

HÉLÈNE GUÉTARY

PRESS RELEASE

Poetic resistance



Hélène creates a subtle and poetic universe, a world of dreams that is terrifying, playful and ironic... Like a burst of butterflies billowing from under our clothing, she takes us on a willfull journey into the depths of our consciousness, driven by an anxiety that only beauty can cure.

Gianni Forte

REMÈDES GALERIE

143 rue du Temple, 75003 Paris

HÉLÈNE GUÉTARY

TEXT FOR PRESS

Lila Rouquet, Remèdes Galerie

Poetic resistance

Remèdes Galerie is proud to present a selection of Hélène Guétary's recent work from the ZEITGEIST and THE MASKED WORLD series.

Hélène Guétary, a humanist, freedom-loving artist, has been busy visiting the threatened wonders of our world. Armed with her imagination and poetic vision, she has broken away from the general gloom to infuse our commitments with hope. Using costume and masks to convey a playful theatricality, she calls our attention to the fragile beauty of Nature, our places of Culture, and the nebulous outlines of our values and our freedom.

Pay attention ...

Faites attention...

注意を払う ...

Presta atención ...

Δώσε προσοχή ...

Анхаар ... رذح ...

Preste atenção...

Fai attenzione ...

Perhatian ... 注意 ...

Kia tupato ... Makini...

Bigyang-pansin ...

ध्यान दें ...

মনোযোগ দনি...

Coming out of the first lockdown, in an attempt to ward off the universal spell that had descended upon us with the pandemic, she decided to reclaim the primordial functions of the masks in a new series of self portraits, *the Masked World*.

Far from isolating us, her masks make us consider again what's around us through poetic celebration: to bless the return of Spring, to denounce the loss of our freedom, to revere nature, to stimulate our ecological awareness, to defend literature...

With a simple red drape, Hélène Guétary leaves a mysterious army of Zeitgeist in her wandering wake. These sibylline guardians engage us through their singular presence and invite us to join them in watching over our precious treasures.

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Hélène Guétary

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I've always used photography as a tool for Poetic Realism. It allows me to use reality as a material to convey metaphor, and metaphor to give a new depth to reality. During the pandemic, this medium became my emergency channel for expression, a weapon of practical magic to ward off isolation. It allowed me to start a new conversation with the world.

Coming out of the first lockdown, I was unsettled by the sanitary masks which had invaded our environment, hiding my fellow humans' faces. Unable to avoid this new reality, I decided to make sense of it by reclaiming other ancient functions of the Mask: its ability to reveal, to hide, to question, to transform...

The unprecedented crisis we are going through has underlined even more acutely, more intimately, how fragile our world is. A new series imposed itself to me, ZEITGEIST. An image took shape in my mind. Both oracles and witnesses the *Zeitgeist* characters, draped in red - the color for Resistance -, turn up in meaningful places. Their presence, sometimes enigmatic, sometimes spectacular, reminds us of what these places represent, contain, or allow. Fleeting guardians of natural sites or man-made environments, they whisper to the viewer to remain aware of how precious our world and our values are...

Owing to the restrictions imposed, the series began within ten miles of my home. As soon as travel was permitted, The *Zeitgeist* took me to the Atlantic coast, the Mediterranean, the Caribbean Seas and the Southern Indian Ocean. The selection of images presented in this show marks the beginning of a global exploration. They allowed me to engage international collaborations, especially with the Basu Foundation and Residency Unlimited, whom I thank for their support.

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HÉLÈNE GUÉTARY

IMAGES FOR PRESS
ZEITGEIST

Poetic resistance



PALAIS DE TOKYO - SALLE 37, Limited edition of 7

©Hélène Guétary



JUNGLE, Limited edition of 7

©Hélène Guétary

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HÉLÈNE GUÉTARY

IMAGES FOR PRESS
THE MASKED WORLD

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SMOKE MASK, Limited edition of 10
©Hélène Guétary



WIDOW MASK, Limited edition of 10
©Hélène Guétary



FIGHTING MASK, Limited edition of 10
©Hélène Guétary



OCEAN MASK, Limited edition of 10
©Hélène Guétary

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HÉLÈNE GUÉTARY

BIO HÉLÈNE GUÉTARY

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Hélène Guétary is a photographer, writer and director.

