



**PRESS RELEASE ART ON PAPER BRUSSELS 2024**  
**PARTICIPATING GALLERY - HUSK GALLERY**  
**BOOTH A14 – 3>6 OCTOBER 2024**

**Husk Gallery's booth is delighted to participate in the 9<sup>th</sup> edition of Art on Paper in Brussels. On this occasion the Brussels-based gallery proposes a representative ensemble of drawings witnessing of the artistic examinations by three internationally emerging artists: Spanish artist Juanan Soria, Belgian artist Kevin Vanwonterghem, and French artist Céline Marin. All artists are born in the mid-eighties. Their works on paper witness of their meticulous artistic practice and research. The selected drawings share a specific focus on the theme of 're-construction'.**

Though each artist is inspired by different sources, they create their coherent oeuvres through unexpected combinations of disparate iconographic material from classical artefacts and art history to photography. By recycling and revitalizing images in their drawings, they construct compositions that challenge the viewer.

**Juanan Soria's** recent drawing project aims to 'reconstruct' damaged artworks and artifacts, by using destruction as a method to build. Just as archaeologists are challenged to reconstruct fragmented artefacts, Soria prompts us to analyse his complex compositions, created layer by layer using digital tools, before being meticulously drawn with pencil.

**Céline Marin's** pencil drawings feature scenes filled with small characters pinned into an absence of environment. She developed a unique practice based on the collection of images, both iconographic and anecdotal, from different eras and cultures. She creates magical encounters in a surreal world full of humour.

**Kevin Vanwonterghem's** imaginary landscapes drawn with charcoal are compositions that question the malleability of reality. The concept of 're-construction' is echoed in his eponymous series, in which he cuts up the landscape. He also constructs ambiguity by visual associations that cannot be interpreted unequivocally.



**About Husk Gallery's artists presented at the 9<sup>th</sup> edition of Art on Paper 2024**

Drawings by the three artists from recent projects are featured at Husk Gallery's group booth A14 to explore and highlight their current artistic approach.

## Céline Marin (b1986, Nice, France)



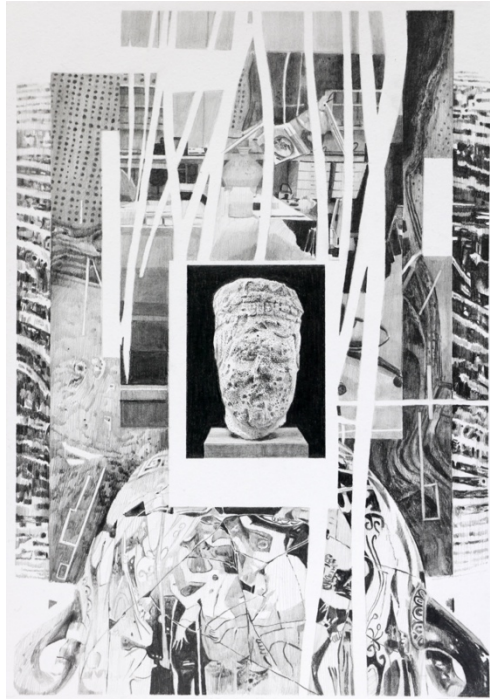
*'Minuit suspendu #4' by Céline Marin, 2024, pencil on paper, 75x110cm*

In Céline Marin's work, reality gives way to imagination. Her meticulously executed pencil drawings evoke a surreal world full of humour. The artist constructs her unique iconography by collecting amateur and personal snapshots, postcards, images cut out from magazines, old engravings, illustrated scientific articles and practical guides. She classifies and orders them according to broad themes, before assembling them. The act of assembling/dismantling and combining/uncombining is reminiscent of Surrealist collages. In all cases, iconographic research appears to be a way of breaking with the linear reading of history, preferring a diachronic and personal apprehension of it, giving rise to infinite combinations of the past with the present. In this clash, Céline Marin keeps the images that have an unusual character. Completely disparate things can be brought together by sharing a common space. The result is scenes filled with small characters without context, so that everyone can project their own mental landscape onto them. Céline Marin is inspired by her observation of a vast sociocultural heterogeneity, and plays on the unusual to present a collection of bizarre tribes.



