

GALERIE EMMANUEL PERROTIN

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KAWS

Pay the Debt to Nature

76 rue de Turenne : 6 November - 23 December, 2010

La Galerie Perrotin présente l'exposition **KAWS *Pay the Debt to Nature*** du 6 novembre au 23 décembre 2010.

KAWS s'est fait connaître par ses interventions impromptues sur les affiches publicitaires des abribus ou des cabines téléphoniques dans les rues de New York entre 1996 et 2000. Ses motifs, *Skully* - un crâne de pirate aux yeux en forme de croix - ou *Bendy* - un corps de spermatozoïde surmonté d'une tête de pirate - s'infiltreraient minutieusement dans les panneaux d'affichage en se fondant habilement dans chaque mise en scène.

A partir de 1999, il développe d'autres personnalités dont le fameux *Companion* (tête de pirate sur un corps de Mickey, il a d'ailleurs collaboré quelques temps avec Disney) qu'il édite en art toy via la société japonaise Bounty Hunter. Dès lors, il multiplie les collaborations avec le monde de la mode (Marc Jacobs, BAPE, Comme des Garçons, Colette ...), la presse (de nombreuses couvertures de magazines sont volontairement 'disrupted', du New York magazine à Jalouse), la musique (Pharrell Williams, Kanye West).

En 2001, il réalise sa première série de 40 peintures sous plastique rigide, rappelant l'emballage des figurines, où apparaissent notamment les *Kimpson*, inspirés des Simpson, et *Chum* au corps de bibendum Michelin.

En fondant en 2002 sa société 'Original Fake', **KAWS** affirme encore un peu plus que le geste artistique n'est pas simplement présent dans ses peintures ou sculptures mais également dans les figurines ou objets dérivés, prolongeant ainsi les préoccupations de Claes Oldenburg, Keith Haring, Warhol et Murakami.

L'exposition ***Pay the Debt to Nature***, dont l'oeuvre éponyme montre un homme capturé et malmené par une Nature reprenant ses droits, dévoile un ensemble de quinze peintures dont cinq 'grisailles', parfois proches de l'abstraction. Trois sculptures monumentales en fibre de verre de ses personnalités fétiches *Companion* et *Accomplice* à la tête de lapin nous invitent à pénétrer dans l'univers de **KAWS**.

*The Galerie Perrotin is presenting the **KAWS** exhibition, **Pay the Debt to Nature** from November 6th to December 23rd, 2010.*

***KAWS** made his name by his impromptu interventions on advertisements in bus shelters and telephone cabins in the streets of New York between 1996 and 2000. His motifs, *Skully* – a pirate head with eyes in the shape of a cross – or *Bendy* – a sperm shaped body with a pirate head – deftly infiltrated advertising panels by cleverly blending into each setting.*

*Beginning in 1999, he developed other personalities such as the famous *Companion* (a pirate skull on the body of Mickey Mouse, having collaborated a while with Disney), which he produced as an art toy via the Japanese company Bounty Hunter. Henceforth, he developed collaborations with the world of fashion (Marc Jacobs, BAPE, Comme des Garçons, Colette, etc.), the press (numerous magazine covers were voluntarily 'disrupted', from New York magazine to Jalouse), and music (Pharrell Williams and Kanye West).*

*In 2001, he produced his first series of 40 paintings in rigid plastic that recalled the wrapping of figurines, in which the *Kimpsons* appeared, inspired by the Simpsons, and *Chum*, inspired by the body of Michelin's Bibendum.*

*By founding his company 'Original Fake' in 2002, **KAWS** asserted even more that the artistic gesture is not only present in paintings and sculpture but also in figurines and goodies, thus furthering the approaches of Claes Oldenburg, Keith Haring, Andy Warhol and Takashi Murakami.*

*The exhibition **Pay the Debt to Nature**, whose eponymous work shows a man captured and manhandled by Nature, which has reclaimed its rights, unveils a collection of fifteen paintings including five 'grisailles', which at times come close to the abstract. Three monumental sculptures in fibreglass of his fetish personalities, *Companion* and *Accomplice*, with the head of a rabbit, invite us to enter **KAWS**' world.*

Publication of the monography *Kaws* with texts by Germano Celant, Gary Panter, Harry Philbrick, Monica Ramirez-Montagut. 264 Pages, Rizzoli Edition.

