

## ***Tout devient tout***

Pierre Liebaert & Sandrine Lopez

EN

The exhibition duo of Pierre Liebaert and Sandrine Lopez explores these moments of self transformation, and everything that escapes this daily identity. The body is alternately veiled or unveiled, covered or uncovered. The change of identity is its main characteristic and its goal. The exhibition invites us to return to the undifferentiated, to ambivalence, to the primordial chaos, to the time before the strict differentiation between men and women, wild and civilized, believers and pagans, parents and strangers...

Finally, it proposes to discover the other in each of us.



FR

L'exposition en duo de Pierre Liebaert et Sandrine Lopez explore ces moments de transformation de soi, et tout ce qui échappe à cette identité quotidienne. Le corps est tour à tour voilé ou dévoilé, couvert ou découvert. Le changement d'identité est sa principale caractéristique et son but. L'exposition nous invite à revenir à l'indifférencié, à l'ambivalence, au chaos originel, au temps d'avant la stricte différenciation entre hommes et femmes, sauvages et civilisés, croyants et païens, parents et étrangers...

Enfin, elle propose de découvrir l'autre en chacun de nous.

NL

De duo-expositie van Pierre Liebaert en Sandrine Lopez verkent deze momenten van zelftransformatie, en alles wat ontsnapt aan deze dagelijkse identiteit. Het lichaam wordt afwisselend gesluierd of onthuld, bedekt of ontbloot. De verandering van identiteit is zijn belangrijkste kenmerk en doel. De expositie nodigt ons uit om terug te keren naar het ongedifferentieerde, naar ambivalentie, naar de oerkosmos, naar de tijd vóór de strikte differentiatie tussen mannen en vrouwen, wild en beschaafd, gelovigen en heidenen, ouders en vreemden...

Uiteindelijk stelt het voor om de ander in ieder van ons te ontdekken.



***Tout devient tout***  
22 January > 23 February 2025

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/ Artworks



**Pierre Liebaert**

*Ta Lepi*  
« *Je Crois aux Nuits* » series  
2024

inkjet print on archival paper

150 x 100 cm - Edition of 3 / 75 x 50 cm - Edition of 3 / 37.5 x 25 cm - Edition of 3



**Pierre Liebaert**

*Blast*  
*« Je Crois aux Nuits » series*  
2023

inkjet print on archival paper

150 x 100 cm - Edition of 3 / 75 x 50 cm - Edition of 3 / 37.5 x 25 cm - Edition of 3



**Pierre Liebaert**

*Pharmakon*  
« *Je Crois aux Nuits* » series  
2023

inkjet print on archival paper

150 x 100 cm - Edition of 3 / 75 x 50 cm - Edition of 3 / 37.5 x 25 cm - Edition of 3



**Pierre Liebaert**

*Frau Perchta*  
*« Je Crois aux Nuits » series*  
2023

inkjet print on archival paper

150 x 100 cm - Edition of 3 / 75 x 50 cm - Edition of 3 / 37.5 x 25 cm - Edition of 3



**Pierre Liebaert**

*Velum*

« *Je Crois aux Nuits* » series

2020

inkjet print on archival paper

150 x 100 cm - Edition of 3 / 75 x 50 cm - Edition of 3 / 37.5 x 25 cm - Edition of 3





**Sandrine Lopez**

*Erik*

« Arkhê » series

2016

inkjet print on archival paper

100 x 67 cm - Edition of 5 / 75 x 50 cm - Edition of 5



**Sandrine Lopez**

*Luna Serpent #2*

« Arkhê » series

2016

inkjet print on archival paper

100 x 67 cm - Edition of 5 / 75 x 50 cm - Edition of 5



**Sandrine Lopez**

*Danse*

« Arkhê » series

2016

inkjet print on archival paper

67 x 100 cm - Edition of 5 / 50 x 75 cm - Edition of 5



**Sandrine Lopez**

*Rouge #2*  
« Arkhê » series  
2015

inkjet print on archival paper  
100 x 67 cm - Edition of 5 / 75 x 50 cm - Edition of 5



