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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 19:00 in Antwerp. Join us for the **book signing** in the presence of the artist. Discover the new powerful portraits blending classical techniques with minimalist elegance to capture the intricate details and profound emotions of animals.

CONFIRM YOUR PRESENCE AT THE OPENING

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 any distractions, I take my images of these animals under studio conditions, which requires considerable 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 individual in front of the lens. The preparation is tailored to the specific and diverse needs 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 photography.



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 frown in a wrinkled brow... Animals are not easy subjects. It is important to gain their trust and adjust the conditions to suit, so they feel 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 Paivi Daiza, 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 strong relationships between mother and child playfulness of youth, the impetuosity of puberty, challenges of adulthood, the wisdom and even the deterioration of old age, and sometimes 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 looking at me, amazed, uninterested, detached or committed. "Something is happening 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 avert our gaze, and yet we are integral part of it. May this series of photographs serve to remind us that it is crucial to protect animal's natural habits and ensure that future generations too will be able to look with the same awe upon 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 conversation, scientifically sound breeding programmes for endangered species and wildlife reintroduction programmes.



This pictorial study is the result of more than 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 then realize and this is my greatest hope that it is, in fact "our" Kingdom. The world we share together"

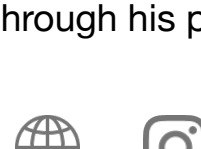
- Vincent Lagrange

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 art of photography and learned the creativity and technical skills needed to turn his dreams into 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, intentional creative process stands as a contemplative counterpoint to our rapidly 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 exhibiting art in a way that honours the artist's vision in the most compelling manner while offering clients an experience that harmonises beauty with enduring value. At 22MUSE, we believe that a contemporary art gallery is a crucial gateway for understanding and engaging with the evolving spirit of modern society. Serving as a platform for both emerging and established 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 life. With a focus on innovation, experimentation, and diversity, 22MUSE 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: Ahryun Lee, Albert Willem, Celine Ali, Ethel Coppeters, Giacomo Piusi, Harmen Van Der Tuin, Ileana Moro, Jise Ko, Julian Voss-Andreae, Marc Lagrange, Richard Phillips, Ronald A. Westerhuis and Vincent Lagrange. The gallery is located in the heart of Antwerp.

Gallery 22MUSE Oudaan 22, 2000 Antwerp
Opening Saturday 23.11.24, 14:00 - 19:00
Exhibition 23.11.24 - 15.12.24, Tuesday - Saturday, 10:30 - 18:00
Also open: Saturday 15.12.24 (during Art Antwerp)
Contact +32467002627

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Each artwork is an archival pigment print available in 3 sizes, each in an edition of 6 + 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, Dwiezel, through photography. For this, he employs techniques that are typically 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 he succeeds like no other. In 2022, Lagrange's work received international recognition with one of his images being featured on the cover of National Geographic magazine, which is one of the greatest honors for any animal and nature photographer. 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 art and shines with touching and poignant 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
Finish / Special Book-Work Hardcover
Price € 80



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

PRESS KIT



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