



# François Ruegg Status | 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

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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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