

galerie frank elbaz.

Bernard Piffaretti

Taipei Dangdai

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Booth S.05

Taipei Nangang Exhibition Center, Hall 1

Taipei City

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Bernard Piffaretti

Born in 1955 in Saint-Etienne, France
Lives and works in Paris

For its first participation to Taipei Dangdai Art Fair, galerie frank elbaz is pleased to present a solo show by French artist Bernard Piffaretti.

Since 1986 Piffaretti has committed his practice to the "duplication method" or "Piffaretti system", abstract paintings that appear to be two identical halves, split through the vertical axis. One of the two parts is an attempt to duplicate the other, made beforehand. Once both panels are finished, the distinction between the copy and the original tends to fade. As the artist admits himself, "the repetition, act by act, on the second half of the canvas, can only produce an imperfect image". Closer inspection does indeed reveal moments of differentiation: the inclination of the brushstrokes, the number of drips, the weight of the hue. "The duplication clouds the origin of the time of the work. All supremacy is abolished, and that is the subject of my painting".

While the duplication method is a statement of conceptual rigour, it also draws attention to the gestural qualities of the paintings; the matching sides encourage us to examine the subtle nuances between the two halves. The paintings often have a vertical spine, hiding in plain sight down the centre of the canvas. Piffaretti calls attention to this spine by shifting its tone or hue in a direction that skews the palette established in rest of the painting. He not only uses the technique as a compositional tool but also as an instrument to trigger action; the colours, shapes and lines subsequently move, repeat and rotate on the canvas. Furthermore, the system allows him to exhibit the simple yet essential principles of painting. In some works, the second part is even left irremediably blank, showing us this impossible reproduction of the artistic gesture.



Bernard Piffaretti

Solo Exhibitions (selection)

- 2020 Acteur, galerie frank elbaz, Paris, France
- 2019 Bernard Piffaretti, Lisson Gallery, New York, NY, USA
Kontinuum, Galerie Klemm's, Berlin, Germany
- 2016 passage (à la ligne), galerie frank elbaz, Paris, France
Juste retour (des choses et des mots), FRAC Franche-Comté, Besançon, France
- 2015 Martin Barré / Bernard Piffaretti, Musée des Beaux-Arts de Nantes (Hangar à bananes), Nantes, France
- 2014 re-marquable, galerie frank elbaz, Paris, France
- 2010 Avant/Post, FRAC Haute-Normandie, Rouen, France
Sarabande, Le Portique, Le Havre, France
- 2009 On inachève bien les tableaux, Musée d'art moderne de Saint-Etienne, France
- 2008 V.O (version originale sous-titrée), Musée Matisse, Le Cateau-Cambrésis, France
- 2007 Presque Suisse, MAMCO, Geneva, Switzerland
- 2006 Poncif, Galerie Beaumont Public, Luxembourg, Luxembourg
- 2001 Sara Hildén Art Museum, Tampere, Finland
- 2000 Va-et-vient / Come and Go, Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, Paris, France
- 1991 Tableaux 1982-1990, Villa Arson, Nice, France

Group Shows (selection)

- 2022 Double, National Gallery of Washington, Washington, DC, USA
- 2019 Collection. La composante Peinture, Frac Bretagne, Rennes, France
- 2016 Reflections: Larry Bell, Anne Collier, Bernard Piffaretti, Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York, NY, USA
- 2015 Abstraction/Figuration, Musée des Beaux Arts de Rennes, Rennes, France
POST-IT, Le Portique, Le Havre, France
One more time. L'exposition de nos expositions, MAMCO, Geneva, Switzerland

- 2014 Mémoires Vives, Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, Paris, France
- 2011 Décor et installations, Galerie des Gobelins, Paris, France
Masterpieces of Museum of St Etienne, Daejeon Museum of Art, South Korea
- 2006 Peintures Malerei, Martin Gropius Bau, Berlin, Germany
La force de l'art, Galeries nationales du Grand Palais, Paris, France
- 2005 Les apparences sont souvent trompeuses, CAPC musée d'art contemporain, Bordeaux, France
- 1997 Made in France, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France
- 1991 Mouvements, Galeries contemporaines, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France
Correspondances, Musée d'art moderne, Saint-Étienne, France

Public Collections (selection)

