

GALERIE CATHERINE PUTMAN

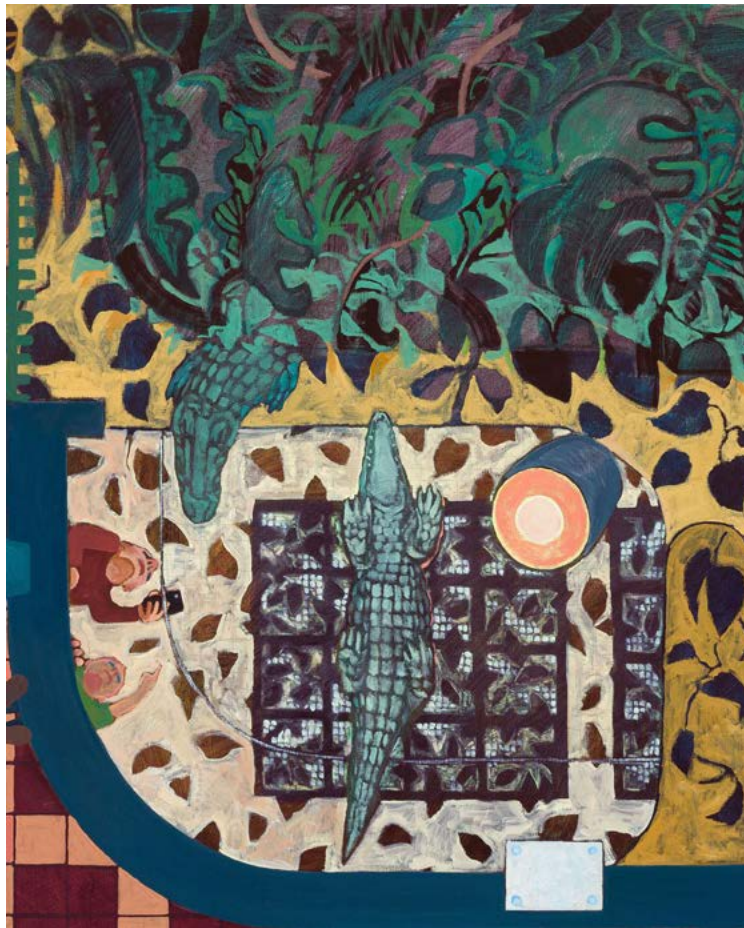
Rob Miles

Opening Lines

21 January– 11 March 2023

Opening

Saturday 21 January, from 3 to 8pm



Rob Miles *Crocodile Enclosure* 2021 (detail), oil on canvas, 160 x 213 cm

Galerie Catherine Putman has pleasure in presenting for the first time a solo exhibition of the work of Rob Miles, a British artist who trained at the Royal College of Art in London.

The exhibition reflects the varied nature of his work, with paintings, drawings, collages, lithographs and cut wood. He approaches the same subject successively or simultaneously with several techniques. Using both observation and graphic abstraction, Rob Miles makes different viewpoints coexist in the same plane. This fragmentation is a key feature of his work.

No systematics or ritual of creation is set: sometimes the making of a complex collage requires the completion of a painting that will give tone and colours; the surprises of a lithographic print can inspire pictorial innovations ...

The variety of modes of expression is central to the work of Rob Miles, who is also a musician*. His practices influence and respond to each other. The pluridisciplinarity of the techniques used is also a way of multiplying viewpoints with regard to a theme and echoes his formal research.

Drawing is the starting point of all his work and a steady feature in his creative process. His sketch books are full of places, people, things and scenes of everyday life. The approach to the subject is through the interpretation of a real space that the artist imagines without hindrance, that is fragmentary and transparent.

Collage appears as a means of dissecting the scenes constructed. The space represented is cut and recomposed, with each element fitting perfectly into the next, as in marquetry. Paper collages are made using offcuts of lithographic ink monotypes that the artist has printed in his studio, thus creating a repertoire that is rich in colour and texture. More recently, he has made his collages with wood, like puzzles. Going beyond the square or rectangular shapes of canvas or paper, he keeps them as forms that are cut out.

We quickly see the desire to learn and a taste for experiment in the work of Rob Miles. What does he show us, beyond the question of plastic and formal research? An anatomy lesson, an artist's studio, an enclosure for crocodiles and reptiles in a zoological garden, a class in the game Go... places for learning, observing and transmission that he is familiar with. The gallery itself is the subject of a painting, like a true *mise en abyme*.

From the deconstruction of reality and the multiplication of the points from which the object is seen, to Egyptian painting and its aspective approach, references to cubism are present but the works also make reference to architects' plans and the non-dimensional depth of computer screens.

The compositions often have a square format with variable hanging positions. This gives us several possibilities for 'access' to the space, to the figures or objects represented and, setting forms aside, to the subject itself. It is not a question of twisting and deforming reality but one of bringing out features that amuse, intrigue or interest him. Rob Miles approaches his everyday environment as if he were at the theatre, whose etymology is 'a place for looking attentively'. Life is played out in the spaces that he draws.



