

EVERARD READ

LONDON

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Everard Read London, in association with Bogéna Galerie, presents

FRANTA | *au plus près | close up*

13 September – 13 October 2018

La peinture me permet de garder les yeux ouverts sur le monde.

Painting allows me to keep my eyes open to the world. - Franta

Everard Read London, in association with Bogéna Galerie, Saint Paul de Vence, is delighted to present a solo exhibition by internationally-renowned French painter and sculptor, Franta.

Born in Czechoslovakia in 1930, Franta studied at The Academy of Fine Arts, Prague before fleeing his homeland in 1958 to find refuge in France, where he continues to live and work today. The sense of exile and Franta's early encounter with violence and human suffering continues to permeate his work.

Over a career spanning more than six decades, Franta has travelled extensively and his experiences in Africa in particular have had a far-reaching impact on his work. The body is always at the centre of his practice, "proud bodies offering themselves up to the gaze with no hint of ostentation or provocation.*"

Franta's paintings and sculpture obsessively interrogate the human condition through the filter of his own life's experiences, as a profound witness of his time. His work is suffused with compassion and generosity; it transmits an intense physicality and vibrates with the artist's own vital energy.

*Jean-Luc Chalumeau, FRANTA, 2007

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The exhibition at Everard Read London is Franta's first in the UK and encompasses some 30 works, including works on paper and canvas and bronze sculptures.

A monograph will be published by *Art Absolument* to coincide with the exhibition.

-Ends-

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About Everard Read London

Everard Read was established in South Africa in 1913, making it Africa's oldest commercial gallery. Everard Read London opened its doors on Fulham Road, Chelsea in March 2016 and presents modern and contemporary art from southern Africa. The gallery also shows contemporary work by exceptional artists from around the world.

Everard Read | CIRCA has galleries in Johannesburg, Cape Town, London and Franschhoek.

About Bogéna Galerie

Co-founded and run by Bogéna Gidrol, Bogéna Galerie occupies a venerable old building at the foot of Saint Paul de Vence, not far from the Maeght Foundation. Artists represented include Jeff Bertoncino, Carl Dahl, Franta, Monique Frydman, James Coignard, Christian Lapie and Nathalie Deshairs. Modern and contemporary masters including Chagall, Matisse, Miro and Picasso, Antoni Tapies and Zao Wou-Ki are also represented.

About Franta

b. Trebic (Moravia), Czechoslovakia, 1930

Franta is an internationally renowned artist and sculptor, born in Czechoslovakia but living and working in France since 1958.

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Franta's work has been exhibited in many museums across Europe and the USA as well as numerous solo and group exhibitions in galleries around the world. Several monographs have been published about the artist's work.

Museum Exhibitions

PARIS , Musée Galliera / NICE, Centre National d'Art Contemporain – Villa Arson / ANTIBES, Musée Picasso / MENTON, Musée de la Ville CANNES, Musée de la Castre / DUNKERQUE, Musée d'art contemporain / GRENOBLE, Musée de la Peinture / GRENOBLE – LA TRONCHE, Musée Hébert / NICE, Musée d'art moderne et contemporain / MENTON, Palais de l'Europe / BEZIERS, Musée Riquet / MONTBARD, Musée-site Buffon / CAGNES- SUR-MER, Musée-Château Grimaldi.

BOCHUM, Kunst Museum / DETMOLD, Lippische Gessellschaft fur Kunst.

PRAGUE, Musée Tchèque d'arts plastiques / TREBIC, Malovany dum CESKY KRUMLOV, Egon Schiele Art Centrum / BRNO, Musée de la Ville – Spilberk PRAGUE, Museum KAMPA / PRAGUE, Nova Sin.

NEW YORK- BRONX, Bronx Museum of Art / MILWAUKEE. WI, Haggerty Museum of Arts.

Monographs

FRANTA / par Bernard NOEL, Editions MAGE Publisher Inc , Washington DC, 1987 avec le concours du Ministère de la Culture(FIACRE).

FRANTA / par Evelyne ARTAUD, Editions Cercle d'Art, Paris 2001 – Collection Le Pré.

FRANTA / par Jean-Luc CHALUMEAU, Editions Somogy, Paris 2009. FRANTA / par Jan KRIZ, Editions GALLERY, Prague 2009.