

Luc Delahaye

Reportage

November 6 - December 23, 2023

91, rue du Faubourg Saint-Honoré - Paris 8^e



Un Feu, 2023 (détail)
Edition of 3 + 1 AP, 195,5 x 269,5 cm (76^{15/16} x 106^{1/16} in.)
Courtesy of the artist and the Galerie Nathalie Obadia, Paris/Brussels

Gathered around a table, a group of political leaders and experts on global warming are locked in the final phase of crucial discussions involving the future of mankind; It's five in the morning and the negotiations have reached a deadlock. On the outskirts of a town in northern France, five young Africans huddle around a fire, the flames of which seem to be about to erupt into a mythological creature.

These two photographic *tableaux*, around which the exhibition is based, depict situations that never actually existed. They have been assembled by the photographer from fragments drawn from reality, or acted out by protagonists in their own "roles". Yet these imaginary representations are made from the very substance of reality; in each case an act of reportage was the initial circumstance.

Luc Delahaye's working process begins, in the temporality of the snapshot, with the production of documents that serve as the imprints from which, back in the studio, the work of the imagination replaces the experience of reality. Each composition takes on a narrative power that arises from this interweaving. The photographic *tableau*, the space of a contemplative experience, simultaneously establishes the conditions for critical reflection.

Other works presented in the exhibition do not however fit into this *tableau* / document dialectic. Such is the case with a polyptych of 45 small-format, black and white prints, which depict civilians fleeing from shelling in the early days of the war in Ukraine. The tightly framed faces express a spectrum of emotions from sorrow to fear. In line with his earlier work on portraiture, in which depersonalisation was part of the methodology, Luc Delahaye has extracted these faces from crowd shots, searching for them deep within the photo and enlarging them. It is this distancing in the process that allows him to preserve, intact, the dramatic tension of the moment.

In their rigorous formal construction, Luc Delahaye's photographs incorporate these multiple shifts – of signs, time and meaning.

Born in 1962 in Tours (France), Luc Delahaye lives and works in Paris (France).

Luc Delahaye's photographs, often taken at the scenes of current events, present a state of the contemporary world. Stemming from the documentary, they are nonetheless crafted constructions. Open and poetic, they offer the viewer a complex experience of the world, and present a nexus of formal tensions, of aesthetic and political stakes.

In 2025, Luc Delahaye will have a solo exhibition at the Jeu Paume (France) curated by Quentin Bajac. In 2024, his work will be featured in a group show at the Santa Barbara Museum of Art (USA) curated by Michael Fried. In 2023, the artist takes part in several group shows, including *Portraits, Collection Florence et Damien Bachelot* at the Musée Réattu (Arles, France), *Une histoire d'images. Donation Antoine de Galbert* at the Musée de Grenoble (France) and *Horizon and limit. Visions of landscape* at CaixaForum Barcelona (Spain).

Luc Delahaye's photographs were shown in solo exhibitions at Huis Marseille Museum for Photography (Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2021), J. Paul Getty Museum (Los Angeles, USA, 2007), Sprengel Museum Hanover (Hanover, Germany, 2006), Maison Rouge (Paris, France, 2006), Cleveland Museum of Art (USA, 2005), Huis Marseille (Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2004), National Media Museum (Bradford, UK, 2004), Kunsthal Rotterdam (Netherlands, 2002).

His works are in many prestigious private and public collections such as : Boston Museum of Fine Arts (USA), Centre Pompidou - Musée National d'Art Moderne (Paris, France), Chrysler Museum (Norfolk, USA), Det Nationale Fotomuseum (Copenhagen, Denmark), Fonds National d'Art Contemporain (France), Fondation Antoine de Galbert (Paris, France), Fondation Louis Vuitton (Paris, France), Frac Aquitaine (Bordeaux, France), Gemeentemuseum (Helmond, The Netherlands), High Museum of Art (Atlanta, USA), Huis Marseille (Amsterdam, The Netherlands), ICP - International Center of Photography (New York, USA), J. Paul Getty Museum (Los Angeles, USA), Bank of America (Chicago, USA), Lhoist (Limelette, Belgium), Los Angeles County Museum of Art (USA), Minneapolis Institute of Arts (USA), MOMA - Museum of Modern Art (New York, USA), Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris (France), Musée de Grenoble (France), Museo de Arte Contemporaneo de Castilla y Leon (Spain), National Gallery of Canada (Ottawa, Canada), National Media Museum (Bradford, UK), SFMOMA - San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (USA), Tate Modern (London, UK), The Margulies Collection at the Warehouse (Miami, USA).

Luc Delahaye has received the following awards: Prix Pictet (2012), Deutsche Börse Photography Prize (2005), Prix Robert Capa Gold Medal (2002, 1992), Prix Niépce (2002), World Press Photo (2001, 1993, 1992), ICP - Infinity Award (2001), Prix Oskar Barnack (2000).

Luc Delahaye is represented by the Galerie Nathalie Obadia, Paris/Brussels, since 2011.

Paris Saint-Honoré

Enfances
September 13 - October 21, 2023

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November 6 - December 23, 2023

Paris Cloître Saint-Merri

Andres Serrano
THE DOOM OF BEAUTY
September 2 - November 11, 2023

Paris Cloître Saint-Merri II

Joris Van de Moortel
'Why do you tear me from myself?'
a tête-à-tête with Marsyas
September 2 - October 21, 2023

Brussels

Hoda Kashiha
Another world is waiting for us
September 7 - October 21, 2023

Jorge Queiroz
Shape the echo and other works
October 26 - December 16, 2023

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