

Julien Creuzet
The Possessed of Pigalle or the Tragedy of King Christophe
24.02 – 08.05.2023

Courtesy

All images are Courtesy of the artist and High Art, Paris / Arles

Captions:

1. Julien Creuzet, *The Possessed of Pigalle or the Tragedy of King Christophe*, 2023, High Art, Paris, exhibition view

2. Julien Creuzet, *The Possessed of Pigalle or the Tragedy of King Christophe*, 2023, High Art, Paris, exhibition view

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The Possessed of Pigalle or the Tragedy of King Christophe: „[Dim light. The disturbing aura of a vodou ceremony] MADAME CHRISTOPHE [the queen, singing]: My sickness lay me down, cyan’ get up, I going north, I’m not from over here, God call me, I sick, I going to the North, God call me, I going there [twice] I going north, I’m not from over here, God call me, I going there” (off stage) St. Peter Healing the Sick with His Shadow, 2023

Print on nonwoven wallpaper

270 × 480 cm / 106 1/4 × 189 in

11. Julien Creuzet, *The Possessed of Pigalle or the Tragedy of King Christophe*, 2023, High Art, Paris, exhibition view

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The Possessed of Pigalle or the Tragedy of King Christophe: Tinkling - Bozomu (Bali, Ndaka), Elondja (Mongo, Tetela), Elonja (Pygmées), Elonja / Elonza (Mbole), Elonza (Hamba, Ngando), Elonza (Elonja) (Boyela), Elunzia (Kusu), Epam (Mputu), Gong (Kongo), Iyembu (Leele), Kalengele ((Wa) Lese), Lilon-ga (Ngombe), Iley (Mputu), Lokuku (Mongo), Lubemb (Lunda), Lubembo (Luba, Songye), Ludibu (Luba), Lukèlendè (Luba), Madwila (Sala Mpasu), Mayembu (Iyembu) (Leele), Mokembe (Ngombe), Ndje (Lendu), Negbongbo (Mangbetu), Ngezo (Tshokwe), Ngonga (Hamba, Kutu, Ndengese, Pygmées), Ngongi (Mpangu, Mputu), Ngongi (Ngondji) (Kongo), Ngunga (Tetela), Ngunga (Ngonga) (Mongo), Njeke (Mongo), Nkonga (Boyela), Rupwamb (Lunda), Tuzundo (Tshokwe), 2023

PCL plastic on steel, fabric, thread, brass bells, electrical wiring

300 × 150 × 35 cm / 118 1/8 × 59 × 13 3/4 in

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The Possessed of Pigalle or the Tragedy of King Christophe: Tinkling - Bozomu (Bali, Ndaka), Elondja (Mongo, Tetela), Elonja (Pygmées), Elonja / Elonza (Mbole), Elonza (Hamba, Ngando), Elonza (Elonja) (Boyela), Elunzia (Kusu), Epam (Mputu), Gong (Kongo), Iyembu (Leele), Kalengele ((Wa) Lese), Lilon-ga (Ngombe), Iley (Mputu), Lokuku (Mongo), Lubemb (Lunda), Lubembo (Luba, Songye), Ludibu (Luba), Lukèlendè (Luba), Madwila (Sala Mpasu), Mayembu (Iyembu) (Leele), Mokembe (Ngombe), Ndje (Lendu), Negbongbo (Mangbetu), Ngezo (Tshokwe), Ngonga (Hamba, Kutu, Ndengese, Pygmées), Ngongi (Mpangu, Mputu), Ngongi (Ngondji) (Kongo), Ngunga (Tetela), Ngunga (Ngonga) (Mongo), Njeke (Mongo), Nkonga (Boyela), Rupwamb (Lunda), Tuzundo (Tshokwe), 2023

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The Possessed of Pigalle or the Tragedy of King Christophe: „AFRICAN PAGE : Father, we place you in Ifé upon the hill of three palms Father, we place you in Ifé amid the sixteen points of the wind At the double-faced blade of origin Here, patience and haste defeat and victory Heap of shells dark against sunlight exchange their spears, their tears Violence of night, flood-tide of day, SHANGO I salute you O... when you pass Through the hidden paths of the sky Mounted on rams inflamed by the storm.”, 2023

