

Press release

Nicolas Delprat | **Appearances of Light**

Exhibition 14.03 - 30.04.2021

Open | Thursday, Friday, Saturday | 1-6 pm & by appointment

**OPENING** | Sunday 14.03.2021 | 2-7pm

Rivoli#25 | 690 Chaussée de Waterloo | 1180 Uccle

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Michèle Schoonjans Gallery has the pleasure to present the artist Nicolas Delprat, whose work is based on the memory of light. For this first solo exhibition in Brussels, the exhibit "*Appearances of Light*" invites the visitor to enter the intimate world of the artist.

Drawing on the legacy, which runs through the history of art, from the invention of photography to Dan Flavin's neon lights and James Turrell's environments, the subjects of Nicolas Delprat's paintings and installations aim to lead us towards a reflection on the value of light in painting.

Light shimmers on misty and false monochrome surfaces. The paintings give an impression of alienation, one where the boundary between inside and outside is not fixed, but can be expanded. Nicolas Delprat makes the pictorial gesture visible here within the canvas. He leaves traces of the tools, used to construct the image: the brush that partially covers a surface, the traces of the aerosol of the paint gun, but above all, he re-integrates the flow that runs along the canvas, recalling the fluid nature of the medium and introducing a notion of temporality.

The "James" series shows the appearance of a white light. It seems to have emerged as a presence that pierces the space on its way, seeking a passage to somewhere else. This series echoes the memory of a well known and famous installation by the minimalist artist James Turrell. Dazzling as it is, this light compels you to follow it. It questions the mechanism of creation, the construction of images which we see, including those of works of art.

The "Put Back" series plays with the image of an accumulation of shots. The use of prints left behind by using scotch tape makes the construction elements of the image visible. Indeed, the papers and canvases used by the artist, hanging from this adhesive tape, keep the rectilinear traces and clear forms of these templates. At the same time, they impose limitations on the painting and the internal skeleton and structure of its construction. The mistiness of the paint, a touch specific to Nicolas Delprat, then penetrates, as if by a storm, this newly constructed pictorial space.



Chaussée de Waterloo 690 #25 | 1180 Bruxelles | +32 478 716 296

[www.micheleschoonjansgallery.be](http://www.micheleschoonjansgallery.be) | [info@micheleschoonjansgallery.be](mailto:info@micheleschoonjansgallery.be)

## MICHÈLE SCHOONJANS GALLERY

Nicolas Delprat works by superimposing parts, by covering parts, by erasing to bring more openings and light passages to the light. His paintings represent a junction in a space, which pass from one to another, then to infinity. Thus, a tension, a balance between solidity and movement, emanates from his works.

For the artist, it is about creating a "beginning of story". The spectator can then imagine the story himself, for example with an event that might happen or with a phenomenon from the past, which has remained in his memory.

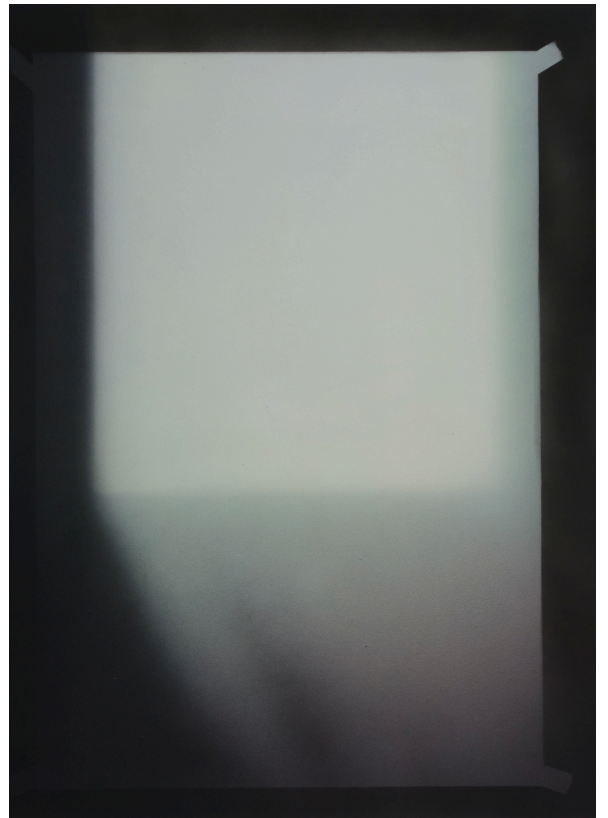
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Born in Rennes in 1972, Nicolas Delprat lives and works in Brussels. Graduate of the National School of Fine Arts in Lyon (1997), in 1998, he completed an international post-graduate degree in Nantes, France. In 2017, due to an installation in the abandoned village of Egulbati in Navarre, the artist is invited in residence at Casa Velazquez in Madrid. His works can be found in many private and public collections. For more information and visuals in HR