Born in Paris, she began her career as a visual artist at a young age and moved to New York, where she lived and worked for 12 years. "SKINDEEP", a book of her early work of "Tableau Photography" in collaboration with Patrice Casanova, was published with a foreword by the late Federico Fellini. She then undertook a project that lasted two decades, "HYPNOPOMPIA", an anthropological fiction sponsored by the Polaroid Corp using the experimental 20x24 inch Polaroid camera. The project has been exhibited in France and the US, and published internationally.

Narration being a central element to her artistic creations, Hélène naturally moved into directing and writing. She has won multiple awards for the original short film series she created for ARTE between 1992 to 2012, and has directed documentaries, TV dramas, immersive videos for the Beijing Opera and Opera de Nancy, and written 4 published novels. Inspired by the solitude of the lockdown, Hélène returned to the medium of photography, working with herself as a model in two series: 'ME, MYSELF & I', a surreal photographic diary, and 'THE MASKED WORLD'.

She's currently working on ZEITGEIST, a call for attention to the fragility of our world.

www.heleneguetary.com

[@heleneguetary](https://www.instagram.com/heleneguetary)

EXHIBITIONS / RESIDENCIES / PUBLICATIONS / ACQUISITIONS

- 2022** - Artist Residency , **Basu Fondation** (Mauritius Island)
- Group exhibition, **Paris EXPOLAROID festival, Atelier-Galerie Taylor** (Paris)
- 2021** - Group exhibition, **Portrait series commissioned by CONSERVATOIRE EUROPÉEN DU COSTUME, Flâneries d'art contemporain** (Aix en Provence)
- Solo exhibition, **Atelier-Galerie Taylor** (Paris)
- 2020** - Group exhibition **Dada & Democracy, Artdoc Photography** (Online)
- Exhibition Hélène Guétary & Dominique Fury, **Contact / Sans Contact, Galerie Basia Embiricos** (Paris)
- Group exhibition **Human beings, not Human skins, Artdoc Photography** (Online)
- 2010** - Exhibition **Hypnopompia, Galerie Opera** (Paris, Londres)
- 2008** - **Photographic boxes and artefacts, Galerie Lydie Trigano** (Art Paris Fair)
- 2001** - Retrospective exhibition **Hypnopompia-Unknown Species, Galerie Albert Benamou** (Paris)
- 1992** - Solo exhibition, **Hypnopompia polyptiques, Galerie Albert Benamou** (Paris)
- 1991** - Acquisition, **Hypnopompia polyptiques** by **MEP and collection Vachon**
- 1989** - Solo Exhibition **Hypnopompia-Unknown Species, Polaroids & artefacts, Galerie Albert Benamou** (Paris)
- 1987** - Solo Exhibition **Hypnopompia-Unknown Species, Galerie Jacques Kaplan** (Kent, Connecticut)
- 1984** - Publication **Skin Deep with a foreword by Federico Fellini, Éditions Love me tender** (France, USA)
- 1983** - Performance and large photographic prints, **White Gallery** (New York)
- 1982** - Solo exhibition, paintings, **Yves Arman Gallery** (New-York)
- 1979** - Solo exhibition, paintings and drawings, **Fred Dorfman Gallery** (New-York)

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INFORMATIONS

P o e t i c r e s i s t a n c e

Solo exhibition, Hélène Guétary
P O E T I C R E S I S T A N C E
September 16th - October 27th 2022

Opening, Thursday, 15 September 2022 6pm
143, rue du Temple, Paris 3^{ème}

*"When the world threw humanity into a spin with a pandemic,
Helene used the opportunity to reframe the experience into visual
treatise on what it means to be human."*

Louie Psihoyos

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Mandatory mention for the visuals : ©Hélène Guétary

TEXTS AVAILABLE FOR PRESS

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The use of the texts is exclusively reserved for the promotion of the exhibition.

Mandatory mention for the texts: Name of the author

Remèdes Galerie, Hélène Guétary "*Poetic Resistance*".

The texts written by Louie Psihoyos and Gianni Forte for the exhibition catalog published in 100 copies are also available on request in French and English versions.

Louie Psihoyos Founder of the Oceanic Preservation Society, photographer and Oscar-winning director

Gianni Forte Dramatist, poet and co-director of the Venice Theatre Biennale

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