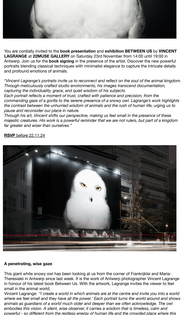
View this email in your browser

22MUSE presents
VINCENT LAGRANGE
exhibition / book release



You are cordially invited to the **book presentation** and **exhibition BETWEEN US** by **VINCENT LAGRANGE** at **22MUSE GALLERY** on Saturday 23rd November from 14:00 until 18:00 in Antwerp. Vincent Lagrange is a contemporary artist who creates large, hyper-realistic, powerful portraits blending classical techniques with minimalist elegance to capture the intricate details and profound emotions of animals.

"Vincent Lagrange's portraits invite us to reconnect and reflect on the soul of the animal kingdom. Through meticulously crafted studio environments, his images transcend documentation, revealing the quiet dignity, strength, and vulnerability of the subjects.
Each portrait reflects a moment of trust, crafted with patience and precision, from the commanding gaze of a gorilla to the serene presence of a snowy owl. Lagrange's work highlights the interconnectedness of all living beings and the wonders of animals and the rush of human life, a place and moment we cannot truly experience in nature.
Through his art, Vincent shifts our perspective, making us feel small in the presence of these majestic creatures. His work is a powerful reminder that we are not rulers, but part of a kingdom far greater and wiser than ourselves."

RSVP before 22.11.24



A penetrating, wise gaze

This giant white snowy owl has been looking at us from the corner of Frankrijkle and Maria-Theresiastr in Antwerp since last week. It is the work of Antwerp photographer Vincent Lagrange in honour of his latest book Between Us. With the artwork, Lagrange invites the viewer to feel small in the animal world.
Vincent Lagrange: *"I create a world in which animals are at the centre and invite you into a world that is usually hidden from us. I want to show the beauty, the majesty, the vulnerability and the power of animals as guardians of a world much older and deeper than we often acknowledge. The owl embodies this vision. A silent, wise observer, it carries a wisdom that is timeless and mysterious. Its gaze is penetrating, as if it sees through us and knows more than we do. I hope that this image is currently on display. With these portraits, I want to remind the city of the quiet wisdom of nature and our role in it, as guests in a world we share but do not own."*
The book Between Us will be presented for the first time on the occasion of the same name will start on 23 November at art gallery 22MUSE (Dudaert 22, Antwerp).
– Elien Bogaert for Gazet van Antwerpen / ATV



Between Us by Vincent Lagrange

"My aim is not so much to photograph animals, but to capture the emotional life and soul of these beautiful creatures and to apply my own meaning to it. In doing so, I hope to highlight the strong affinity between our species and the rest of the animal kingdom. To prevent disturbance, I work in a studio environment, which requires a lengthy and meticulous preparation. On location, we construct several temporary studios equipped with sober, hand-painted backgrounds and a sophisticated, minimalist lighting set-up that focuses all the attention on the animal's face and eyes. This is the only way to create a true, intimate portrait of the soul of each animal. A secretary bird requires a different approach than a gorilla. During this process, I develop a personal bond with the animal I am photographing a relationship that I aim to share with you through my photographs.



I put a lot of time and patience into getting the details right, focusing on the features which reveal the soul and glance, the subtle movement of a hand, the finish in a wrinkled brow... Animals are not models, they don't pose for the camera. I want to capture them in their natural state, in a way comfortable and get used to the new smells and their surroundings. I receive help to do this from keepers, biologists and veterinarians, as well as the private individuals, shelters or zoos, such as Pan Dasa, that look after the animals. I owe all these a huge debt of gratitude.

Careful observers will note that each animal possesses unique individual characteristics, traits and specific behaviours that set them apart from the others. They experience life as we do, form array relationship between mother and child playfulness of youth, the impulsivity of puberty, the calmness of maturity and the infirmities of old age. Sometimes, they even mourn their dead as in the case of elephants even the awareness of mortality. This again highlights the fact that we are no different from other sentient beings.



The way I present my photographs are a means of encouraging this encounter with "the other being." They invite the viewer to pause, to enter into a relationship of "me and you" and to experience a moment of deep, interpersonal contact between two sentient beings. The viewer is confronted by the fact that he is not dominant, but rather on an equal footing with the animal.
Between Us. "By focusing on the interpersonal contact, aim to tell a wider story about our dealings with nature. We are alienated from it and often exert our gaze, and yet we are integral part of it. Nature is not a place we visit, but the world we live in. Our well-being depends on the well-being of wildlife and ensure that future generations too will be able to look with the same wonder at the beauty that life on our planet has to offer. This is why I have high standards when it comes to choosing the locations where I photograph. They must be characterized by a commitment to nature conservation, scientifically sound breeding programmes for endangered species and wildlife reintroduction programmes.



