



Press Release

July 15th – September 23rd, 2012

EXHIBITION « AU LAIT ! QUAND L'ART DÉBORDE » LA MAISON DE LA VACHE QUI RIT, LONS-LE-SAUNIER

The exhibition *Au Lait! Quand l'art déborde* conceived by **Lab'Bel**, the artistic laboratory of the Bel food group will be held at **La Maison de La vache qui rit** at Lons-le-Saunier in summer 2012. Its aim is to highlight the role and place of milk in certain artistic practices. Vibrating, circulating, flowing, spreading or overflowing in space, milk arouses a wide range of sensations, both organic and aesthetic. This original and unusual, playful and inspired exhibition will bring together a collection of works by emerging and established artists: **Boris Achour, Ismaïl Bahri, Ceal Floyer, David Lamelas, Matthias Müller, Sara Naim, Géraldine Py & Roberto Verde, Delphine Reist, Andres Serrano and Patrick Tosani.**

Through the play of the selected works and the dialogue between them, the exhibition aims to reveal a series of reflections on the dimensions, mutations and metamorphoses of which milk is both a support and a vector.

Referring at first glance to the universal theme of birth, the exhibition opens with a dialogue between the *Virgin and Child*, a 15th century polychrome, whose history is linked to that of the Jura Region, and a contemporary representation of this with the *oeuvre Woman with Infant* (1996) by American photographer Andres Serrano which shows a black woman holding a white newborn baby in her arms. The milk in Sara Naim's piece *Beethoven-Moonlight Sonata* (2009) plays with the idea of milk as a monochrome colour, whereas Patrick Tosani in *Zones* (2001) uses it as the basis for subtle plays with colour. Combining milk with black ink in the *Latences* series (2011), Tunisian artist Ismail Bahri allows us to lose ourselves between the infinitely small and the infinitely big. Stemming from questions about time, space, science and the origin of our own sensations, milk flows throughout all of the works exhibited in either a playful or more serious fashion. All of the works serve to remind us that milk is both a sensory and intellectual matter, luminous and ambivalent, the vehicle of a vital breath uniting individual experience and collective memory.

The curators for this exhibition are Laurent Fiévet and Silvia Guerra (respectively director and artistic director of **Lab'Bel**). The scenography or layout has been designed by 'petit CABANON', a collective of Portuguese architects. The exhibition will be accompanied by an illustrated catalogue.

*The title of this exhibition is a play on words; 'au lait' which literally means 'milk' could also be read as 'Olé'. 'Quand l'art déborde' literally translates as 'when art overflows'.