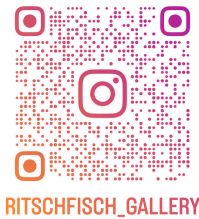


OAF 2025 | HERVÉ BOHNERT

BOOTH C13

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Hervé Bohnert's (b.1967) works delve 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 live in present day. 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 (a "sculptural dissections") to reveal skeletal forms crafted with exceptional anatomical precision.

His works walk a fine line between horror and beauty. Shocking with their rawness, these stripped-down figures (which are at times 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 that death 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: Würth Museum, Erstein (FR) 2022: Art Paris, Grand Palais Éphémère

2018: Nightmares of the Past, Alsatian Museum, (FR) 2018: Abbey of Auberive, Contemporary Art Center,

2017: Nightmares of the Past, Alsatian Museum, (FR)

2017: Der tanzende Tod und andere Turbulenzen, Fisher Kunsthandel & Edition, Berlin (DE)

2015: Hey! Act III, Halle Saint-Pierre, Paris (FR)
Paris (FR)

The Wall, Maison Rouge – Fondation Antoine de Galbert,
2013: Hey! Act II, Halle Saint-Pierre, Paris (FR)

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