

Art CV of Richard Colombel

Richard Colombel 01/08/1965

Lieu-dit Jouhet 63640 Saint Priest des champs, France.

+33 6 51 76 70 26

richcolombel@gmail.com

www.richardcolombel.com

Richard Colombel defines himself as a treasure seeker, constantly searching for hidden truths beyond conventional perception.

Which truth? A multiple reality, that of the visible, of light, but also that of our perceptions and the clarity that drives them. "To go in search of reality is to hunt rainbows", he is pleased to say. This is why he paints all day long and travels in this jungle of phenomena.

"As a child, I liked to stay in the orchards and the forest near our house in the suburbs of Paris. I was fascinated by the perfection of nature and certain to find the essence in it".

Richard Colombel began painting at the age of 11 in a local school. He was guided there by the two ascetics of painting: André Luran, from the school of Lyon (creator of Sanzism), and Véronique Véron.

At the age of 16, he studied graphic arts, art history and bas-relief with prize-winning artists of the Grand Prix de Rome at the rue Madame school in Paris, and was then accepted with flying colours at the école nationale des arts décoratifs de Paris. There he studied volume and space with Christian Germanaz, the great interior architect of F.Mitterand and J.Chirac.

He wrote a thesis on a new vision of architectural space. A brilliant student, he receives his diploma with honours.

In parallel to his studies, he works for the Chelles museum as an illustrator for the discovery of 700 Merovingian sarcophagi. Every week, he alternates between drawings of nudes and sketches of dissected corpses in the company of medical students from the Salpêtrière.

"Through the drawing, I question the object and what it evokes in me. Drawing a corpse becomes a real reflection on the very condition of our being".

A musician, he also regularly practices percussion and singing accompanied by his friends, who love improvisation. At this time of his 20th birthday, he is bubbling with creativity, discovering the enchantment of artificial paradises. He goes from exhibitions to concerts with his group of musicians. He recognizes himself in the punk and Krautrock movement (Can, Magma) but also in classical jazz (Art Blakey, Max Roach) and contemporary theatre. In the 80's, Paris is swarming with innovations, the golden age of a generous ministry of culture.

He met Desirless and worked on her video clips, produced sets for television and lent his voice to several titles including "Voyage, voyage". Her producer, Jean-Michel Rivat, offered to collaborate but Richard refused. He declined other equally promising offers, admitting that he lacked a link to complete his training. According to him, being an artist requires a certain clarity, free from ordinary egocentricity. It is a question of transmitting through images, a sincere message whose impact must be strong and salutary.

"Since the walks in the woods of my childhood, this obsession with knowledge has never left me. I had the great chance to meet an authentic master, Guendune Rinpoche, when I was 19 years old. He gave me the right keys to tackle this search for knowledge. Little by little I understood the importance of such a discipline and what it could bring to lead my life and my art, that's why I decided to take the plunge".

After graduating in decorative arts, he went on a Buddhist retreat in a hermitage on the plateaux of the Auvergne. During this period, he only saw his 13 fellow hermits and his master, practicing meditation from 5am to 10pm. This research occupied him for 6 and an half years, during which he kept away from the world of art.

"Meditation is an open door to the infinite creative aspect of our mind. In this space there is no judgment or control. Accessing this dimension is certainly a great help to complete an artist's sensibility".

Back to the worldly life, he is interested in architecture. As an assistant, he gets used to the language of plans. He worked on several major projects for

temples, monasteries and universities, first in France, then ten years in India and Nepal in collaboration with a German architect Willy Kroeger.

"Architecture is a developed art of drawing. When drawing creates the illusion of space, architecture is its projection. Inventing a circulation, a breath is fascinating because here the spectator evolves in the created work".

In 2012, he moved to Berlin and got married. He finally decided to take up painting again, his first love. He finds a studio in the former renovated offices of the Stasi with a view of the prison. The setting is steeped in a resolutely dark past, but his motivation and ambition go far beyond the frame. He works in series: Monsters, Delusion, Angel Bones. Starting from the entrails of his origins, he is himself flabbergasted by the spontaneous gush of his creativity. Today in his new, much brighter studio, his subjects have changed, his strokes and colours are full of strength, the fruit of an energy that never seems to dry up.

EXHIBITIONS

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| 2019 | <i>Framed Gallery / Berlin</i> |
| 2018 | <i>Framed Gallery / Berlin</i> |
| 2017 | <i>Ahoy ! Art Gallery / Palma de Majorque</i> |
| 2016 | <i>Galerie Comtesses / Lyon</i>
<i>L'Olisphère / Paris</i> |
| 2015 | <i>Home Gallery / Berlin</i>
<i>Atelier Meraki / Paris</i> |
| 2014 | <i>Home Gallery / Munich</i> |
| 2013 | <i>Charlottenburg / Berlin</i> |
| 2009 | <i>Surène Gallery / Paris</i> |
| 2004 | <i>Art et Psychiatrie / Paris</i> |
| 1987 à 1990 | <i>Ecole nationale des arts décoratifs / Paris</i> |
| 1988 à 1990 | <i>Grand Palais (EnsAD)/ Paris</i> |
| 1988 | <i>Musée de Chelles, Permanent exhibition.</i> |
| 1986 à 1988 | <i>musée Gatién-Bonnet / Lagny sur Marne</i> |

- 1984 *Salon d'Automne / Grand Palais / Paris*
Musée des Indépendants / Grand Palais / Paris
Le Figaro/ Paris
- 1983 *Musée des Indépendants / Grand palais / Paris*