

PRESS RELEASE

AURELIEN MARTIN THE NORTH FACE

20 March– 29 May 2021

Fabienne Levy is pleased to announce Aurélien Martin's first solo exhibition in Lausanne.

The North Face, title of the show, exposes the hidden and imaginary side of objects that will slowly reveal themselves to visitors.

Aurélien Martin's works are inspired by the frenetic consumption of our time. Following the trends, the objects we use every day quickly become obsolete and are rapidly replaced by new ones.

In the footsteps of Marcel Duchamp, Aurélien is interested in the aesthetics of everyday objects, omnipresent in our life. However, his intention is different. He creates sculptures with a multitude of materials and his obsession is to disguise the traces of the craftsman and the signature of the author. The artist starts a story and it's up to us to complete it.

Untitled (Bag) has been created larger in reference to our era where everything is more massive. Stifled by a number of things that make up our lives, the work reminds us of the nautical world but also of hot air balloons and travel bags. It is a call to freedom.

Untitled (Hoses) is an unfolded work that seems to be waiting for a potential opening. The artist plays on the complicity of the elements as well as the relationship of the work with its support, the wall without which it cannot exist.

The pieces in the exhibition seem familiar to us; their shapes and materials resonate in our memory. Our reference system is called upon to identify them. They seem to be useful, but they are not. They are attractive because we think we know them, yet they keep surprising us.

These sculptures suddenly take another breath, the artist makes a magical and unique parenthesis



Aurélien Martin (born in 1993, Geneva, Switzerland), lives and works in Geneva, Switzerland

Aurélien studied between 2012 and 2018 at HEAD, Geneva School of Art and Design, and graduated with a BFA – Dé/construction and an MFA – Work.Master.

He participated in solo exhibitions such as: *Capsule No 1*, Halle Nord, 2018, Geneva, CH ; *Aurélien Martin @ 76 Acacias*, ex Piano-Nobile, 2017, Geneva, CH ; *WALLO*, Pazioli, 2015, Renens, CH ; *Normal Activity*, Collectif Rats studio, 2014, Vevey, CH.

Group exhibitions : *Conversation between Jorge Conde & Aurélien Martin*, Artissima, Fabienne Levy Gallery, 2020, Torino, IT ; *Voyeurism*, Loft5, 2020, Winterthur, CH ; *La Peinture Jaune*, Sattelkammer, 2019, Bern, CH ; *Jungkunst13*, Halle 53, 2019, Winterthur, CH ; *Under Construction*, Annexe 14 gallery, 2019, Zürich, CH ; *ArtStadtBern*, w/ Mathieu Dafflon, 2019, Bern, CH ; *1bis Place de l'Île* collaboration w/ Vianney Fivel, 2018, Halle Nord, Geneva, CH ; *Bourses de la Ville de Genève 2018*, Fonds Berthoud, Lissignol-Chevalier et Galland pour la jeune création, Centre d'Art Contemporain de Genève, 2018, Geneva, CH ; *The Gap*, Galerie DuflonRacz, 2018, Bern, CH ; *Proxy Paradise*, w/ Anais Wenger, LiveInYourHead, 2018, Geneva, CH ; *Temenos*, LiveInYourHead, Geneva Artist's shoes, Smallville, 2017, Neuchâtel, CH ; *Feed your friends*, ODD, 2017, Bucarest, RO ; *Garden*, Jeudi x Portmanteau rotary plate, ArtGenève, 2017, Geneva, CH ; *Cholent*, Jeudi x Portmanteau rotary plate, Hit, 2016, Geneva, CH ; *Every show is a potentiel sale yard*, Les Mouches, 2016, Geneva, CH ; *Elevation 1049*, Luma Fondation, 2016, Gstaad, CH ; *Every table is a potential tent*, Les Mouches, 2016, Geneva, CH ; *Wickelmans*, Pazioli, 2015, Renens, CH ; *Shifftin' Layers*, ProjektLinks, 2015, Berne, CH ; *Bivouac*, la Villa du Parc, 2014, Annemasse, FR ; *Dépôt de Dérive*, KunstRaum Bethanien, 2014, Berlin, DE ; *U comme Usine*, la Minoterie, 2013, Orbe, CH

Aurélien had a residency at the Collectif Rats Studio in Vevey, Switzerland, 2014, as well as an Artist Studio made available for by the FMAC, in Geneva, Switzerland, between 2019 and 2022. Aurélien received two grants, the Bourse Neumann in 2017, and the Bourse Berthoud in 2018, both in Geneva, Switzerland.

Apart from his work as an artist, Aurélien takes care of curatorial projects. Between 2013 and 2016 he created *Jeudi*, an artist-run space in Geneva, Switzerland. In 2018, he was the programmer for *Jeudi x Portmanteau Rotary Plate* at the Halle Nord, in Geneva, Switzerland. Since 2015, he has been in charge of an online video platform: *Jeudi x Portmanteau Rotary Plate*. In 2018, Aurélien created *La Vraie Vie*, an artist-run space, and will take care of its curation at *Espace Témoin - GUS* between 2021 and 2022, in Geneva, Switzerland

Work on first page: Aurélien Martin, Untitled (Box), 2020, powder coated steel, plastic, cordura, beech, paint, elastic cord, stop cordon, clamp, approx. dimensions : 60 x 20 x 20 cm, Edition of 5.

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