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*In Fine*, 2010

courtesy Florian Pugnaire

et David Raffini

et la galerie Torri, Paris.

PRESS RELEASE  
**FLORIAN PUGNAIRE AND DAVID RAFFINI**  
PRIX FONDATION  
D'ENTREPRISE RICARD 2015  
**THE MONDAY 18 APRIL 2016 AT 6PM**  
CINÉMA DU MUSÉE, LEVEL 4

Since 2000, the Centre Pompidou has shown the winners of the Ricard Foundation Prize, awarded annually to an outstanding representative of the younger generation of French artists. A work by the winning artist is purchased by the Foundation and gifted to the Centre Pompidou, making a significant contribution to its collections. **This year, the jury of collectors and art-world professionals awarded the 17th Ricard Foundation Prize to the collaborative duo of Florian Pugnaire and David Raffini. The Prize was presented at the "L'Ordre des Lucioles" exhibition, curated by Marc-Olivier Wahler at the Fondation d'Entreprise Ricard in 2015.**

**The two video works, *In Fine* (2010) and *Casse pipe* (2010), have thus been presented to the Centre Pompidou and will be screened in the Centre's cinema on Level 4, from 18 April to 6 June 2016.**

**Thanks to the generosity of the Fondation d'Entreprise Ricard, these works by Florian Pugnaire and David Raffini join those of the other winners of the Prize since 1999: Didier Marcel, Natacha Lesueur, Tatiana Trouvé, Boris Achour, Matthieu Laurette, Mircea Cantor, Loris Gréaud, Vincent Lamouroux, Christophe Berdaguer and Marie Péjus, Raphaël Zarka, Ida Tursic and Wilfried Mille, Isabelle Cornaro, Benoît Maire, Adrien Missika, Katinka Bock, Lili Reynaud-Dewar and Camille Blatrix.**

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***In Fine* (2010, HD video, 16 minutes)** presents the «self-destructive performance» of a Russian backhoe wreck. In the film, we see both the creation of a sculpture – the objectal remains of the backhoe – and the staging of an angst-ridden, «end-of-the-world» ambiance that the artists are so fond of. In the words of Florian Pugnnaire: «The first part of the video establishes a fictional dimension and a post-apocalyptic atmosphere, emptied of all human presence, and then this abandoned space becomes the set for a mechanical ballet, a kind of death dance. This develops, in the end, into a process of self-destruction recalling the suicidal gesture of the scorpion, which stings itself to death when unable to escape and has no other hope.»

***Casse pipe* (2010, HD video, 26 minutes)** is a fictional mise en abyme in which the two artists play the roles of soldiers in a re-enactment of a battle between the Napoleon's army and the Austrians. When a soldier was injured in battle, he underwent immediate and unceremonious surgery in the field, his only consolation an opium pipe. If the clay pipe fell to the ground and broke, it meant the patient had died. The title here, *Casse pipe*, which the video shares with a novel by Céline, refers to these broken opium pipes and the idiom they inspired. As the battle is re-enacted, the camera follows a deserter (acted by David Raffini), the mood apocalyptic, as he gradually loses himself in a world falling apart, with its empty, abandoned buildings, burnt carcasses and dark, disturbing landscapes. «The combination of fiction, documentary record and artistic process tightens into a self-reflexive knot that traps the main character in a narrative loop. Desertion being the only way out, he wanders alone through this world of ruins, prisoner of a suspended time, the very particular time that follows battle. A bit like Polish director W. J. Has's film, *The Hour-Glass Sanatorium* (1973), in which a man visiting his father loses his way in a sanatorium and gradually loses himself in his memories, his past and his fantasies.»

Florian Pugnnaire (b. Nice, 1980) and David Raffini (b. Bastia, 1982) live and work in Nice and Paris. They met as students at the Villa Arson in Nice, where they share a studio to this day and meet to explore a shared creative quest: to make the processes of art visible, notably that of the transformation of everyday objects into works of art. As part of this work, they are particularly interested in the changing states of different materials, and in the temporal space in which everything falls into disarray. The production of sculptures is an integral part of their work, and is always filmed until the very end to document every stage of creation. In terms of the objects selected for transformation, the artists tend to go for various kinds of machinery, symbolic of humanity's technological development. They blow them up or transform them in all sorts of different ways. Like César's compressions, their materials are subjected to extreme stress before emerging in a new form. Drawing inspiration from the worlds of video games like *Destruction Derby* or Steven Spielberg's cult film *Duel* (1971), Pugnnaire and Raffini for the most part absent themselves from the videos that document their work, leaving the viewer to witness their objects exploding in quarries and other post-apocalyptic landscapes empty of humanity.

**PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

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**Opening hours**

Exhibition open every day  
from 11 am to 9 pm  
except on Tuesday

**Price**

€14  
concessions: €11  
Valid the same day for  
the musée national d'art moderne  
and all exhibitions

Free admission for members  
of the Centre Pompidou  
(holders of the annual pass)

Tickets can be purchased at  
**[www.centrepompidou.fr](http://www.centrepompidou.fr)**  
and printed at home.

**AT THE SAME TIME IN THE CENTRE POMPIDOU****AUL KLEE**

**L'IRONIE À L'ŒUVRE**  
6 APRIL - 1<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2016  
Anne-Marie Pereira  
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**PIERRE PAULIN**

11 MAY - 22 AUGUST 2016  
Céline Janvier  
01 44 78 49 87  
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**PRIX MARCEL DUCHAMP 2015**

**MELIK OHANIAN**  
**UNDER SHADOWS**  
1<sup>ST</sup> JUNE - 15 AUGUST  
Dorothee Mireux  
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**UN ART PAUVRE**

8 JUNE - 29 AUGUST 2016  
Élodie Vincent  
01 44 78 48 56  
[elodie.vincent@centrepompidou.fr](mailto:elodie.vincent@centrepompidou.fr)

**BEAT GENERATION**

23 JUNE - 3 OCTOBER  
Dorothee Mireux  
01 44 78 46 60  
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**LOUIS STETTNER**

**ICI AILLEURS**  
15 JUNE - 12 SEPTEMBER 2016  
Élodie Vincent  
01 44 78 48 56  
[elodie.vincent@centrepompidou.fr](mailto:elodie.vincent@centrepompidou.fr)

**RENÉ MAGRITTE**

**LA TRAHISON DES IMAGES**  
21 SEPTEMBER - 23 JANUARY 17  
Céline Janvier  
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