



GALERIE QUYNH CONTEMPORARY ART

CROIRE/DOUTER

May 10 – June 14, 2012

Truc-Anh





A GAME OF FAITH

“Beauty will be convulsive, or it will not be,” proclaimed Andre Breton. He called this aesthetic “surrealist,” but in a culture radically revamped by the ascendancy of mercantile values, to ask that images be jarring, clamorous, eye-opening, seems like elementary realism as well as good business sense...How else to make a dent when there is incessant exposure to images, and overexposure to a handful of images seen again and again? The image as shock and the image as cliché are two aspects of the same presence.” – Susan Sontag

Susan Sontag wrote the above in her canonical treatise, *Regarding the Pain of Others*, in response to documentary photography’s role in the registration of social consciousness. Here, she argues for the functional aspect of the grotesque—specifically the visual representations of horror, as located in images of war-ravaged cities, human atrocities, and natural and civic disasters—and its subsequent implications for inciting a reading of the image that, in its pornographic tendencies (achieved via its sense of voyeuristic distance), is simultaneously fantastical, fetishized and reality-based. The French-born artist, Truc-Anh, employs similar methodologies for approaching the medium of paint, as is witnessed in his most recent suite of work, collectively titled, *CROIRE/DOUTER*. As the title itself suggests, the duality of the image—figure vs. ground; black vs. white; presence vs. absence; fetishistic commodification vs. spiritual transcendence—localized within the intermediary spaces of belief and doubt and read through a lens of art historical and contemporary references, constitutes Truc-Anh’s pictorial sensibility, one that consistently challenges the viewer to situate him/herself within the articulated frame.

But, as Sontag notes, there is a catch. Grounding is illusory. Reality is subjective. Amidst our culture’s tremendous proliferation of visual sensations, logged and repeated ad infinitum, collective cognizance cannot be quantifiably known. Such is the trap Truc-Anh sets for the viewer, for as one attempts to ground themselves in the presented imagery—in the articulation of a brushstroke, the artist’s monochromatic palette, or the familiarity of the tradition of painting, portraiture, et al.—their foothold on the work’s reading slips further and further from view. Rather than a way out (transcendence), we are offered a way in—a fittingly fractured glimpse into the void—for in Truc-Anh’s world, there is no paradise, only paradise lost. That slippage, induced by the act of pairing a tangible medium (paint) with an attempted visualization of the unknown (ghost, spirit, energy) casts the bait, and signifier and signified become irrevocably intertwined.

Kara L. Rooney

Excerpt taken from the exhibition essay.

Kara L. Rooney is a multi-media artist working in performance, sculpture and the spoken word as well as the Associate Art Editor for the Brooklyn Rail, New York.



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List of works presented



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L'Adolescent
2012
oil on canvas
162 x 130 cm



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Le 8 ne désigne pas l'infini, il est juste un 8

2011

oil on canvas

162 x 260 cm (diptych)



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The Game of Faith

2012

54 wooden blocks carved with the words CROIRE and DOUTER (Belief and Doubt), varnish
base: 15.5 x 15.5 cm, height: variable, edition of 7 + 2 AP



