

# ARTBRUT.art

Galerie Ritsch-Fisch

## Hervé Bohnert (b. 1967)

Hervé Bohnert's work delves into the boundaries of perception, confronting mortality while paradoxically celebrating life. A self-taught and unclassifiable artist, he reimagines the traditions of *memento mori* and funerary art, summoning remnants of an ancient past that continue to resonate in the present. His unique approach pushes the boundaries of art brut into uncharted territories. At the heart of his practice lies an obsessive quest for objects rich with history. He meticulously selects forgotten sepia photographs, 18th-century baroque sculptures, Henri II-style furniture, and massive caryatids. These relics, often dismissed and neglected, are methodically stripped—becoming “sculptural dissections”—to reveal skeletal forms crafted with exceptional anatomical precision. His works walk a fine line between horror and beauty. Far from shocking with their rawness, the stripped-down figures—sometimes streaked with paint or resembling traces of blood—exude an unexpected elegance. Each piece becomes a meditation not solely on death but on the life it leaves behind. Bohnert's art is, above all, an act of resurrection. He rescues these objects—abandoned statues, faded photographs, forgotten fragments of everyday life—from oblivion, recontextualizing them within new narratives. With subtle irony, he reminds us that life and memory are deeply intertwined, and that what seemed destined to vanish can be reborn. Hervé Bohnert brings us back to a celebration of life, urging us to reconsider our relationship with existence and memory.



## Major Exhibitions:

- 10-2022 / 05-2023: Musée Würth, Erstein
- 2022: Art Paris, Grand Palais Éphémère, Outsider Art Fair, Paris (FR)
- 2018: Nightmares of the Past, Musée Alsacien, Strasbourg (FR)
- 2018: Abbey of Auberive, Contemporary Art Center, Auberive (FR)
- 2018: The Twilight is Grandiose, Former Tobacco Factory, Strasbourg (FR)
- 2017: Nightmares of the Past, Musée Alsacien, Strasbourg (FR)
- 2017: Der tanzende Tod und andere Turbulenzen, Fisher Kunsthandel & Edition, Berlin (DE)
- 2016: Time Passes, Memories Remain, The Route of Icons, Grauffthal Church (FR)
- 2015: *Hey Act III*, Halle Saint-Pierre, Paris (FR)
- Le mur, Maison Rouge – Fondation Antoine de Galbert, Paris (FR)
- 2013: *Hey Act II*, Halle Saint-Pierre, Paris (FR)
- 2009: Faire avec, Le Maillon, Théâtre de Strasbourg (FR)