

HAUSER & WIRTH

Press Release

Hauser & Wirth at artmonte-carlo 2023

Solo presentation of drawings by George Condo

7 – 9 July 2023

Grimaldi Forum, Monaco



For this year's edition of artmonte-carlo, Hauser & Wirth will present a solo booth of works by George Condo, in celebration of the artist's major solo exhibition at Nouveau Musée National de Monaco open until 1 October 2023. The booth will feature a selection of drawings made by Condo during his time spent in Monaco in early May in preparation for his institutional show. The works in this presentation, such as 'Anger in Monte-Carlo' (2023) are directly inspired by the region and were made by Condo in a studio set up in one of the rooms of the Hôtel Hermitage Monte-Carlo. Some of the drawings also pay homage, such as 'Scenes from a Ballet' (2023), to the stage curtain created by Condo for Les Ballets de Monte-Carlo in 1998, as well as the scenography and costumes for the Opus 40 ballet, choreographed by Jean-Christophe Maillot, in 2000.

Drawing, or "visual thinking" as he calls it, is central to Condo's practice. Condo uses traditional styles and techniques to create imaginary portraits in which wild distortions suggest extreme psychological states. This

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presentation highlights Condo's brilliant draftsmanship—at times comic, monstrous, tragic, and endearing. Executed in crayon, pencil and ink, figures are overlapping on layered textural washes, combining multiple viewpoints to reflect various emotions occurring simultaneously. Condo often paints when he travels and infuses the experiences of his surroundings as subject matter in his art. In Monaco his observations of the numerous characters he observed while in either the casinos or just out and about in restaurants are all present in the works on paper—abstracted and displayed in both colourful and exacting precision.

Also on display, at Hauser & Wirth in Monaco, is an exhibition of sculptures by John Chamberlain from the 1980s in dialogue with the artist's early poetry, alongside a monumental public sculpture by Chamberlain, 'NAUGHTYNIGHTCAP' (2008) installed in the gardens adjacent to the gallery.



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George Condo
Scenes from a Ballet
2023
Pen and ink, aquarelle, and wax crayon on paper
57 x 76.4 cm / 22 1/2 x 30 1/8 in
© George Condo
Courtesy the artist and Hauser & Wirth
Photo: Jean-Christophe Lett

John Chamberlain
Installation view of 'NAUGHTYNIGHTCAP' at
Inverleith House, Edinburgh, Scotland, 2015
2008
Colored aluminum foil
440 x 540 x 275 cm / 173 1/4 x 212 5/8 x 108
1/4 inches
Courtesy the John Chamberlain Estate and
Hauser & Wirth
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