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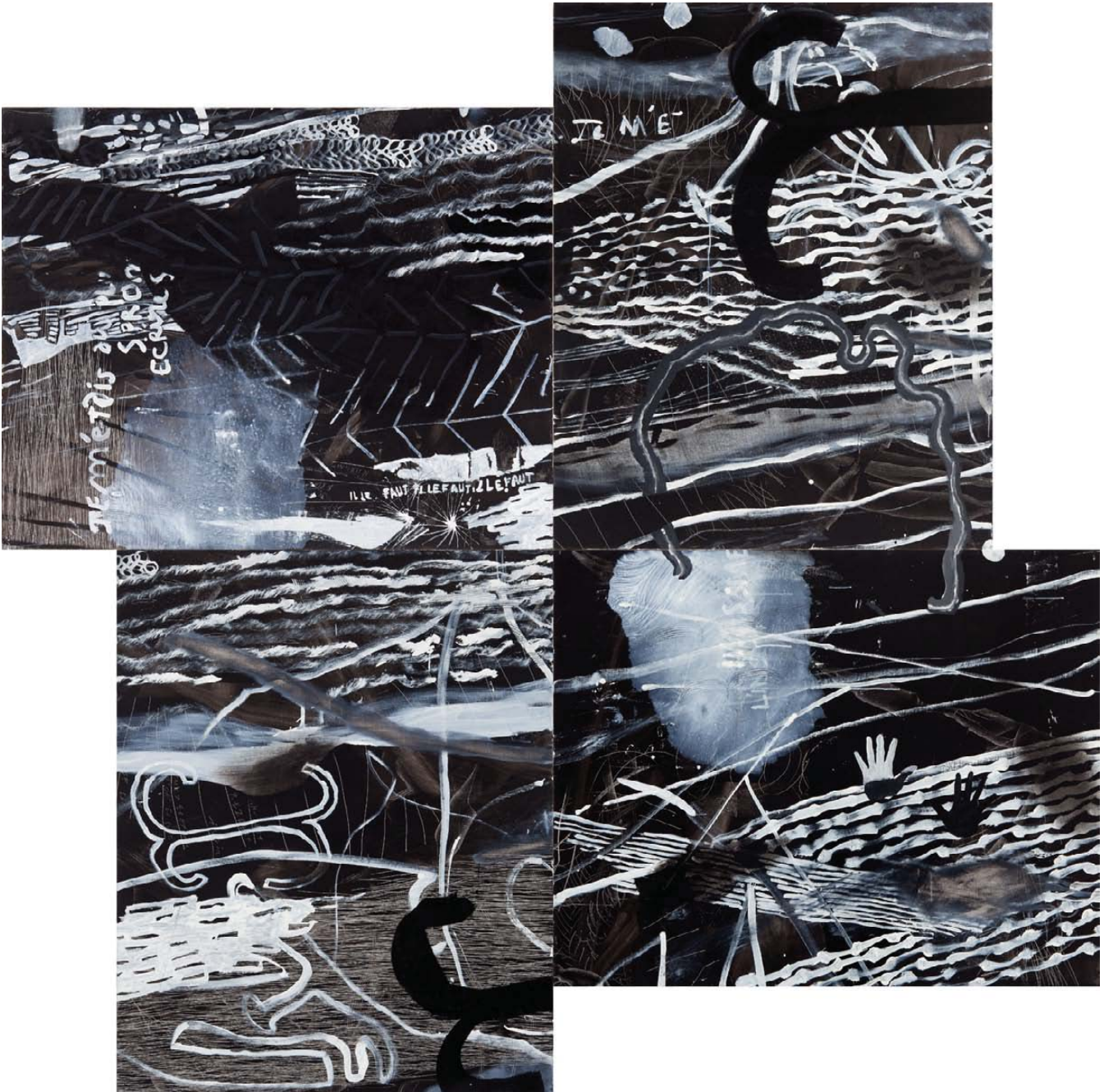
The Game of Faith

2012

single channel HD video 16/9, 24 mins, edition of 7 + 2 AP



GALERIE QUYNH CONTEMPORARY ART



Vent
2012
oil on canvas
320 x 320 cm (4 panels)



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Michel
2012
oil on canvas
48 x 38 cm



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14 ans
2012
oil on canvas
162 x 130 cm



21
2012
oil on canvas
162 x 130 cm



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Le Méditerranéen

2012

oil on canvas

162 x 130 cm



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Agony
2012
oil on canvas
162 x 130 cm



