

Press release

Philippe Favier
Vous n'êtes pas d'ici

Exhibition from 13th September to 2nd November 2007
Opening on 13th September from 6pm

Guy Bärtschi Gallery is pleased to present, throughout the gallery space, a solo exhibition of the most recent works by French artist Philippe FAVIER.

Philippe Favier was born in 1957 in Saint-Etienne where he still lives and works today. He sees this exhibition as a continuation of his "Geography for left-handed people", which he produced during a journey of more than a year between two walls of the Museum of Contemporary Art in Lyon in 2005. There, the artist had elaborated a cartography on glass, day by day, of this journey "in the room", orchestrating a geographical comedy constantly shifting from the monumentalism of the company to the delicacy of each element.

Today, for the gallery space, Philippe Favier proposes "Vous n'êtes pas d'ici", an exhibition of works on glass that combine apparent simplicity with extreme sophistication. Between mannerism and humour, this artist remains forever unclassifiable.

Through his tiny work, the artist forces the spectator to an intimate face-to-face encounter, while keeping him at a distance. Indeed, by painting on both the top and the bottom of the glass plate, he upsets the field of reading and creates, in his own words, "an effect from beyond, a magic of the inaccessible"...

Philippe Favier's work is eminently poetic because it is based on paradoxes: presenting the result of a journey, when his own definition of travel is "Don't move", giving himself the appearance of childlike innocence, and dealing with deep and serious themes such as imbalance, vertigo, falling... Everything in Favier's work oscillates between the world of dreams and that of nightmares.

We invite you here to enter, and let yourself be entered, into these parallel territories where Philippe Favier approaches in his frantic race to Elsewhere.