This pictorial study is the result of more then a decade of working with animals. Consider it an invitation to leave the world of humans behind for a while and step into their kingdom. Only to return better and this is my greatest hope that it is, in fact "our" Kingdom. The world we share together.
– Vincent Lagrange

VINCENT LAGRANGE



Vincent Lagrange (born in 1988) lives and works in Antwerp, where he was raised in the creative atmosphere of his father Marc Lagrange (1957-2015). Antwerp was also where he developed a passion for portraiture and a love for studio life. From a young age, Vincent was fascinated by the human face and the stories it tells. Photography was the perfect medium to capture this reality. In 2022, Vincent's work was recognized on an international level when his animal portrait was featured on the cover of National Geographic Magazine. This acclaim stems from Lagrange's relentless pursuit of perfection and his deep dedication to precisely capturing his subjects.

Operating both from his studio in Antwerp and on location, Vincent blends age-old techniques with modern technology to create bespoke studio environments and meticulously controlled lighting. These settings enable him to manipulate the aesthetic and emotional depths of his portraits. His large-scale prints do more than capture the essence of his subjects; they challenge viewers to reevaluate our relationship with the natural world. Lagrange's commitment to a slow, deliberate creative process is a direct response to contemporary culture's fast-paced, digitalizing society, inviting us to pause and reflect through his powerful visual narratives.

22MUSE
GALLERY



22MUSE is a contemporary art gallery born out of a profound passion for the arts. Established by Francis Van Laer and partners, Francis an alumnus of the Sotheby's Institute of Art with a specialization in Art & Business, the gallery is dedicated to strike a delicate balance between tradition and the future. Nestled in the heart of Antwerp, a city renowned for its artistic legacy, it offering clients an experience that harmonizes beauty with enduring value. At 22MUSE, we believe that a contemporary art gallery is a crucial gathering for understanding and engaging with the art of our time. Our mission is to provide a platform for both established and emerging artists, our gallery offers a dynamic environment where artists can express their perspectives on the complexities of today's reality.

From abstract paintings and photography to design and conceptual installations, 22Muse explores a diverse range of artistic expressions that reflect the multifaceted nature of contemporary culture. We are committed to fostering a space where every piece of art invites you to an ongoing exploration of what art can be in the 21st century, join us in this journey as we continue to push boundaries of artistic expression, offering a space where creativity and thought-provoking dialogue flourish.

Artists currently represented by 22MUSE: **Aleyan Lee, Albert Willem, Celine Ali, Ethel Coppieters, Giacomo Pozzi, Harmen Van Der Tuin, Ilsoo Moro, Jae Ko, Julien Vuez-Andreae, Marc Lagrange, Richard Phillips, Ronald A. Westerhuis** and **Vincent Lagrange.** The gallery is located in the heart of Antwerp.

Gallery 22MUSE, Dudaer 22, 2000 Antwerp
Opening Saturday 23.11.24 - 14:00 - 18:00
Exhibition 23.11.24 - 15.12.24, Tuesday - Saturday, 10:30 - 18:00
Also open: Sunday 15.12.24 (during Art Antwerp)
Book launch Coffee Book Work Hardcover
RSVP before 22.11.24

Each artwork is an archival pigment print available in 3 sizes, each in an edition of 8 + 2 Artist Proofs (signed certificate included). Hand-painted wooden frames crafted in Antwerp. More details available on request.

teNeues

teNeues publishing house is a specialist for high-quality and exclusive photography, travel, nature, architecture, design, lifestyle, culture and art books.

Animal Portraits
Vincent Lagrange is undoubtedly one of the most significant animal portrait photographers of our time. With the photo book "Between Us", he has expressed his very personal declaration of love to our animal relatives. In sensitive color and black-and-white photographs, he showcases his models and provides a magnificent insight into their closeness to humans.

Vincent Lagrange developed his love for photography at an early age in his father's photo studio, where he practically spent his entire childhood. There, he practiced capturing the grace and dignity of his feline companion, Dweezil, through photography. For this, he employs techniques he has successfully used in human portraiture. The results he achieves with this approach are remarkable.

The photographer considers it important to emphasize the social nature, emotions, and connections of animals. And it seems like his efforts in 2021, Lagrange's work received international recognition with one of his images being featured on the cover of National Geographic Magazine. Since then, he has been regarded as one of the leading animal photographers. Through an ongoing portrait series called "The Human Animal Project", he aims to raise awareness about the concerns of animals and uses the proceeds to support animal and species conservation.

The outstanding book "Between Us" offers readers deep insights into Lagrange's photographic work and his unique way of creating animal photographs. Page after page, detailed animal photographs await discovery by the readers.
For those looking for a photo book that showcases animals from their human side, "Between Us" is exactly what you're looking for."

Format 27,5 x 34 cm
Pages 224
Images 150 photographs
Binding Hardback Book-Work Hardcover
Price € 60

Statius PR is an international consultancy specialized in contemporary crafts, design, architecture and art. The design ambassador Maarten Statius Muller is the founder and he brings 25 years of experience to the table. The base is in Antwerp.

PRESS KIT

© 2024 Vincent Lagrange. All rights reserved.
To ensure delivery to your inbox (not bulk or junk folders), please add info@statiuspr.be to your address book.

This email was sent to xx@mail.ADDRESS
why did I get this? unsubscribe from this list update subscription preferences
Dudaer 22 · Center · Antwerp 2000 · Belgium