

LE GRAND CAFÉ – CENTRE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN



Nicolas Deshayes, *Crop*, 2020. Bronze, 20 x 41 x 26 cm. Edition of 5 (#1/5). Courtesy the artist and Modern Art, London. Photo Vincent Blesbois © Nicolas Deshayes

Le Grand Café - contemporary art centre is pleased to present *Chambre froide*, a solo show by Nicolas Deshayes, a young French artist trained in England where he now lives.

Sculptor Nicolas Deshayes works with industrial processes which he goes on to contradict through organic gestures. His sometimes-phantasmagorical formal universe is open to multiple readings, from the mechanisms of domestic objects to mutant bodies. Despite the hardness of his preferred materials - bronze, cast aluminium or ceramic - Nicolas Deshayes produces sculptures in which the sensation of malleability prevails. The body is omnipresent but only in fragments, and we perceive mysterious organic forms, stripped flesh, membranes that

NICOLAS DESHAYES "CHAMBRE FROIDE"

Exhibition from Saturday 4 June
to Sunday 11 September 2022
Opening on Friday 3 June at 6:30pm

suggest skin – the organ of surface and exchange between interior and exterior.

Is it a question of humans, of animals or of hybrid beings in full chrysalis-like metamorphosis? The different scales of his works muddy the waters. Some of them reproduce circulatory systems that can transport water or heat in the image of bodily fluids, while others display the actual porosity of bodies, materials and objects. His equivocal sculpture with multiple sources provokes ambiguous feelings that go from the trivial to the fantastical.

Curator:

Sophie Legrandjacques, director of Le Grand Café - contemporary art centre



Nicolas Deshayes, *Sugar Mile*, 2018. Cast aluminium, stainless steel and water, 225 x 82 x 6 cm. Courtesy the artist and Modern Art, London. Photo Robert Glowcki © Nicolas Deshayes



Nicolas Deshayes, *Dear Polyp*, 2016. Patinated bronze, hot water, 120 x 110 x 190 cm
Courtesy the artist and Modern Art, London © Nicolas Deshayes

NICOLAS DESHAYES

Born in France in 1983, Nicolas Deshayes lives and works in Dover, Kent (England).

He graduated from Chelsea College of Art and Design in 2005 and the Royal College of Art in London in 2009, he creates installations, sculptures, bas-reliefs and images. He is interested in circulatory systems, domestic pipework, industrial production, and artisanal processes. Working primarily with various methods of industrial casting, Nicolas Deshayes's sculptures tend to be hard, made from materials such as plastic, ceramic, vitreous enamel, aluminium or cast iron. Formally, however, his works reference soft, moving and malleable things; things that are alive and functioning.

Recently, Nicolas Deshayes presented his work at Le Creux de l'Enfer art centre in Thiers and at the Frac Grand Large in Dunkirk (France). Previously he had solo shows at E-werk, Luckenwalde (2019), Modern Art, London (2019); Basement Roma, Rome (2018); Tate St Ives, Cornwall (2015); Glasgow Sculpture Studios, Glasgow (2015) and S1 Artspace, Sheffield (2013). Deshayes' work has been included in group shows at the Belgrade Biennale (2021), Museo Ca' Pesaro, Venice, (2019), Museion, Bolzano (2019), FRAC Grand Large, Dunkirk (2018); Tate St Ives (2017); Zabudowicz Collection, London (2016); Leeds City Art Gallery, Leeds (2015); Kestner Gesellschaft, Hannover and at the David Roberts Art Foundation, London (2014); Saatchi Gallery, London, and Wysing Arts Centre, Cambridge (2013); and White Columns, New York (2011).



Nicolas Deshayes by Gina Folly

Nicolas Deshayes is represented by Modern Art (London).

<https://modernart.net/>

UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

At the LiFE - submarine base:

Bruit rose by Stéphane Thidet

From 8 July to 2 October 2022

Opening Thursday 7 July

At Le Grand Café - contemporary art centre:

Minia Biabiany

From 8 October to 31 December 2022

Opening Friday 7 October

Le Grand Café - centre d'art contemporain d'intérêt national

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www.grandcafe-saintnazaire.fr/en

Opening days and times

From Tuesday to Sunday 2pm to 7pm

From 11am from 7 July to 31 August

Free entrance

Le Grand Café, contemporary art centre of national interest of the City of Saint-Nazaire, is supported by the French Ministry of Culture (DRAC Pays de la Loire), the Regional Council of Pays de la Loire and the Departmental Council of Loire-Atlantique.

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