

Press Release Positions 2015

French artist **Lucien Clergue** born 1934 in Arles has died last year aged 80 as one of the most notable photographers of our time. Clergue was known for his friendship with Picasso and became famous for his photographs of nudes.

Trying to separate the barriers between fine art and photography and campaigning for the growing recognition of photography, he founded the photography festival „Les Rencontres d'Arles“ in 1970, that has become today's world leading photography festival.

While travelling in 1962/63 his spectacular photographs of Brazil's newly built capitol Brasilia were taken, followed by his photographs in India on the traces of architect Le Corbusier'.

Clergue's architectural photographs are seducing the eye into following the curves of a confident, optimistic type of architecture, blinded by the cool beauty of this metropolis.

This fall a big retrospective at the Grand Palais in Paris will present Clergue's oeuvre and witness his inspiring work with powerful and intense broad daylight , water, sand, the sea, life, death, the female body, the biological evolution of the earth or corrida and its deified bulls- Omnipresent in his work as the backdrop of his solitary work are the Camargue and the Alpilles.

Lyon-based artist **Christian Chaize** (*1960) is recognized in the art world mainly for his beach and landscape photography such as his dazzling series „Praia Piquinia“, a body of work focusing on a singular stretch of coastline in southern Portugal in which all the pictures are taken from the same elevated angle throughout different times and tides,- minutes, days, months and years.

Chaize's new photography series „Ten“ is a playful encounter with ten wood blocks that are explored individually as well as grouped. Using a self-made large-format camera, he highlights the changing visual harmonies of his grown-up „building blocks“, expanding into different sizes, experimenting with lights and techniques. Comparable to his former work, Chaize is again led by the desire to push beyond what appears to be finite, and a drive to explore the „test of time“. In the words of Marcel Proust, Chaize is always seeking to "have new eyes."

German sculptor and designer **Norvin Leinweber** (*1966) is exploring our perception and representation of space . Experimenting with light and perspective, the act of seeing evolves into a sensual act beyond its ordinary borders.

In his relief series „Konspekte“, Leinweber is puncturing or cutting his wooden surfaces, blurring the distinction between two and three dimensionality in the tradition of Italian artist Lucio Fontana. In a second step he is then covering his works with a fine plastering of marble powder, creating flawless monochrome surfaces playfully reflecting the light and simultaneously depicting different perceptions of space.

German painter **Ulrich Moskopp** (*1961) is refining his abstract works with „Dammar“, a special resin he has been experimenting with for a long time. Like no other resin, Dammar captures the light and gives it a body-like presence. This quality is also transported by its Malay name – it means „light“ transcribed into linguistic sound.

By letting a mixture of Dammar, turpentine and oil paint with a high proportion of resin melt over the canvas, Moskopp is creating his vision of spatial and color depth. However the final appearance of the artwork is left to the freewill of gravity.