Contemporary Art Centre at the Villa Arson.

Opening on April 18, 2003 at 11 am.

The exhibition will focus on contemporary practices of drawing, with its various figures, forms and extensions (wall-painting, wall-drawing, tattooing, draft, sketch, diagram, graffiti, illustration, vignette, layout, ornament, rough drawing, scribble, arabesque, transfer, stencil, computer graphics, tagging, portrait, collage, caricature, blueprint, plan, graphic design, hatching, frieze, maquette, silhouette, delineation, arborization, meander, pattern, miniature, wall-paper...). It will rummage through jungles and mines, probe marshes, look at steppes and vales, coombes, and ravines, peer at skylines, and try, subjectively, to map lands, and boulevards and dead-end streets. It will attempt to show how, as more than a medium or genre in itself, drawing represents, for recent art, a new continent scattered with serious holiday resorts; the godsend of a diaspora.

As far as Stéphane Magnin is concerned, we shall also see him at work and on the spot with several recent pieces. When he is neither organizing nor fomenting, the artist is developing antechambers, boudoirs, alcoves, discussion platforms, picture galleries and exhibition rooms; in them he unfurls all the eclectic temperaments of his own curiosity, rekindling in passing the rather dull one of his age. Stéphane Magnin revamps previous slogans and leitmotifs, mixes avant-garde knick-knacks and fetishes, connects, short-circuits, colours and plays. Stéphane Magnin's work is constructed at the confluence of two a priori irreconcilable paths: larksome glitter and radical activism. But the silt that he takes from the bed of both rivers, never frozen in postures, lies at the root of far more than extravagances. It raises a frame, at times creaking, whence to lift oneself up, the better to note the world, a sort of *Weltanschauung* on stilts.

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General Directo: Jean-Claude Chedal

Exhibition Curator: Laurence Gateau, Director of the National Contemporary Art Center

Exhibition and editorial assistant: Maxime Matray

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Assistant: Eric Grandbarbe

Secretary: Anne Ginesy

Outreach: Christelle Aïin, Julien Bouillon

Teacher seconded by the local education authority: Jean-Guy Cuomo

Press and publicity: Camille Courtinat 06 64 53 68 52

VILLA ARSON NICE

20 avenue Stephen Liégeois F---06105 Nice cedex 2 www.villa-arson.org

phone 04 92 0773 73 fax 04 93 84 41 55

opening hours : 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. closed on Tuesdays

Ministère de la Culture et de la Communication

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LEE 3 TAU CETI CENTRAL ARMORY SHOW