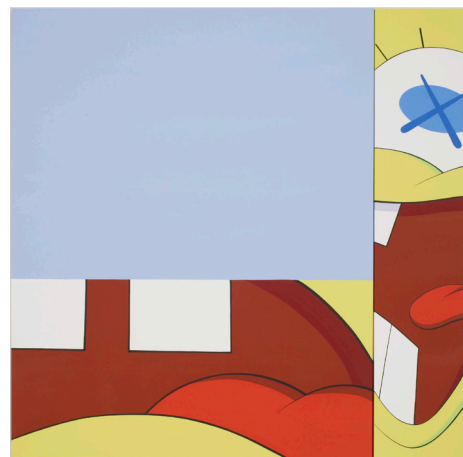
KAWS (Brian Donnelly) was born in 1974 in Jersey City, NJ. He lives and works in Brooklyn, NY.

Solo Exhibitions (selection) : The Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, Ridgefield, CT (forthcoming); The Long Way Home, Honor Fraser, Los Angeles, CA ; Gering & López Gallery, New York, NY ; Saturated, Galerie Emmanuel Perrotin, Miami ; Original Fake, BAPE Gallery, Tokyo, Japan; Elms Lesters Painting Room, London UK ; C9, MU Art Foundation, Eindhoven, Netherlands ; Tokyo First, Parco Gallery, Tokyo, Japan ; Colette, Paris, France

Group Exhibitions (selection) : *Stages*, organized by Lance Armstrong and Nike, Galerie Emmanuel Perrotin, Paris, France ; *Alpha Exotica*, curated by Dimitrios Antonitsis, *Hydra School Projects*, Athens, Greece ; *The New Yorkers*, V1 Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark ; *Plastic Culture*, Harris Museum and Art Gallery, Preston, Great Britain ; *I Can't Feel My Face*, Curated by **KAWS**, Royal-T, Los Angeles, CA ; *Everything Else*, Franklin Parrasch Gallery, New York, NY ; *POPntric*, Gering & López Gallery, New York, NY ; *Info Babble*, Richard & Dolly Maass Gallery, Purchase, NY ; *Ugly Winners*, Galerie Du Jour Agnes B., Paris, France ; *Beautiful Losers*, Curated by Aaron Rose & Christian Strike ; *Le Tri Postal*, Lille, France ; *Palazzo Dell'Arte*, Milan, Italy ; *USF Contemporary Art Museum*, Tampa, FL ; *Contemporary Museum*, Baltimore, MD ; *Orange County Museum of Art*, Newport Beach, CA ; *Yerba Buena Arts Center*, San Francisco, CA ; *Contemporary Arts Center*, Cincinnati, OH ; *SK8 on the Wall*, Parco Gallery, Tokyo, Japan ; *Session the Bowl*, Deitch Projects, New York, NY ; *ALIFE Shop*, Deitch Projects, New York, NY ; *Coded Language*, City Gallery Chastain, Atlanta, GA ; *Shortcuts*, Nicosia Municipal Arts Centre, Athens, Greece ; *Pierides Museum of Contemporary Art*, Athens, Greece ; *New Acquisitions from the Dakis Joannou Collection*, Deste Foundation, Athens, Greece ; *Lakai Group Cultural Centre*



Pay the debt to nature
2010
Acrylic on canvas / Acrylique sur toile
84 x 120 inches / 213,3 x 304,8 cm



Blackout
2010
Acrylic on canvas / Acrylique sur toile
60 x 60 inches (2 panels) /
152,4 x 152,4 (2 panneaux)



From left to right :
Companion, 2010 Fiberglass painted / Fibre de verre peinte
Bone to Pick, *Give up the ghost*, 2010 Acrylic on canvas/Acrylique sur toile

For all images / Pour toutes les images: Courtesy of the Artist and Galerie Perrotin, Paris

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