

MH Gallery

presents

Mai TABAKIAN

CYCLO



Trophées, 2013-2014, detail

// 18 October > 22 November 2014 //

**Opening, in presence of the artist
Saturday, October 18th, 2014 from 3 to 8 p.m.**

CYCLO

Catalog of the exhibition (FR/NL/ENG, 48 pages, with a text by Marie Deparis-Yafil)

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OPEN Wednesdays through Saturdays from 2 to 7 p.m., and upon appointment

Mathilde Hatzenberger Gallery
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After having presented her work in several group shows – Human condition, Desseins, A voir et à manger...- the Gallery is very pleased to announce **Mai Tabakian's** first personal exhibition in Belgium, accompanied by a catalog entitled **CYCLO**, a title suggesting that the idea of cycle is the thread that leads us through the exhibition.

First, the cycle as phase, or alternating phases. The cycle of the seasons as represented in the piece **36 views, homage to Hokusai** and the series of prints of Mount Fuji; the cycle of reproduction exposed with wicked humor in the sculpture-object **Les petits soldats**, a solitary game where necessarily at the end only one remains ...; the cycle of the development of a living organism seen through a microscope in **The Silk Road**; the cycle of economics whose cogs and workings are dissected in **The New Silk Road**, a mysterious colony of cocoons, shiny as if wrapped in petrol, symbolizing the new deal in exchanges linked to that precious raw material; the cycle of creation in **The Wall**, colored bricks that mix joyfully a purely geometric abstraction with much earthier organic forms, in the perpetual play between attraction and repulsion that characterizes Mai Tabakian's art.



From left to right, up and down: **36 vues (hommage à Hokusai)**, 2012, 138x280cm ; **Les Petits soldats**, 2013, 20x60cm de diam. ; **La Route de la Soie**, 2010, 119cm ; **La Nouvelle Route de la Soie**, 2011, 180x60cm ; **The Wall**, 2012, 143x82x6cm.

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The cycle as a circle, too, representing infinity, oneness and multiplicity, totality and perfection, the absolute, as in the mandalas **Slices**, or as in the quest for our lost half in Aristophane's myth illustrated by **Trophées**, strange halves of fruit about to burst into a new whole.



From left to right: **Slices**, 2012, 9 pieces, 30cm ; **Trophées**, 2013, 14 diptychs, 22x40x16cm.

CYCLO is also an allusion to Vietnam, the Vietnam of “cyclos”, the mythical three-wheelers on its way to becoming extinct. Vietnam's discreet influence persists in the shapes used by the French-Vietnamese artist, particularly the “lingam”, an explicitly phallic standing stone belonging to Hindu religions, in her series **The Champions' League**. In Mai Tabakian's productions, Vietnam nurtures a new art form of which the hybrid and the organic are the center.



Champions' League, 2012-2013, various sizes.

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Born in 1970, **Mai Tabakian** lives and works in Paris.

Main exhibitions

2014

CYCLO, MH Gallery, Bruxelles (Belgium).
SAY IT WITH FLOWERS, Museum Bellerive, Zürich (Switzerland).
EN RÉPONSE À LA GUERRE, Centre Culturel de l'Entente Cordiale, Château d'Hardelot, Condette (France).
CONTRE NATURE, Galerie Talmart, Paris (France).
MINIARTEXTIL, Beffroi, Montrouge (France).

2013

THE ART FAIR, MH Gallery, Köln (Germany).
AU DELÀ DE MES RÊVES, Monastère royal de Brou et H2M, Bourg-en-Bresse (France).
EROS, Miniartextil, ARTE&ARTE, Villa Olmo, Como (Italy).
HUBLOTS DU SOIR, Le Hublot, Ivry-sur-Seine (France).
GROWING, National Centre for Craft and Design, Sleaford, Lincolnshire (UK).
BEYOND MY DREAMS, Galerie Mondapart, Boulogne-Billancourt (France).
DESSEINS, MH Gallery, Bruxelles (Belgium).
MINIARTEXTIL, Beffroi, Montrouge (France).

2012

TOO WEB OR NOT TO WEB, Musée Jean-Lurçat et de la tapisserie contemporaine, Angers (France).
A VOIR ET A MANGER, MH Gallery, Bruxelles (Belgium).
BLOOM, the converging art show, MH Gallery, Köln (Germany).
AGORA, Miniartextil, ARTE&ARTE, Villa Olmo, Como (Italy).
BEHIND THE CURTAIN, MH Gallery, Bruxelles (Belgium).
HUMAN CONDITION, MH Gallery, Bruxelles (Belgium).
MINARTEXTIL, Hôtel de ville, Montrouge (France).

2011

CHIC ART FAIR, MH Gallery, Paris (France).
ENERGHEIA, ARTE&ARTE, Como (Italy).
HYBRIDE, SMAC, Ancienne centrale fermière, Douai (France).
NINEELEVEN, MH Gallery, Bruxelles (Belgium).
SUTURES, Galerie Charlotte Norberg, Paris (France).
GALERIE 208, Paris (France).

Publications

EN RÉPONSE À LA GUERRE, catalog, Smac éditions, 2014.
AU DELA DE MES RÊVES, catalog, Monastère royal de Brou et H2M, 2013.
EROS, catalogue de l'exposition, ARTE&ARTE, 2013.
TEXTIEL PLUS n°224, article de Dorothe Swinkels, p.16, Zomer 2013.
TOO WEB OR NOT TO WEB, catalog, Musée Jean-Lurçat et de la tapisserie contemporaine, Angers, 2012.
AGORA, catalog, ARTE&ARTE, 2012.
HYBRIDE, catalog, Smac éditions, 2011.
ERNERGHEIA, catalog, ARTE&ARTE, 2011.

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