Wood, PCL plastic on steel, fabric, thread, electrical wiring

282 × 60 × 30 cm / 111 × 23 5/8 × 11 3/4 in

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The Possessed of Pigalle or the Tragedy of King Christophe: (Remedy - Loco) ,Gods of Africa! My body Lwa! Strong rope of the blood Father, fastener of blood Abobo Africa, my place of power Abobo", 2023
Wood, acrylic paint, UV print on vinyl, thread, red beans, rice
131 × 97 × 3 cm / 51 5/8 × 38 1/4 × 1 1/8 in

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The Possessed of Pigalle or the Tragedy of King Christophe: (Remedy - Loco) ,Gods of Africa! My body Lwa! Strong rope of the blood Father, fastener of blood Abobo Africa, my place of power Abobo", 2023
(detail)
Wood, acrylic paint, UV print on vinyl, thread, red beans, rice
131 × 97 × 3 cm / 51 5/8 × 38 1/4 × 1 1/8 in

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The Possessed of Pigalle or the Tragedy of King Christophe: , Vastey [addressing the king]: King, on our shoulders we have carried you here by way of the mountain, at the height of the flood. For your path had a name: Thirst-of-the-Mountain. And see, you are once more the king who stands, suspending above the abyss your own memorial plaque. You tender-hearted stars you born from the funeral pyre of the Ethiopian Memnon Birds that scatter the pollen design for him his immortal coat-of-arms: on an azure field, red phoenix crowned with gold. [Solemn fanfares and salvos of cannon.]", 2023
Acrylic paint on wood,
79 × 61 × 44 cm / 31 1/8 × 24 × 17 3/8 in

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Acrylic paint on wood,
79 × 61 × 44 cm / 31 1/8 × 24 × 17 3/8 in

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The Possessed of Pigalle or the Tragedy of King Christophe: , RAFT-KEEPER CAPTAIN: Well it's there that we have to push hardest. And we got no choice. On the Great Salty, someone will throw you a rope. If you catch it, that's fine, you'll reach land and moor there. If you fail, God help you! Then all you can do is throw yourself in the arms of Mama Water.", 2023
PCL plastic on steel, thread, fabric, electrical wiring
170 × 110 × 110 cm / 66 7/8 × 43 1/4 × 43 1/4 in

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The Possessed of Pigalle or the Tragedy of King Christophe: (Asòtò) ,HUGONIN [singing] Damballah, he plant his corn Yes, he plant his corn Mosquito bite him to the blood — This nation not so good, This nation not so good., 2023

Goatskin, fabric, UV print on vinyl, thread, electrical wiring

160 × 70 × 54 cm / 63 × 27 1/2 × 21 1/4 in

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The Possessed of Pigalle or the Tragedy of King Christophe: (Asòtò) ,HUGONIN [singing] Damballah, he plant his corn Yes, he plant his corn Mosquito bite him to the blood — This nation not so good, This nation not so good., 2023 (detail)

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Goatskin, fabric, UV print on vinyl, thread, electrical wiring, synthetic dreadlocks

155 × 75 × 50 cm / 61 × 29 1/2 × 19 3/4 in

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Wood, acrylic paint, UV print on vinyl, thread, corn, black-eyed beans

131 × 97 × 3 cm / 51 5/8 × 38 1/4 × 1 1/8 in

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The Possessed of Pigalle or the Tragedy of King Christophe: , [sinking down in his turn] By thunder! Who, who has set Bakulu Baka on me ? [In the sacristy of the Church of Limonade. Christophe with his eyes closed, the doctor and Christophe's entourage. Fragments of choral singing ave heard from afar] Heaven's queen Break the chains Of blackest hell, Quench the vile Fires below And all their rage dispel.," 2023

Wood, acrylic paint, UV print on vinyl, thread
162 × 130 × 3 cm / 63 3/4 × 51 1/8 × 1 1/8 in

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The Possessed of Pigalle or the Tragedy of King Christophe: ,CHORUS [singing] : Henry, valiant Open for as victory's doo, Henry, valiant warrior! Shango Madia Elloue [repeated] Azango, Shango Madia Elloue [repeated] Sava Loue Sava Loue Azango, Shango Madia Elloue," 2023

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