



Press Release

12 September – 5 November 2015

Laurent PETIT

Ceramic Sculptures

Preview Saturday 12 September 2015, from 6 pm, in presence of the artist

Inspired by the universe of plant life, Laurent Petit's ceramic sculptures lie somewhere between abstract and figurative. Called 'Arbologies' by the artist himself, his plastic explorations, which were presented in public for the first time in 2009, "originate from the intimate relationship between earth and tree. Here earth, nourishing element supporting the growth of the tree, becomes the preferred medium to reinterpret Nature's Script.

Surpassing a simple evocation of Nature, the pieces emanating from this approach span the range of archetypic plastics and gain strength over the years.

"Laurent Petit leaves nothing to chance and if he builds his pieces little by little with rigour and invention it is because he doesn't indulge in improvisation. Both in the treatment of the clay, which he always inflects with traces of pressure or stress, and in the use of the paintbrush, which he uses with precision to apply slips and glazes, he strives to be as the painter in front of his canvas, like an artist on clay. All this gives a strong, formal and emotional charge to his 'arbologies'"

Bernard Courcoul, 2010.

Laurent Petit was born in Bourges in 1962. Trained at the School of Decorative Arts in Paris, he was an industrial designer from 1989 to 1994. Laurent Petit first encountered clay during a course on Raku in 1992. This revelation led him to take a course given by the Maison de la Ceramique at Mulhouse, he then furthered his own research for four more years before starting to exhibit in 2001. His work was noticed very quickly and was presented at the International Biennale of Ceramics at Châteauroux in 2003, and then selected at "Carouge Ceramic Approaches", in Switzerland and more recently in the context of the 2013 edition of the International Triennale of Ceramic and Glass in Mons, Belgium.

A selection of 15 or so pieces, some unprecedented and created especially for the exhibition, illustrates the development of the artist over the last few years.

The exhibition is accompanied by an illustrated catalogue including all photos and the interview of the artist by Axelle Corty.

Press contact and photographs on request

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The Galerie de l'Ancienne Poste is open from Thursday to Sunday inclusive, from 10.00 to 12.30 am and from 3.00 to 7.00 pm

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