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FUSION

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PRESS RELEASE

The art exhibition FUSION explores the art of SUMI-E vis-à-vis MANGA

VENUE: L'Oeil Bleu Gallery, 32 Rue Notre Dame de Nazareth in the center of Le Marais on October 11 - 13, 2022

VERNISSAGE: October 11, 7 – 9 PM

The exhibition is centered around a dialogue between two artists - **MARC BAUER-MAISON** who practices the art of **SUMI-E** and **JEANETTE HAYES** who works with the technique of **MANGA**.

Jeanette Hayes (*1988) is an emerging New York-based artist who works with new media and contemporary pop such as manga in paintings, videos, and digital collages. Hayes often depicts characters from video games, cartoons, and anime and fuses them into appropriated paintings rooted in traditional Western art-historical canon.

Marc Bauer-Maison (*1961) is an established French artist who is based in France and Canada. Bauer-Maison's practice is based upon an ancient traditional Japanese ink technique called *sumi-e*, one of the major techniques of Japanese aesthetics. It is commonly described as art done in monochrome, with the use of sumi ink painted on handmade rice paper. Maison-Bauer's artworks are frequently exhibited in venues such as the Louvre or the Grand Palais in Paris, France.

The juxtaposition between SUMI-E, the ancient Japanese ink technique, and MANGA, the contemporary Japanese graphic novels and comics abolishes the first-sight notions such as the old and new, high and low, sacred and secular, mass and elite, West and Other, and rather aims to define the new, unbiased meaning of contemporary Japanese inspiration to the West.

The title of the exhibition "Fusion" stands as a metaphor of such a phenomena which doesn't highlight its dichotomy, but rather stands as hybrid art crossing the national and geographical boundaries of the interconnected, globalized world.

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