François Ruegg
Status I Statues

Musée Ariana, 15 September 2017 – 4 March 2018

Press release

Geneva, September 2017- The Swiss ceramist and visual artist François Ruegg (b. 1954) questions the complex relationship between the pedestal and the work of art. Throughout history, the elite "status" of the figure represented, whether social, intellectual or political, is linked to the height and type of base on which it is perched.

Through a series of monumental porcelain sculptures created in Jingdezhen (China), the artist proposes to revisit the base-statue combination. Busts, as well as objects of seduction and even discarded items are given an appropriate pedestal. Moreover, in order to create a distance - or to retain a sense of mystery - the people and things are hidden under a veil.

Though François Ruegg refrains from expressing a message or posing as a moralizer, it is difficult not to detect in his approach a critical look at an increasingly egocentric society, based on appearances to the point of losing its soul. Will you in turn be rooted to the spot in François Ruegg’s mischievous and surprising exhibition?

Anne-Claire Schumacher
Exhibition curator
Francois Ruegg
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VISUALS FOR THE PRESS

01  François Ruegg, (CH, 1954)
Accessories of Feminine Seduction, 2016-2017
Porcelain
67x42x42 cm

Property of the artist
Photo: Zhang Lei
02  François Ruegg, (CH, 1954)  
*Accessories of Masculine Seduction, 2016-2017*  
Porcelain  
67x42x42 cm  
Property of the artist  
Photo : Zhang Lei

03  François Ruegg, (CH, 1954)  
*Banana & Co, 2016-2017*  
Porcelain  
42x40x47 cm  
Property of the artist  
Photo : Zhang Lei
04  François Ruegg, (CH, 1954)
*Chinese Plate*, 2016-2017
Porcelain
45x48x48 cm

Property of the artist
Photo: Zhang Lei

05  François Ruegg, (CH, 1954)
*Can’t hear*, 2016-2017
Porcelain
81x40x20 cm

Property of the artist
Photo: Zhang Lei
06  **François Ruegg, (CH, 1954)**  
*Can't talk*, 2016-2017  
Porcelain  
81x40x23 cm  

Property of the artist  
Photo : Zhang Lei

07  **François Ruegg, (CH, 1954)**  
*Trashbag*, 2016-2017  
Porcelain  
71.5x38x32 cm  

Property of the artist  
Photo : Zhang Lei
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