*Rob Miles & Les Clés Anglaises: author, composer and musician (guitar and vocals), Rob Miles is joined by his group of musicians—clarinet, double bass, drums, keys, violin, musical saw and vocal harmonies. They perform his songs inspired by folk, country, blues and soul, with energy and eclecticism.



Rob Miles *La galerie* 2022, oil on wood, 60 x 60 cm, Courtesy Galerie Catherine Putman



Rob Miles *Learning Go* 2022, oil on cut wood, 25 x 42 cm, Courtesy Galerie Catherine Putman



Rob Miles *Early In The Morning* 2022, oil on cut wood, 60 x 80 cm, Courtesy Galerie Catherine Putman



Rob Miles *Kitchen in Hyeres* 2022, oil on cut wood, 30 x 20 cm, Courtesy Galerie Catherine Putman



Rob Miles *L'atelier de Pierre* 2022, oil on wood, 60 x 60 cm, Courtesy Galerie Catherine Putman



Rob Miles *Notes on a crocodile* 2022, collage, 15 x 21 cm, Courtesy Galerie Catherine Putman



Rob Miles *Crocodile Enclosure* 2021, oil on canvas, 160 x 213 cm, Courtesy Galerie Catherine Putman (photo by Romain Darnaud)

Born in London in 1987, Rob Miles is an artist and musician.
Since 2015, he lives and works in Paris.

Trainning

2013 - 2015 : MA Fine Art Printmaking, The Royal College of Art, Londres

2010 - 2013 : BA Fine Art: Print & Time Based Media, Wimbledon College of Art, UAL, Londres

Exhibitions

2022

- *Daily life not so simple*, Seoul national university Museum of Art, Corée
Commissaire : Françoise Docquier
- *Orbe*, exposition collective, galerie Ariane C-Y, Paris
- Artiste présenté en focus à Drawing Now Paris sur le stand de la Galerie Catherine Putman

2021

- *Novembre à Vitry*, Galerie Municipale Jean-Collet, Vitry-sur-Seine
- *My Own World*, Tajan Gallery, Paris
- *Mythologies Quotidiennes 3*, The Blind Lady, Paris
- *Abrakadabra Comme Des Castors*, La Cabane de Georgina, Marseille
- *Information Only &*, Galerie Jeune Creation, Romainville
- *Home Perspectives*, Mayfly Gallery, Espace Christine Peugeot, Paris
- *I Do Not Care*, Gallery A2Z, curated by de Marianne Dollo
- *Une Monde à Votre Image*, Revelations Emerige, Hotel Des Arts, Toulon

2020

- *Une Monde à Votre Image*, 7ème Edition de la Bourse Révélations Emerige, Paris

2019

- *Litho-Kielce Triennal of Lithography*, Kielce, Poland
- *Dear Crocodile*, Galerie Premier Regard

2018

- *Cschiii*, curated by Marine Lefebvre and Atelier Coop , Treize dix Gallery, Paris
- *Back To The Drawing Board*. Reid Hall, Paris
- *Interiors*. Vortex Gallery, Huddersfield, UK

2017

- *Teacher ! There's Too Much To Learn...* Galerie Premier Regard, Paris. Selectionné par Gilles Fuchs
- *Hors Cadre*. Galerie des Grands Voisins, Paris
- *The World Is So Small It's Enormous*. Reid Hall, Paris

2016

- *SUBJECT MATTER*. Benevolent Association of Excellent Solutions, London
- *Histoires pas naturelles*, Château de Rochebonne, Theizé, France

2011 – 2015

- *Royal Academy Summer Exhibition*, London
- *FOLD> Portfolio*. Impact 9 Print conference, Hangzhou, China
- *PR!NT: Art in Print Today*. La Cambre Galerie, Bruxelles
- *SHOW 2015* : Royal College of Art Degree Show, London
- Ruth Borchard Self Portrait Prize. Kings Place London, and Pallant House, Chichester
- *Draw The Curtains*. Curator and exhibitor. DIG Space Lewisham, London
- *Transition exhibition, interdisciplinary new media art*, Red Gallery, London
- Gravure exposée pour INVISIBLE, Art About the Unseen, Hayward Gallery, London
- *Everything must go! Where?* The Russet Gallery. Hackney Downs Studio, London
- *MILESKM*. International collaboration. La Tabacalera, Madrid

Prizes

2020

- 7e Edition de la Bourse Revelations Emerige, Paris

2015

- Anthony Dawson Young Printmaker Award – Royal Society of Painter-Printmakers, London
- Ruth Borchard Self Portrait Prize – acquisition of work for the Next Generation Collection, London
- Drawing & Etching International Student Prize, PigPrints, Milan, Italy

2013

- Retreat Prize – Wimbledon College of Art, London

Residencies

2016 - 2019

- Visiting Practitioner, University of Kent Paris School of Arts & Culture, Paris

2016

- Visiting Artist Residence, Seacourt Print Workshop, Bangor, Northern Ireland