

# DARMO ART

## MÉTAMORPHOSES

Ephemeral exhibition lasting 3 days, at 20 rue Royale in Paris  
Preview Day the 19<sup>th</sup> of April 2018  
Exhibition the 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup>, of April 2018  
(The works presented will be sold in Euros, as well as in Bitcoin\*)



ASAKUSA: CLOUD TRAILS OVER SENSŌ-JI TEMPLE, 2017  
Raf Reyes



Métamorphoses 5, 2018  
Pauline d'Andigné

Darmo Art is an artist accelerator and emerging art gallery, aiming to create new art collectors. It was created in August 2017 by two students: Alexis de Bernède (19 years old) and Marius Jacob-Gismondi (20 years old), invested in the project of discovering new contemporary artists of their generation. This adventure started 7 months ago with a contemporary art blog on Instagram that today is followed by over 6,500 people. The increasing success of this blog created the desire, in its founders, to allow its community of followers to start collecting.

Darmo Art aims at accelerating the emergence of very young artists, allowing the public to develop their taste in contemporary art and to enable these art enthusiasts to start collecting and investing in young, talented artists.

Alexis de Bernède and Marius Jacob-Gismondi met in school. Their entrepreneurial mind-sets and shared passion for art soon became the base of a long-lasting friendship. They have come together to fulfil a desire of the people in their environment, to have an easy access to art and way to develop their own taste.

Alexis is currently in his second year of *International Management and Finance* at the Warwick Business School in England, while Marius is in his second year of art school at IESA.

Alexis and Marius will present from the 20th to the 22nd of April 2018, at the Galerie Gismondi, the works of two French artists of their generation, Raf Reyes and Pauline d'Andigné, at the occasion of their first exhibition: MÉTAMORPHOSES.

**Raf Reyes**, a self-taught artist, began sharing his creations on social networks, and is exponentially successful within this community.

**Pauline d'Andigné** is currently studying at the Beaux-Arts in Paris and was discovered by Marius and Alexis during her last exhibition at ENSBA (November 2017).

"It is through distorting time, proportions, textures and the environment that our artists achieve a complete metamorphosis, or rather, a set of metamorphoses."

Even though these young artists have two very different paths, the creations of the two will come together by the emancipation of reality and norms. Alexis de Bernède and Marius Jacob-Gismondi asked the two young artists to draw inspiration from the exhibition space (Galerie Gismondi) because "It is by playing with time, proportions, textures and the environment, that our artists achieve a metamorphosis accomplished, or rather a set of metamorphoses." (Alexis de Bernède)

**Raf Reyes** (20 years old) is a photographer specialised in digital art, including digital collages.

Undertaking a year of traveling in Asia, he combines his environment and creativity to achieve the end result of his art. Raf Reyes built his initial success on social media with more than 13,200 subscribers on his Instagram account showcasing his digital art work (@surreality), and 19,600 subscribers on his account dedicated to photography (@ raf.reyes) .

Reyes explores the meanders of the subconscious through a seamless blend of traditional and modern techniques that characterise his art. During the year 2017, his main objective was to create or experiment on a daily basis, using all the knowledge and methods available around the world of surreal art. Raf Reyes' methods pursue an explicit desire to celebrate the spectator's unconscious. He achieves this by liberating possibilities of chance and spontaneity: when he produces, he gives way to randomness or "the accidental", through objects incorporated in the final piece without any particular rule or method of disposition. These elements, or "glitches" (def. : a sudden, usually temporary malfunction or fault of equipment; an unexpected setback) are essential to the definition of Raf Reyes' style. Whether in the foreground, to emphasize the importance of these additions, or between dozens of translucent layers, he also conceives his art as a game he plays with his viewer. These little "winks" are *de facto* references to objects, emotions or feelings, but also to artists from which Raf Reyes draws his inspiration.

**Pauline d'Andigné** (21) is currently in her second year at the Beaux-Arts in Paris.

Her photographs are similar to the world of fashion and luxury. She uses images as material in the utility of pictorial compositions. Thus, photographed bodies that meet the beauty standards of the fashion world become, once cropped, mash-uped, digitized, an organic material that no longer refers to fashion photography but lays the foundations for a seductive universe peculiar to this world. This quest for beauty through forms, colours, materials is at the origin of its production. While photography captures a reality, the various post-production processes allow it to create a new materiality and to introduce chance into a digital production that is *a priori* totally controllable. Pauline d'Andigné provides her viewers with bridges between the reality she proposes and the world around us, playing in this space between the almost perceptible and the unknown.

MÉTAMORPHOSES is the first exhibition of the artist acceleration program of Darmo Art. It will pursue the same format of ephemeral exhibitions, in the upcoming year.

Darmo Art will put the works of their artists on sale during the exhibitions. Some will additionally be available online at [www.darmoart.com](http://www.darmoart.com).

Alexis and Marius want to support entrepreneurship and professional experience among young people internationally. This is why Darmo Art will donate some of its profits to LP4Y, an association that helps young people (aged 15-24) "excluded" from globalization, to integrate themselves

socially and professionally. LP4Y currently operates in the Philippines, Vietnam, India, and Indonesia (<http://www.lp4y.org/>).

\* Convinced of the immense potential of the Blockchain technology the co-founders of Darmo Art, Alexis and Marius, wish to participate in its democratisation in France. The accelerator will be among the first French galleries to accept Bitcoin (as well as other cryptocurrencies) as a means of payment to buy artworks.

## Practical Information

### EXPOSITION

#### **MÉTAMORPHOSES**

### PREVIEW DAY

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> of April 2018 : 18:00 - 22:30

### OPENING TIMES

Preview Day : 19<sup>th</sup> of April 2018 : 18:00 - 22:30

Exhibition : 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup> of April 2018: 10:00 - 20:00

### FEE

Free admission

### VENUE

Galerie Gismondi

1<sup>st</sup> floor

20 rue Royale, 75008, Paris

### TRANSPORT

Metro and Bus: Concorde, Madeleine

### CONTACTS

#### **Darmo Art**

[darmoartgallery@gmail.com](mailto:darmoartgallery@gmail.com)

[www.darmoart.com](http://www.darmoart.com)

#### **Alexis de Bernède**

+33 (0) 6 07 96 94 71

#### **Marius Jacob-Gismondi**

+33 (0) 6 13 70 24 50



Alexis de Bernède



Marius Jacob-Gismondi

### PRESS

Sophie Schremser

[s.c.schremser@gmail.com](mailto:s.c.schremser@gmail.com)

Gaëlle de Bernède

[gaelledebenede@gmail.com](mailto:gaelledebenede@gmail.com)

+ 33 (0) 1 75 43 46 80