

# CLAIREGASTAUD

**Art Brussels 2024**  
**Discovery**  
April 25 to 28, 2024

**Claire Gastaud Gallery**  
**Stand 6C-37**

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Membre du Comité Professionnel des Galeries d'Art



# CLAIRE GASTAUD



## **Stand 6C-37**

**Milène SANCHEZ, paintings**

**Victor LEVAI, sculptures**

For the fortieth edition of Art Brussels, Galerie Claire Gastaud brings together recent paintings by Milène Sanchez and ceramic sculptures by Victor Levai.

Like a sudden apparition, in a theatrical setting, the viewer is invited to enjoy an immersive, sensory experience in which the sparkle of Milène Sanchez's paintings and the deformation and brilliance of Victor Levai's ceramics intertwine in a fascinating dialogue between form and color, matter and movement. Both explore themes of transformation, fragility and resilience, inviting the viewer to contemplate the ephemeral beauty of life.

Although their mediums and approaches differ, both artists explore the visible and the invisible. Their creations invite us to plunge into an introspective journey, where the proposed experience transcends the boundaries of the tangible and reveals a spellbinding dance between the alliance of form and color.

For further information and visuals,

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## Milène Sanchez

Milène Sanchez's paintings and waxes play with blur and sharpness, opacity and transparency. Flowers disappear, reappear, sprout from their own seeds, moving towards the light like paint. Milène Sanchez captures their movements to keep them alive. These are paintings built around the gesture of staring at a subject, moving towards it, away from it, sweeping it with her gaze. His research into color, light and the ephemeral gives rise to captured images and spontaneous impulses. It's not a question of embodying reality, nor of moving away from it, but of oscillating between the two. It's about finding a balance between flying and working zones, between running and drying.

Milène Sanchez's technique is characterized by the use of pigments that she prepares herself to achieve new hues, between natural and artificial tones. She works with oil paint and turpentine, and uses the glazing technique, superimposing successive thin layers to create a unique atmosphere in each of her canvases.

Milène Sanchez was born in 1997.

2019 DNA Staaliche Akademie der Bildenden Kunste Karlsruhe, Germany

2021 DNSEP, École Supérieure d'Art et Design, Saint-Étienne, France

2022 Musée Paul Dini, Group show, Villefranche-sur-Saône, France

Galerie Claire Gastaud, Solo show, Clermont-Ferrand, France

2023 « Beautés », Group show, Frac Auvergne, France (curator Jean-Charles Vergne)

« Coi », Cristof Yvoré, Group show, Verrière Hermès, Brussels, Belgium (curator Joël Riff)

« Immortelle », Group show, La Panacée MOCO, Montpellier, France (curator Anya Harrison).

