

Revival

RAF REYES

Exhibition

Opening Wednesday
June 8 2022 from 6 pm to 9 pm

June 8 to 18, 2022
Wednesday to Sunday - 11 am to 7 pm
Palais Ghica Victoria Strada Nicolae Iorga 1,
Bucuresti 010431, Romania

DARMO

Revival

RAF REYES

From June 8 to 18, 2022, the Darمو gallery will be in the sumptuous and historic Ghica Victoria Palace in Bucharest. For this first Romanian excursion, Darمو offers a solo exhibition of the multidisciplinary artist and designer Raf Reyes.

"Revival" allows us to retrace the early and atypical career of this artist who is strongly attached to Romania, the country of origin of his ancestors.



Detail, Family, 2019

©Raf Reyes 2019

Raf Reyes



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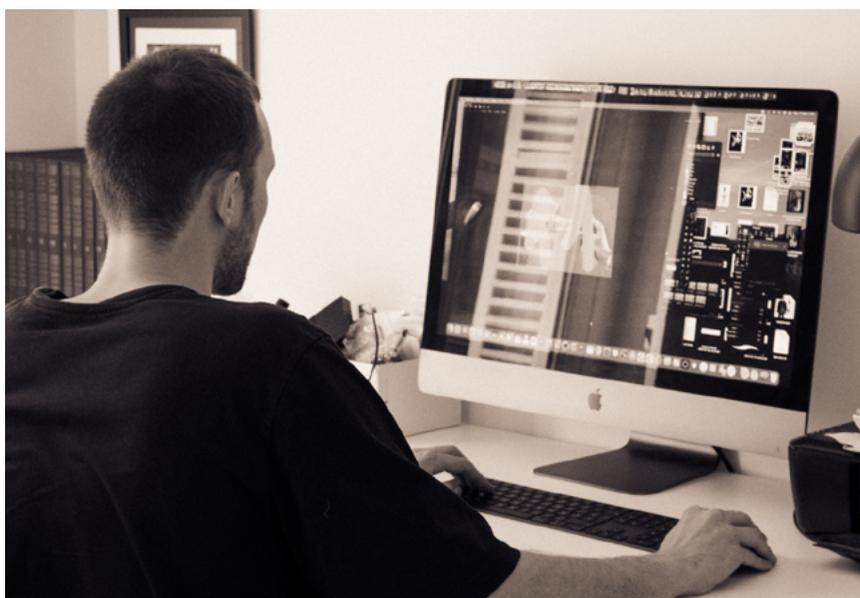
Raf Reyes' art is characterized by a permanent search for innovation and a rejection of rules. As much a passionate photographer as a designer, he navigates with finesse between the different mediums of expression. Raf Reyes mixes the old with the new, exploring the fundamental relationship between the creator and his creation. His many sensibilities as well as his singular imagination allow him to deliver to viewers pieces of art that scream of truth, his own.

Raf Reyes' work aims to represent a world where all the opposites would be harmoniously possible. Press plates, collages, photos, paintings, quotes are all characteristic elements of his digital compositions. His works are accumulative, sporadic and poetic. Raf explores the emerging trends of digital art. His work is full of references of small "madeleines de Proust", intended to trigger tropisms and reminiscences in the viewer. The resulting "photo-manipulations" are at the border of pop art, surrealism or baroque.



©Raf Reyes 2019

Raf Reyes' artistic career probably wouldn't have been born so soon, if Darmo hadn't convinced him to exhibit his creations in 2018 during the "Metamorphoses" show. The success of the exhibition allowed Raf Reyes to join the prestigious Royal College of Art in London in 2019.



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Palais Ghica

Victoria

The Ghica Victoria Palace was built in 1884 to the plans of French architect Jean Berthet. It has a Rocaille style façade rich in ornaments and decorations, monumental stairwells, sublime coffered ceilings and spacious rooms. The Palace was nationalized by the communist government and returned to the Ghica family in 1989.

It was then that the Bartha family decided to purchase it and, in 1994, began major renovation work which was completed ten years later. The palace, restored to its former splendor, is now a foundation that hosts important political and cultural events. Today, this residence is considered one of the most beautiful properties in Bucharest.



©Palais Ghica Victoria

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About the exhibition

Introducing Raf Reyes' work in Romania is a bold initiative for Darمو. But so far, the gallery has proven that panache is a winning bet. Confronting environments whose codes one does not master is always an enriching experience.

The choice to present the French artist Raf Reyes in a foreign country is part of a continuity of powerful artistic influences between France and Romania. The city of Bucharest was described as a "little Paris" in the 19th century. The Palais Ghica is a perfect setting for a spirited artist, contemporary to the French art scene, whose world is linked to both the past and the present.

"Revival" echoes one of the most important artistic revolutions: the Renaissance.

Raf Reyes' works are comparable to totems, between the religious and the profane. They are able to encompass the functioning of the modern individual being in his search for identity, but also to ritualize and mythologize the triumph of a current culture, redundant and excessive, embodied by the creations of Raf Reyes.

He places himself as a master storyteller, his works tell stories within which merge his own reflection on art, his overflowing imagination and the essence of ancient masterpieces that he likes to divert.



Pygmalion, 2019



©Raf Reyes 2019

Darmo

Born in 1998 and 1997 respectively, Alexis de Bernede and Marius Jacob-Gismondi, collectors from the beginning, have, since 2018, created their own structure dedicated to raising emerging talents ever higher. Of a still unprecedented kind, Darmo promotes a deliberately limited number of contemporary artists - often close to their generation - that touch them and for which they have at heart to make their talent emerge.

Their leitmotiv? To advise and support contemporary artists, but also to highlight little-known periods or techniques of the modern masters, by offering tailor-made exhibitions in emblematic and often unexpected places both in France and abroad. Collectors - whether they are first-time or mega-collectors - are also guided, accompanied and followed throughout their journey.

In addition, the two partners do not refrain from creating bridges between modern art, contemporary art and ancient art. In addition to their activity as collector-dealers, Alexis and Marius have forged solid partnerships and have helped Gucci acquire pieces for the company's collection; they have also collaborated with the fashion designer Giambattista Valli and have now been included in the **Forbes 30 Under 30 list** awarded by the prestigious **Forbes magazine**.

This consecration was obtained after four years of passionate commitment to support the emerging artistic scene, and confirms that their unanimously recognized achievements now "place them in the world's most influential community of young entrepreneurs" who innovate and advance society.



©Anais Dudon

Detail, Lost world, 2019



©Raf Reyes 2019

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Darmo

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