Mikael Lafontan

Mikael Lafontan is a French and Swedish artist born in 1968, who has been living and working in Paris for the past 20 years.

Most of his work covers and explores northern landscapes: Scandinavia, Scotland, Canada or Iceland. Raised in France by a French father and a Swedish mother, Northern countries represent for him a source of nostalgic inspiration. Distance generates hunger, desire. People of mixed origins are defined by their differences: Swedish in France, yet French in Sweden. Stuck on a never-ending quest for his lost home. And what could be better than photography to sooth this need?

As soon as it's taken, the photo belongs to the past, it represents the time lost. Here, nostalgia has a double meaning: one referring to the intrinsic specificity of photography, and one regarding the artist’s approach to his origins.

Scandinavians have a very special bond with nature. Their ecological conscience wasn’t born with climate change, but is deeply rooted in their essence. Climate and nature are rough in those countries, making survival harsh and forging, throughout history, this spirit of respect, mixed with fear and superstitions.

Mikael’s work isn’t an ideological statement, but a search for this northern spirit within the landscapes, totemic shapes and matters. Old scandinavian tales and beliefs, filled with mysterious creatures, bring life to nature itself.

EDUCATION

1987: Fotografisk Grunkurs / Kursverksamheten Lunds University, Sweden.
1988-1991: Masters in Sciences and Techniques of Fine Arts, option Photo, University Paris 8.
1993: Begins photographing as a professional.

EXHIBITIONS

2019
L'Empreinte, Fontainebleau

2017
Envie d'Art, Paris

2016
AAF London
AAF Seoul
AAF Singapore
AAF Hong Kong
Envie d Art galleri, London, Paris

2015
AAF Singapore
Création du Collectif Hossa
AAF Seoul
AAF New York
AAF Brussels

2014
AAF Brussels, Hamburg, Singapore, London, Hong Kong
Envie d Art gallery, Paris XVI
London art fair
Scope Basel
Art Hamptons, Miami

2013
London Art Fair
AAF Hamburg, Brussels, Singapore, Londres
KRD gallery, Paris VIII
Envie d Art gallery, Paris VIII

2012
London Art Fair
AAF Los Angeles, London, New York, Stockholm, Singapore, Milan
Sophie Maree gallery, Netherlands
2011
AAF Brussels, London, Milan, New York
London Art Fair

Art Chicago
Envie d'Art gallery, Paris

2010
AAF London, Brussels, Milan, Singapore, New York
Envie d Art gallery, Paris
Art Chicago

2009
Scandi Press, Paris

PUBLICATIONS
May 2016, http://www.phasesmag.com/mikael-lafontan/le-marais/
Mikael Lafontan et Eric Pessan, "N", les inaperçus, 2012.