**Sandrine Lopez**

*Blanc*

« Arkhê » series

2014

inkjet print on archival paper

67 x 100 cm - Edition of 5 / 50 x 75 cm - Edition of 5



**Sandrine Lopez**

*Luna Serpent #1*

« Arkhê » series

2014

inkjet print on archival paper

67 x 100 cm - Edition of 5 / 50 x 75 cm - Edition of 5

**Pierre Liebaert**

born in 1990 in Belgium

works and lives in Brussels

In both his *Je crois aux Nuits* and *Libre maintenant* series, Belgian photographer Pierre Liebaert places himself in circumstances that most of us would shy away from. He pushes our gaze away from the beautiful, the comfortable and the reassuring, towards the peripheries where what is actually in the midst of humanity emerges from the darkness. In his photographic practice, Pierre Liebaert is not confronted with a subject, but immersed in that which has no name and yet designates us. He is with. With the men and women who disguise themselves for the duration of a carnival. With the men who take off their clothes to make a confession. It's behind our masks that he slips in and gets as close as possible to the mystery of every living body, that which intertwines pleasure and pain, life and death. Everything that operates at the border between desire and lies, between the civilized and the impulsive, interests him for this reason: the question of the repressed displaces and repositions everything. Each time, it's a question of capturing the moment when we change roles, change places, in a ritual that is always precise, secret and ancestral.

When you come out of an exhibition or a book by Pierre Liebaert, you don't come away with information about an event or a current event, a moment or a place. You come back from a journey that takes you to the edge of immobile abysses. It takes us to worlds we know we've known for a very long time, without daring to visit them or taming them with words. This is undoubtedly a privileged place for photography.

Pierre Liebaert is a photographer born in Mons. His series entitled *Macquenoise* is published by Belgian publisher "Le Caillou Bleu". The work is recognized by the American website Photo-Eye as one of the 26 best of 2013. His projects are often immersive, long-term and all-consuming. While the majority of these are photographic, his previous series, entitled *Libre maintenant*, is constructed like an installation comprising film, images, music, sound recordings and text. It won the Grand Prix du Jury at the Festival des Boutographies and the New Generation Prize at the PHmuseum. The film alone has been screened at numerous international film festivals. In 2021, the eponymous book, published by L'éditeur du dimanche (Paris), was selected for the Prix du Livre at the Arles Festival. For his current subject *Je crois aux Nuits*, he explores territories where fragile rural traditions are still alive. The series depicts the carnival cycle, opening with the image of a bear emerging at Candlemas and ending with a body covered in ashes. Since 2017, his work has been represented by the Brussels gallery Archiraar. At the end of 2021, Pierre Liebaert was awarded the Fintro Prize in the Visual History / Beeldend verhaal category.

**Sandrine Lopez**

born in 1982 in France

works and lives in Brussels

This work is articulated around two main guiding principles: on the one hand, exceptional bodies and on the other: ritual. The idea underlines the exploration of these two paths while aiming at creating a dialogue between them.

I photograph what I refer to as “exceptional bodies”. These figures provoke an intense and overwhelming fascination, creating sustained contemplation on my part, as they oscillate between notions of beauty and horror. The singular body is more fragile seen as an entire story or as an incarnation of a myth: the blind, twins – Siamese or otherwise – burns victims, those bearing certain stigmas.

By natural extension, I added the animals to my repertoire, as a part of the myth: the snake, the wolf, the horse, the pig, for example. Constantly seeking out portraits in the street defines what I consider as my main field of work. I decided to bind together these images by also focussing on essential life rituals. These actions, movements and events that we enact, from the most regulated to the most sacred, all of them are celebrated as something unique. These codified holy situations leave their mark on the beginning or the end of a cycle of human life or patterns in our world such as giving birth, folklore, religious ceremonies, funerals and so on.

Similarly, I strive to reach the essence by getting rid of any sociological and temporal information, in an attempt to answer the obsessing question: humanity constantly torn between the carnal reality represented by the body and the absolute necessity of a spiritual form presented as a rite.

Showing the paradox between power and fragility, as is the case with those badly burned having been ravaged by the fire. To be able to observe the body as close as it is from its origin: virgins from any social affiliation. What remains of us when we don't belong to any social class, homeland or family?

After graduating with a MA in Sociology, she turned to photography and received a MA in 2011 from the Higher School for the Visual Arts, “Le 75”, in Brussels. She furthers her explorations of the body, focusing on the notion of rites, and more specifically, the notion of origin and creation.

She is also working on a documentary film (now in post-production) in which she sketches the portrait of a man who has suffered a severe head injury and with whom she has shared much of her time in the last few years.

Her work is previously presented in Belgium at Musée de la Photographie in Charleroi and at Musée du Dr. Guislain in Gent.



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22 January > 23 February 2025

Thursday > Saturday

1 > 6 pm

The exhibition is part of the Brussels Photo Festival 2025