

tribute to texbraun gallery



Bettina Rheims, *François et Hugues III, novembre 1981, Paris* © with the kind permission of Bettina Rheims

/// opening wednesday, january 31ST, from 6 to 9 p.m.

Exhibition

Act 1: Wednesday, December 6th, 2023 - Saturday, January 13th, 2024

Act 2: Wednesday, January 31st - Saturday, February 24th, 2024

François Braunschweig and Hugues Autexier, better known as Texbraun, began as booksellers before establishing themselves at the flea market 'les puces' and founding their gallery on Rue Mazarine. The Texbraun Gallery played a crucial role in the recognition of photography in France, thus contributing to the dynamic evolution of the photography market. It closed its doors in 1986, leaving behind an indelible legacy in the history of French photography.

With the collaboration of Jonas Tebib

Acknowledgments: Bettina Rheims, her studio, and the photography institute managing Bettina Rheims' collection for granting permission to reproduce «François et Hugues III, November 1981, Paris».

baudoin lebon



Robert MAPPLETHORPE
Torso (Alistair Butler, NYC), 1980
Silver Print
Image: 75.5 x 76.5 cm, Framing: 85 x 85,8 cm
Unique piece
Stamped, signed, dated



Robert MAPPLETHORPE
Dennis Speight, 1981
Silver Print
Image: 76.2 x 76.2 cm, Framing: 86 x 85,5 cm
Unique piece
Stamped, signed, dated



Robert MAPPLETHORPE
Jimmy Freeman, 1981
Silver Gelatin Print
Image: 110 x 90 cm
Framing: 115 cm
Unique piece
Stamped, signed, dated

GALERIE TEXBRAUN

1980-1986

François Braunschweig and Hugues Autexier formed a couple that profoundly influenced the world of photography in the 1980s. Starting as booksellers and later becoming «puciens» in Saint-Ouen, they established their gallery in the former space of Ileana Sonnabend. In this splendid yet low-ceilinged place on Rue Mazarine, they embraced eclecticism. Mixing photographers from the 19th and 20th centuries, they daringly exhibited renowned names now celebrated like Robert Mapplethorpe, Joel-Peter Witkin since 1983, Bettina Rheims, Henry Lewis, Patrick Faigenbaum, Carlo Mollino, Pierre Molinier, among others.

For the 19th century masters, they unearthed and presented gems, from Albert Londe at La Salpêtrière to Teynard, Le Gray, Jean Renaud, Louis Robert, Viollet-le-Duc, Victor Hugo, Aguado, Meyer, and Pierson – a prolific portraitist, particularly of the Castiglione, the Emperor, and the Empress, not forgetting Nadar or the Moulin family

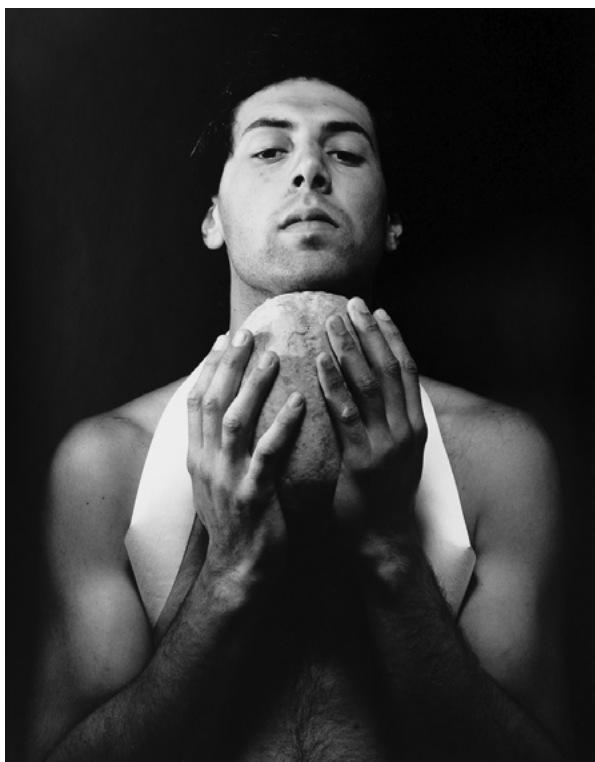
I had the opportunity to be around and spend time with François and Hugues, whether in a professional or private setting, navigating friendships alongside business tensions. Through them or thanks to them, I met and collaborated with numerous institutional figures or prominent dealers, such as Pierre Apraxine, Serge Bramly, Françoise Heilbrun, Philippe Neagu, Harry Lunn, and Pierre Bonhomme.

They were involved the disruptions of the French cultural landscape during the 1980s, marked by sexual, artistic, and political transformations; projects initiated as early as 1982 by Jack Lang and Claude Mollard with the creation of FRAC, les journées du Patrimoine (Heritage Days) and la Fête de la Musique (The Music Day).

Their gallery existed for six years, from 1980 to 1986, until the AIDS epidemic tragically halted their remarkable project. It was a sufficiently lengthy period to imprint an indelible mark on the French photographic scene.

Baudoin Lebon
December 2023

visuals available



Henry Lewis
Untitled, 1984
Silver Print
Image : 118 x 94 cm
Frame: 127 x 103 cm
© Henry Lewis courtesy baudoin lebon



Bettina Rheims
François et Hugues III, 1981
Silver print on baryta paper
Image: 44 x 55 cm, Edition N° : 14/15
© Bertrand Huet / Tutti avec l'aimable autorisation de Bettina Rheims



Joel-Peter Witkin
Hermes, San Francisco, 1981
Silver Print
Image: 37 x 37 cm, Frame: 66 x 56 cm
© Joel-Peter Witkin courtesy baudoin lebon



Guglielmo Plüschow
Deux garçons qui marchent, circa 1900
Vintage silver print
Image: 22,3 x 16,8 cm
© Guglielmo Plüschow courtesy baudoin lebon



Joel-Peter Witkin
Madame X, San Francisco, 1981
Silver Print
Image: 37 x 37 cm, Frame: 63 x 63 cm
© Joel-Peter Witkin courtesy baudoin lebon

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Wilhelm von Gloeden
Jeune homme vue sur mer, 1905
Vintage silver print
Image: 22 x 17 cm
© Wilhelm von Gloeden courtesy baudoin lebon



Albert Londe
Bourdy - contracture hystérique, c. 1883
Photographic Iconography of the Salpêtrière
Set of 47 plates
Silver print pasted on cardboard
Frame: 35 x 46,5 cm
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