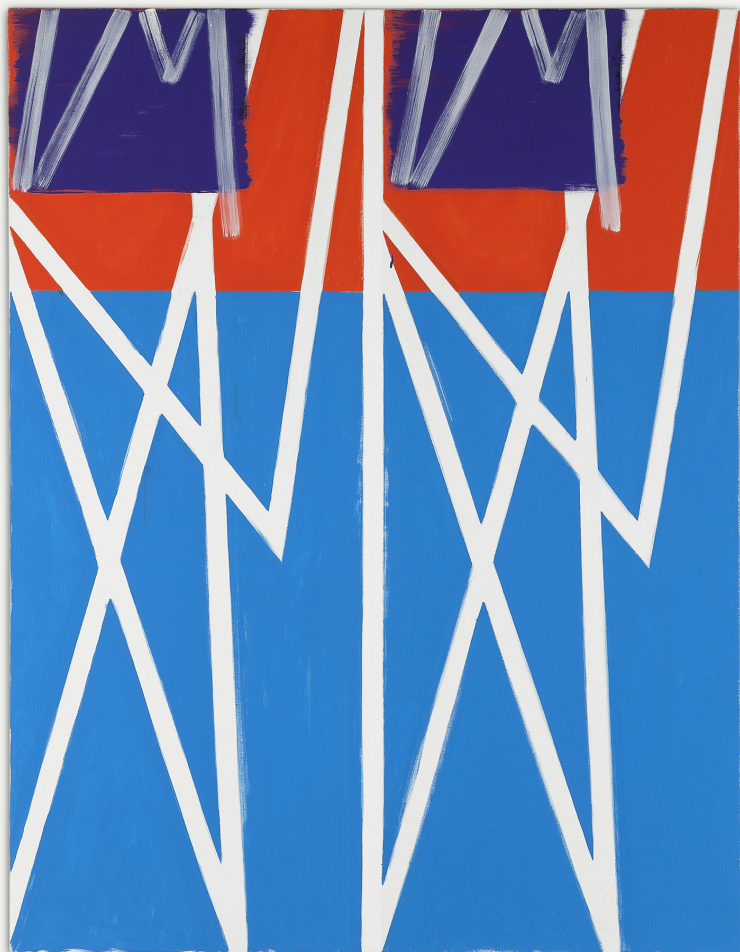
- CAPC, Musée d'art contemporain, Bordeaux, France
- Centre Georges Pompidou – Musée National d'Art Moderne, Paris, France
- Collection AXA Assurances, Paris, France
- Collection contemporaine B.N.P., Paris, France
- Collection Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, Paris, France
- Collection Société Générale, Paris, France
- Musée d'art moderne de la Ville de Paris, Paris, France
- Musée d'art moderne, Saint-Etienne, France
- Musée Fabre, Montpellier, France
- Sara Hildén Museum, Tampere, Finland
- BASF Collection, Münster, Germany
- Fondation Musée d'art moderne Grand-Duc-Jean, Luxembourg, Luxembourg
- Collection Banque européenne d'investissement, Luxembourg, Luxembourg
- MAMCO - Musée d'Art moderne et contemporain, Geneva, Switzerland



Bernard Piffaretti
Untitled, 2018
Acrylic on canvas
100 x 80 cm (39 3/8 x 31 1/2 in.)
Unique
PIF2018-2195



Bernard Piffaretti
Untitled, 2018
Acrylic on canvas
195 x 113,5 cm (76 3/4 x 44 5/8 in.)
Unique
PIF2018-2194



Bernard Piffaretti
Untitled, 2014
Acrylic on canvas
180 x 140 cm (70 7/8 x 55 1/8 in.)
Unique
PIF2014-372



Bernard Piffaretti

Untitled, 1989

Acrylic on canvas

145 x 140 cm (57 1/8 x 55 1/8 in.)

Unique

PIF1989-2196



Bernard Piffaretti
Untitled, 2018
Acrylic on canvas
195 x 113,5 cm (76 3/4 x 44 5/8 in.)
Unique
PIF2018-2191





Bernard Piffaretti
Tableau en négatif, 2014
Acrylic on canvas
5 elements
Ø 60 cm each (Ø 23 5/8 in. each)
Unique
PIF2014-2159





Bernard Piffaretti
Untitled, 1991
Acrylic on canvas
99 x 75,5 cm (39 x 29 3/4 in.)
Unique
PIF1991-2053