GAGOSIAN GALLERY

GRAZIA

Hanson, Mosset: same struggle

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Gagosian Gallery in Paris takes a chance to create a dialogue between two artists who have almost nothing in common. It is the most unlikely and beautiful exhibition of fall.

How does one revive Duane Hanson's sculptural and masterful work, which is rarely shown in France? By offering him an imagined vis-à-vis with Olivier Mosset. This is the commitment of this unexpected dialogue between two vastly different artists. One is Olivier Mosset, a Swiss artist formerly of the group BMPT established in 1966 (Buren, Mosset, Parmentier, Toroni). He was born in 1944 and he paints on an iterative basis, creating monomaniac works (200 identical circles for example, until he exhausted the form).

The other one, Duane Hanson, an American who died in 1996, made every effort to sculpt people in true-to-life scale in a Hyperrealistic style. We would like to reach out to touch them to make sure the sculptures are not alive. To bring together these two artists takes genius. How to better interrogate the monochromatic nature of five of Olivier Mosset's paintings other than arranging them here, in front of fearless sculptures whose symbolic function embodies a form of indifference to the art world? This sculpture of a woman who does the cleaning in front of a Mosset is in itself a fantastic and deep question. What does she see in this flat blue plane? This bleached blonde teenager in swim trunks, lost in a museum: what does he feel in front of these canvases? Projected through the eyes of these characters, all our questionings about art are permitted. We are this (astonishingly realistic) child who sleeps in his baby carriage, still not knowing how to see the art well. This exhibition makes us aware that we do not have enough time to know how to look closely at the mystery of creation.