**Céline Marin** (b1984) is a French artist who lives and works nearby Nice. After obtaining her Diplôme National d'Art at the Villa Arson in Nice and her Diplôme National Supérieur d'Expression Plastique at the École Supérieure d'Arts d'Aix-en-Provence, Céline Marin joined the post-graduate programme at the Pavillon Bosio in Monaco. Since then, the artist has held numerous residencies and solo and group exhibitions at art centres, galleries and museums in France and abroad.

## Juanan Soria (b1985, Ubeda, Spain)



*'Artifact 01' by Juanan Soria, 2024, pencil on paper, 29,7x21cm*

Juanan Soria is fascinated by the history and sociocultural response to artefacts. His ongoing project 'Destroy to build' deals with artworks that were destroyed during conflict or war. It is a reflection on the importance of the signs of aggression and displacement during the lifetime of these artworks. Recently, Soria is especially interested in the layers of meaning of 'Iberian' artefacts from the protohistoric past in Spain. The artist's preliminary research for the composition relied on the assistance of Photoshop. Soria depicts all these 'layers' in a deliberate and highly precise manner. By including the black-and-white basic grid and tags of the image software in some of his drawings, he even shares the genesis of his images with us. Juanan Soria creates plastic forms in his drawings by freely accumulating fragments of these Iberian sculptures. Just as archaeologists have been challenged to reconstruct the images of broken artefacts, Soria prompts us to subjectively analyse his complex compositions.



**Juanan Soria** (b1985) grew up in Andalusia. Currently, he lives and works in Ghent. Beside drawing, he paints and creates installations. He obtained a BA of Fine Arts at the University of Sevilla and a MA of Art Production at the Polytechnic University of Valencia. The Spanish artist completed several residencies in Spain, that led to exhibitions. Furthermore, he was declared laureate in Spanish art prizes. Since 2013, he has been busy on the Belgian art scene among which solo shows and several group shows. Recently, he was awarded with the Third Prize of the 'Art Contest 2021' edition in Brussels followed by a solo show in 2023 at Carrefour des arts in Brussels. His artworks are included in diverse public collections in Spain.

## Kevin Vanwonderghem (b1986, Ghent, Belgium)



*'Construction Series 2306' by Kevin Vanwonderghem, 2023, charcoal on Hahnemühle paper, 151x120cm*

Kevin Vanwonderghem's drawings evoke an imaginary world in which landscape elements form the building blocks for fictional, sometimes surreal settings. Each landscape lacks human presence and goes beyond the pure representation of a setting. His current sources of inspiration are the relationship between culture and nature, along with religion and science. Triggered by what lies in the twilight zone between the mystical and explicable, Kevin Vanwonderghem explores how humans still need magic and wonder in postmodern times of demythologisation.

Because of his preference to draw with charcoal, Vanwonderghem's visual universe is defined by strong light-dark contrasts and nuances. During his creative process much attention is paid to the viewing experience. The use of very dark pressed charcoal on paper allows him to obtain very deep black tones. His velvety executed landscapes immerse the beholder into a dark mysterious atmosphere, somewhere between reality and fiction, between objectification and romanticism. The concept of the image and the aesthetic experience are equally important.



**Kevin Vanwonderghem** (b1984) currently lives and works in Destelbergen, Belgium. He graduated from Luca – School of Arts, Ghent in 2007 with a Master's degree in Visual Arts - option Illustration. Afterwards, he studied Printmaking at the Academy of Visual Arts, Ghent. His works on paper have been presented in several solo shows and in group shows in Belgium. Among others, his work was included in exhibitions at the Tabaksmuseum in Wervik (2022), the Cultural Centre De Warande, Turnhout (2019) and Museum Dhondt-Dhaenens (2016).

## **Practical information**

### **Preview & Vernissage**

Thursday 3 October by invitation only  
In the presence of the artists

### **Public days**

Friday 4 October 11 am > 7 pm

Saturday 5 October 11 am > 7 pm

Sunday 6 October 11 am > 7 pm

### **Venue Art Fair**

Gare Maritime Tour & Taxis  
Rue Picard 11 Picardstraat  
1000 Brussels

Find Husk Gallery at **Booth A14**

### **For further inquiries and visuals:**

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### **Address Husk Gallery**

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