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Anubus the Septopis

2012

oil on canvas
162 x 130 cm



GALERIE QUYNH CONTEMPORARY ART



Eden
2012
oil on canvas
48 x 38 cm



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Additional works



GALERIE QUYNH CONTEMPORARY ART



Powder and snow: The one who cries empty

2012

graphite on paper in artist's frame

15 x 21 cm unframed; 38.5 x 44.8 cm framed



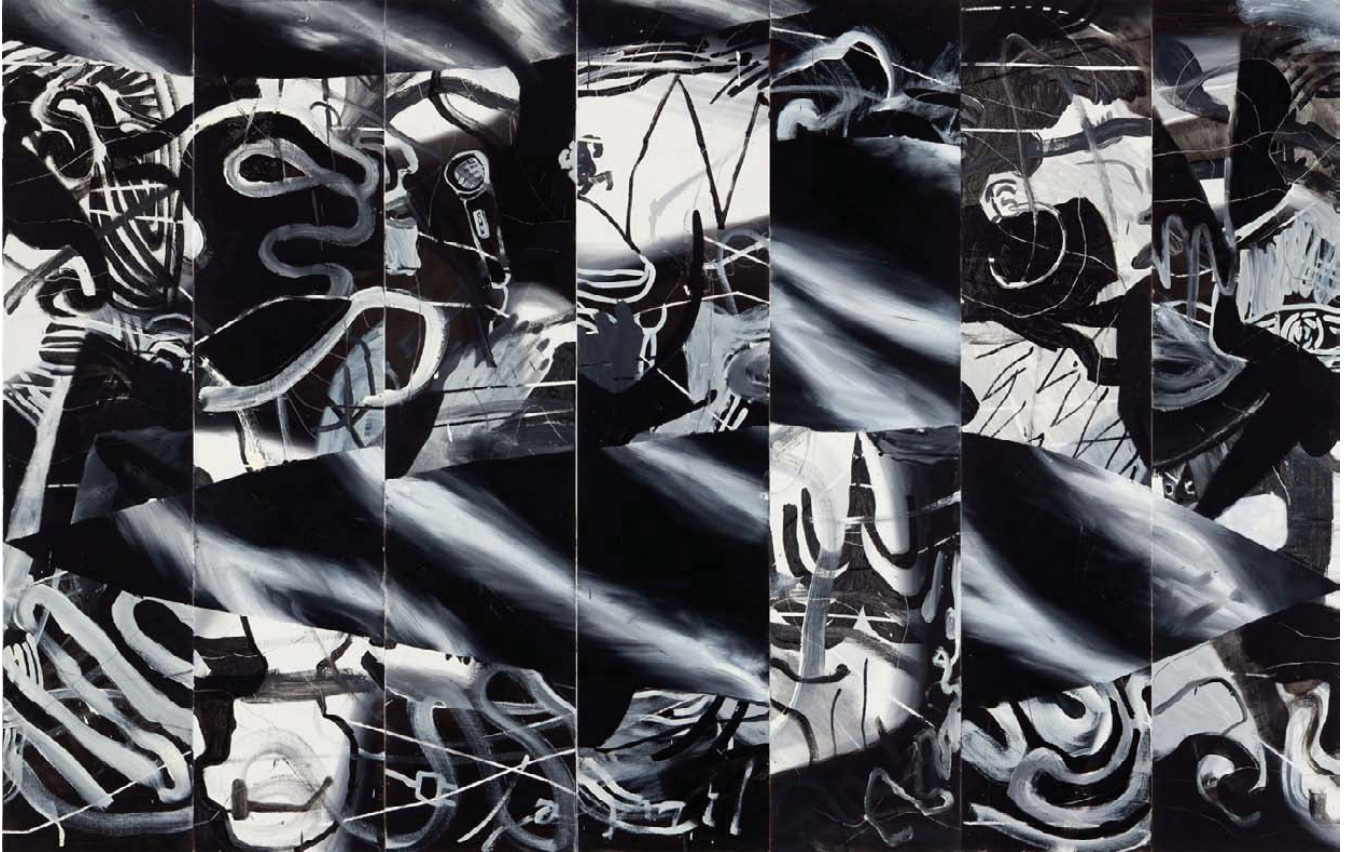
GALERIE QUYNH CONTEMPORARY ART



Pervs
2011
graphite on canvas
160 x 130 cm



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F1.A2.M3.I4.L5.L6.E7