Please contact : [info@micheleschoonjansgallery.be](mailto:info@micheleschoonjansgallery.be) | +32 478 716 296



"James fragmentation 4", acrylique sur toile, 60 x 60 cm (x3), 2020



Put back, James 2, acrylique sur toile, 80x100cm, 2018

RIVOLI

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# MICHÈLE SCHOONJANS GALLERY

## Nicolas DELPRAT

Né à Rennes, France. 1972. Vit et travaille à Bruxelles

## TRAINING

1998 Post-diplôme international de Nantes, France.

1997 DNSEP Ecole Nationale des Beaux Arts de Lyon, France.

## RESIDENCE / SCHOLARSHIP

2017 / 2018 Artiste résident à la casa de Velazquez, Madrid.

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS (selection)

2019 « Minimal chaos » Galerie Maubert, Paris, France.

2018 « La noche que lo hace visible » - Centre d'art Huarte, Navarra, Espagne.

2018 « Expression(s) décoloniale(s) » Château des Ducs de Bretagne, Nantes, France.

2017 « Collectionair » Commissaire Olivier Varenne, Londres, Royaume-uni.

2015 « Liberté, liberté chérie » Centre d'art contemporain, Lyon, France.

2015 « Le lieu ou se déroule la scène » Galerie Odile Ouizeman, Paris, France.

2015 « The dawn of man » Espace d'art de Vénissieux, France.

2012 « In the middle of the night » Nicolas Delprat et Angélika Markul, Galeria BWA Lublin, Pologne.

2008 « l'indécise lumière tout autour... » Frac Auvergne, Clermont-Ferrand, France.

2008 « Mehr Licht » Espace Vallès, Saint-Martin d'Hères, France.

## GROUPE EXHIBITION (selection)

2021 « Festival Les jours de lumière » Saint-Saturnin, France.

2020 Espace Vallès, Saint-Martin d'Hères, France.

2020 « Horizons » commissariat Pascal Bouchaille, Docks, Bordeaux, France

2019 « Vaste territoire » Villa Beatrix Enea. Anglet, France.

2018 Itinérance, Paris, France. 2018 Viva Villa, Villa Méditerranée, commissariat Cécile Debray. Marseille, France.

2017 Friends & Family Galerie Eva Hober, Paris, France.

2017 Galerie Métropolis, Commissaire Isabelle de Maison Rouge, Paris, France.

2016 « We can control space, Le 6B, Paris, France.

2015 Art Brussels avec la Galerie Odile Ouizeman, Paris, France.

2015 « Hybride 3, Fragmentations » Commissaire Paul Ardenne, Douai, France.

2015 Centre culturel coréen, Bruxelles, Belgique.

2014 « Vibrations » L'atelier de Nantes, Nantes, France.

2014 « Passage » Musée Paul Dini, Villefranche sur Saône, France.

2014 Art Brussels avec la Galerie Odile Ouizeman, Paris, France.

2014 « La ou naissent les fantôme » Galerie Odile Ouizeman, Paris, France.

2013 « L'Astronaute » Halle aux Bleds, Saint-Flour, France.

2012 « Errance » Nicolas Delprat & Rachel Labastie Les Salaisons, Paris, France.

2012 « Family & Friends » Galerie Backslash, Paris, France.

2011 « Outre-forêt » Le 6B, selon un commissariat de Mathieu Buard et Joël Riff. Paris, France.

2011 « kanal 20 / label hypothèse / mpvite » Bruxelles, Belgique.

2009 « La Rose Pourpre du Caire » Musée d'art et d'Archéologie Aurillac, France.

2009 « Just with your eyes I will see » Fond d'art moderne et contemporain Montluçon, France.

## EDITIONS

2018 Catalogue monographique Texte Christian Alandete, Casa de Velazquez, Madrid, Espagne.

2010 Catalogue monographique, « The dawn of man » Texte Christian Alandete, Centre d'art de Vénissieux, France.

2008 Catalogue monographique, « l'indécise lumière tout autour... » Texte Jean-Charles Vergne Directeur du Frac Auvergne, Clermont-Ferrand, France.

2008 Catalogue monographique, « Mehr Licht » Texte d'Erik Verhagen Espace Vallès, France.



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