ALEXIS PICHOT

PHOTOGRAPHE

BIOGRAPHY

I worked as an interior designer in Paris for more than ten years. Throughout that time I was very focused on the use of space and acquired a sensitivity that has greatly influenced my approach to volume in photographic art.

In 2011, I redirected my professional life autodactically and plunged into this new universe.

At night, light and space have often been my sources of inspiration, of experimentation and confrontation but above all of fulfillment.

I question the night using physical movement, as well as using light in order to see beyond what is visible, to a place where black has not yet absorded everything.

I have accomplished various artistic projects, often in partnership with private and public institutions. Notably, the Hotel National des Invalides allowed me access to all the military sites of Ile de France, which I was then able to bring to light in a large exposition in the moat of the Invalides.

I also had the opportunity to work with the RATP who commissioned me to enter an old marshalling yard where their entire collection of rolling stock, is preserved, covering 100 years of history. The images created were exhibited during «Les Journées du Patrimoine» (the Heritage Days) within this workshop-museum.

The cities and their nocturnal vestiges have been privileged fields of investigation for me, as much by their architectural lines as the past history, to which they bear witness. Because of my awareness of the state of our society along with the fact that I live in a city, nature has become my source of regeneration. It is from this sense of renewal that my new series Marche Céleste, a solitary and initiatory journey through the night time forest, was born.

EXHIBITIONS:

Solo Shows

- 2016 Incandescence, Studio P.C.P., Paris (February 17th > April 19th)
- 2015 Incandescence, Little Big Galerie, Paris (November 10th > December 13th)
 - Patrimoine Enchantée, for les Journées du Patrimoine, organized by RATP (September 19th > 20th)
- 2014 Les Armées Lumières, Hôtel National des Invalides, Paris (May 14th > June 29th)
- 2013 Fashion in Light, Exhibition and performance for the French May Festival in Hong Kong (June 6th > 12th)
 - Hôtel National des Invalides, Paris (March 1st > April 4th)
- 2011 Galerie Art 3, Paris (December 6th > 24th)

Group Shows

- 2016 Hors Cadres, CT Gallery, Megève (Ocotber 7th > 11 décembre)
 - Territoires Imaginaires, CT Gallery, Megève (June 4th > July 22nd)
- 2015 Lumières dans l'Espace, Enghien Les Bains (March 24th > May 13th)
- 2013 Rues, Galerie des Autres, Paris (November 21st > 24th)
- 2012 Lux, Galerie DAG, Paris (May 31st > June 3rd)
 - Hôtel National des Invalides, Paris (May 9th > 13th)

CONCOURS:

2014 Finalist at the contest La Bourse du Talent Espace #60

PUBLICATIONS:

Paper and Web

Monarque Magazine, L'Usine Nouvelle, Fubiz, Réponses Photo, Smart Battle by Fubiz, Direct Matin

TV

«Ô bout de la nuit» sur France Ô «JT décalé» sur I-Télé MARCHE CÉLESTE is the evidence of more than a year of nocturnal immersions in the Forest of Fontainebleau.

This project was conceived in response to my day to day life in the city : intense to be sure, but noisy, panting, often breathless, and sometimes deaf and blind when confronted with a neglected or forgotten original, whose necessary rediscovery is understood implicity.

The forest appeared to me as the possible source of this ancient dormant life, a place of evident physical and spiritual regeneration. In this meeting with myself and animated by the requirement of an intense experience, I wanted to depart alone, and at night, to meet this strange and fascinating world.

Sylvain Tesson said in his Little Treatise on the Immensity of the World: «Learning to stay alone, to live more densely.»

I then became aware of the heavy weight of our cultural past: it is rare to find a nocturnal scene in the forest that is not distressing, even threatening. During these rambles, there was a growing connection with the forest and the desire to account for my perceptions of it.

Letting myself be enveloped by the nocturnal atmosphere, the presence of animals, the infinite rustling of the vegetation, the soft music of the wind making the branches dance. All my senses were more and more awakened. Hearing is the most acute sense. Sight comes slowly as one becomes accustomed to the darkness. Finally smell. I found myself capturing various odors, sometimes obviously animals. To smell whithout seeing: I found the original meaning of an ancient man.

In these nocturnal love dialogues with nature, the cycles of the Moon exercise their manifest and powerful influence.

The disc of its hypnotic light stops time while the light and the darkness dance a neverending waltz. The emblematic rocks of Fontainebleau take on the appearance of meteors coming from another world of light.

Several trips into the heart of this forest-world have made me appreciate these new landmarks, surprised to each time when I experience a growing sense of well-being. Nurtured by its power and enthralled by the energies it carries, the forest, animated by shadows and lights invited me to join an initiatory ritual. In the first and only meaning of this word. Initium, the beginning of another life. Thusly as I realized these images, I discovered the reflections of my inner forest at the same time, the architecture of my own luminous energies. Creating in the midst of nature is an act of intimate communion with the environment.

This mystical experience based on my direct encounter with the Elements awakened another connection, the one with the deepest of my being. The forest is one of the strongest incarnations of natureat its origins and a place of transition as well, a means to another state, for the one who is immersed. Our modern lives have erased, or at least have forgotten, as the Fox tells the Little Prince, the notion of a rite of passage; A time of transmission based on a strong experience, the need for confrontation, and a physical and moral test of meaning.

