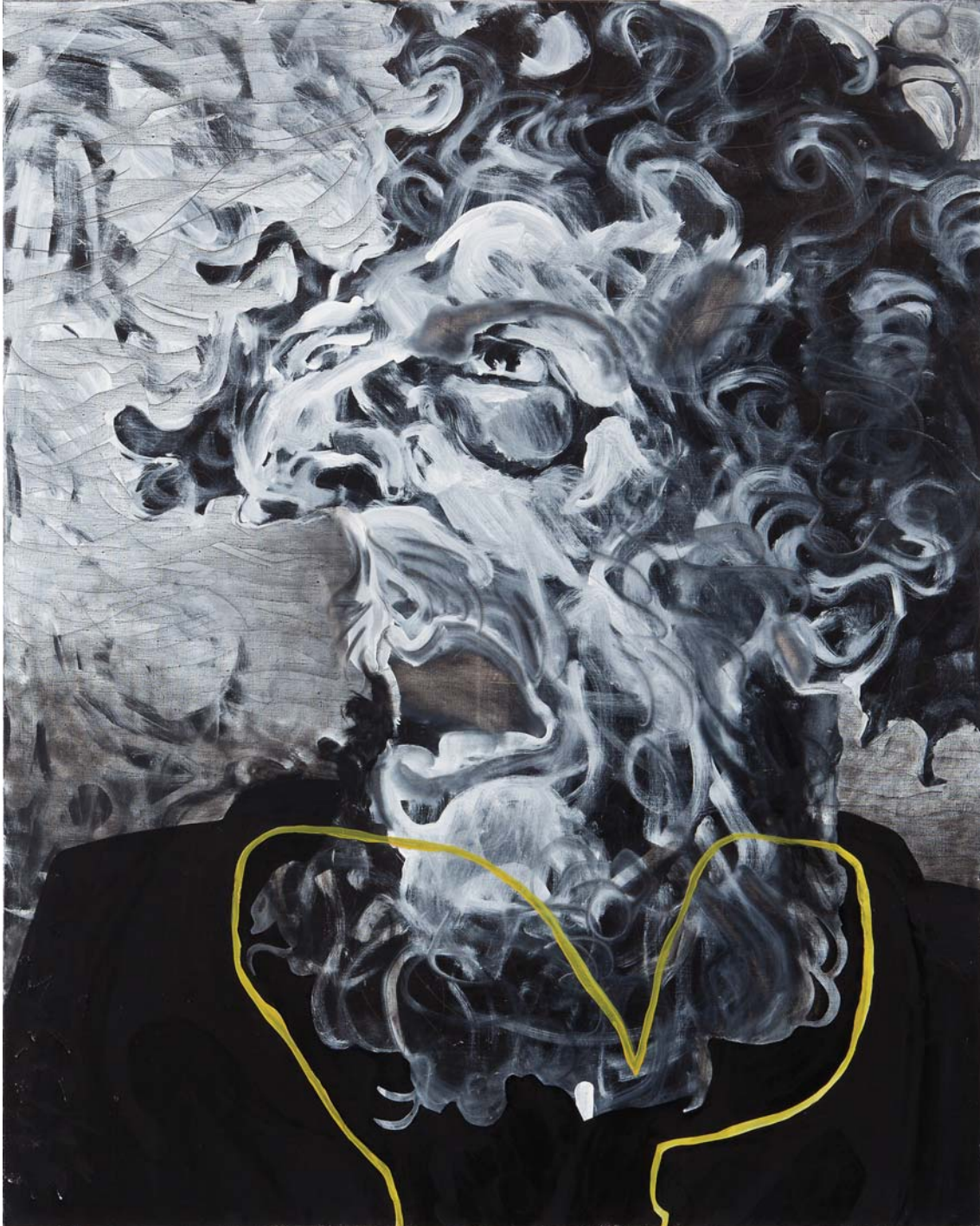
2012

oil on canvas

180 x 280 cm (7 panels)



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Untitled
2011
oil on canvas
162 x 130 cm



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Attendre
2012
oil on canvas
162 x 130 cm



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Physique Quantique

2012

oil on canvas

162 x 130 cm



GALERIE QUYNH CONTEMPORARY ART



Stardust
2011
oil on canvas
162 x 130 cm



TRUC - ANH

Born in 1983 in Paris, France

Lives and works between Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, and Paris, France