2024 ICICLE Art Center, Solo show, Shanghai, Chine (curator Myriam Kryger)

Art Brussels, Solo show, Galerie Claire Gastaud, Brussels, Belgium

### Prizes

2021 Winner of the Desjoyaux Horizon Prize

### Public collections

Musée Paul-Dini, Villefranche-sur-Saône, France

Frac Poitou-Charentes, Angoulême, France

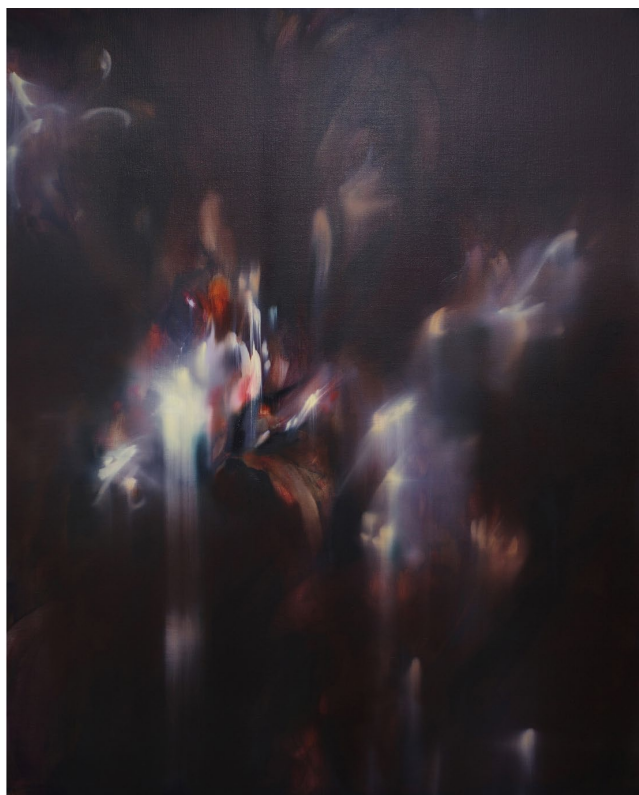
Frac Auvergne, Clermont-Ferrand, France

Clermont Auvergne Metropole, France

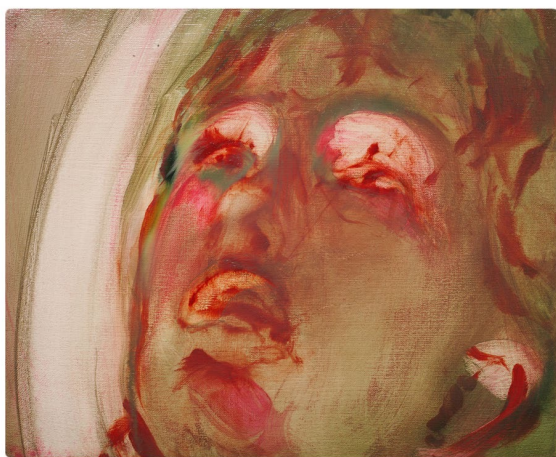
### Residency

2022 Moly Sabata, Sablons, France

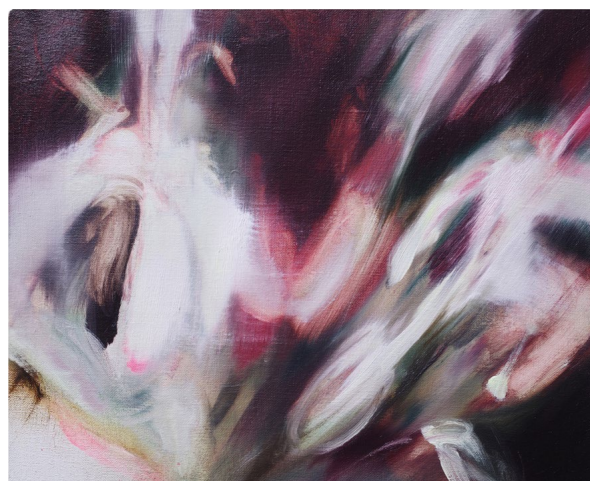
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Milène Sanchez  
*Dans la lumière avec toi*, 2023  
Huile sur toile  
143 x 115 cm



Milène Sanchez  
*Marta*, 2023  
Huile sur toile  
16 x 22 cm



Milène Sanchez  
*Red light and alpha waves I*, 2023  
Huile sur toile  
16 x 22 cm

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## Victor Levai

Victor Levai's work is based on personal reflection and meticulous observation of the plant world; these two sources of inspiration are the essential elements that structure a sculptural, sensitive and dreamlike universe.

Her work stems from the observation of plants, whether studied in nature or discovered in botanical books. These are plants whose rhythm or astonishing structure have attracted the artist's attention. Victor Levai wishes to apprehend a form through studio work, in order to understand and fix it. Producing each leaf by hand, forging the curvature of a stem or branch, ultimately enables the artist to understand the mechanism of forms and to appropriate it to propose a reinterpretation.

" Victor Levai is a herbalist. His production is thus an exponential collection, as much a matter of nomenclature as of grimoire. Neither science nor magic predominates in this empirical approach to living things. Reasoned gathering is just as important as mystical wandering. This is how he goes about experimenting with renderings, petrifying the organic with his ceramic powers. "

Joël Riff

Victor Levai was born in 1991 and lives and works in Paris.

2012 Graduate of the Atelier de Sèvres, Paris, France.

2017 Graduate of the École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts de Paris, France.

2023 «House Of Dreamers» Fondation Boghossian, Brussels, Belgium  
(curator Anne-Laure Lestage).

2024 Art Brussels, section discovery, Galerie Claire Gastaud, Brussels, Belgium.

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Victor Levai  
Vue d'exposition 2021, Maison des arts, Le Grand Quevilly



Victor Levai  
*La galaxie cristallisée 3*, 2024  
Grès, émail, acier, joint, ciment  
125 x 70 x 50



Victor Levai  
*L'ombelle brune*, 2024  
Grès, émail, acier, joint, ciment  
165 x 90 x 70