Education and related experience

- 2010** Assistant Professor at La Cambre,
École Nationale Supérieure des Arts Visuels, Brussels, Belgium
- 2002 – 2008** BFA, MFA and Aggregation, La Cambre,
École Nationale Supérieure des Arts Visuels, Brussels, Belgium
- 2005 – 2006** Postgraduate Diploma, ECAL, Haute École d'Art et de Design,
Lausanne, Switzerland
- 2001 – 2002** École Boule, École Supérieure des Arts Appliqués, Paris, France

Solo and two-person exhibitions

- 2012** *Croire / Doubter*, Galerie Quynh, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
- 2011** *Terran vs Zerg*, Truc-Anh / Thomas Mazzarella, Galerie Albus Lux,
Roosendaal, Netherlands
- 2010** *JE = LA-BAS*, Galerie Le Lieu, Lorient, France
- JE = ICI*, Truc-Anh + guests, Galerie Albus Lux, Roosendaal, Netherlands
- White Spirit Part 2*, curated by Tania Naskielski, 105 BESME, Brussels, Belgium
- L'Opéra de Stanley*, 30 ans du Mai-Photographies,
curated by Claire Bresson, Prieuré de Locmaria, Quimper, France
- Truc-Anh / Saskia de Maree*, Galerie Albus Lux, Roosendaal, Netherlands
- 2009** *White Spirit Part 1*, curated by Tania Naskielski, 105 BESME, Brussels, Belgium
- Triple Lombric*, Les Voûtes, Paris, France
- L'Opéra de Stanley*, Espace de la Librairie St Hubert, Brussels, Belgium



- 2008** *Différencié*, curated by Truc-Anh, European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium
Truc-Anh / Danielle Lemaire, Galerie Albus Lux, Roosendaal, Netherlands
- 2007** *Narcisse*, Galerie Albus Lux, Roosendaal, Netherlands

Group exhibitions

- 2010** *Voies Off*, Festival International de Photographie d'Arles, France
- 2009** *Les Arbres*, Galerie Half n' Half, Belgium, Brussels
- 2008** *POZE autoportrait*, BOZAR, Brussels, Belgium
Abris rêvés, Centre de la Gravure de l'Image Imprimée, La Louvière, Belgium
- 2007** *Open Screen*, Photo Gallery and View Magazine, Nuit Blanche, Brussels, Belgium
Finalists Exhibition, Prix Art'Contest 2007, Brussels, Belgium
Photo+Peinture CEAC, Centre Européen d'Art Contemporain, Brussels, Belgium
- 2006** *FF-F-IN*, ELAC, Espace Lausannois d'Art Contemporain, Lausanne, Switzerland
Green Piece, curated by Gloria Friedman, ECAL, Lausanne, Switzerland
Chat, La Médiatine, Woluwé, Belgium

Prizes and residencies

- 2010** Artist in residence at Phare du Créac'h, Ile d'Ouessant, France
Prix Photo Europa, France
- 2009** Artist in residence at *Les Arbres*, Urcier, France
- 2008** *POZE*, Finalist, Bozar, Brussels, Belgium
- 2007** Prix Art'Contest 2007, Finalist, Brussels, Belgium
- 2006** Prix de la Fondation Manganel, Lausanne, Switzerland



Publications and interviews

- 2011** Lecture, La Cambre, 9.50 minutes video,
École Nationale Supérieure des Arts Visuels, November, Brussels, Belgium
- 2010** *30 ans du Mai-Photographies*, exhibition catalogue,
Prieuré de Locmaria, Quimper, France
- Le Monde 2*, France
- L'Art Même*, June cover, Belgium
- Conversation Tania Nasielski / Truc-Anh*, 20 minutes video,
105 BESME, Brussels, Belgium
- 2009** *L'Art Même*, October cover, Belgium
- Weismann, Violaine, *Agenda Culturel*, interview with the artist, Radio Panic,
Brussels, Belgium
- Azart*, photography edition, France
- 2008** *Le Vif L'Express*, Spécial Plastique, Belgium
- Beauloye, Jennifer, *L'Opéra de Stanley*, Expo Revue, Belgium
- 2007** Vuegen, Cristine, *Talent Gespot*, KunstBeeld, September, Netherlands
- 2006** *Ossobucco*, L'Atelier artist's edition, Geneva, Switzerland