

DOMINIQUE LACLOCHE

15th June – 31st October 2015.

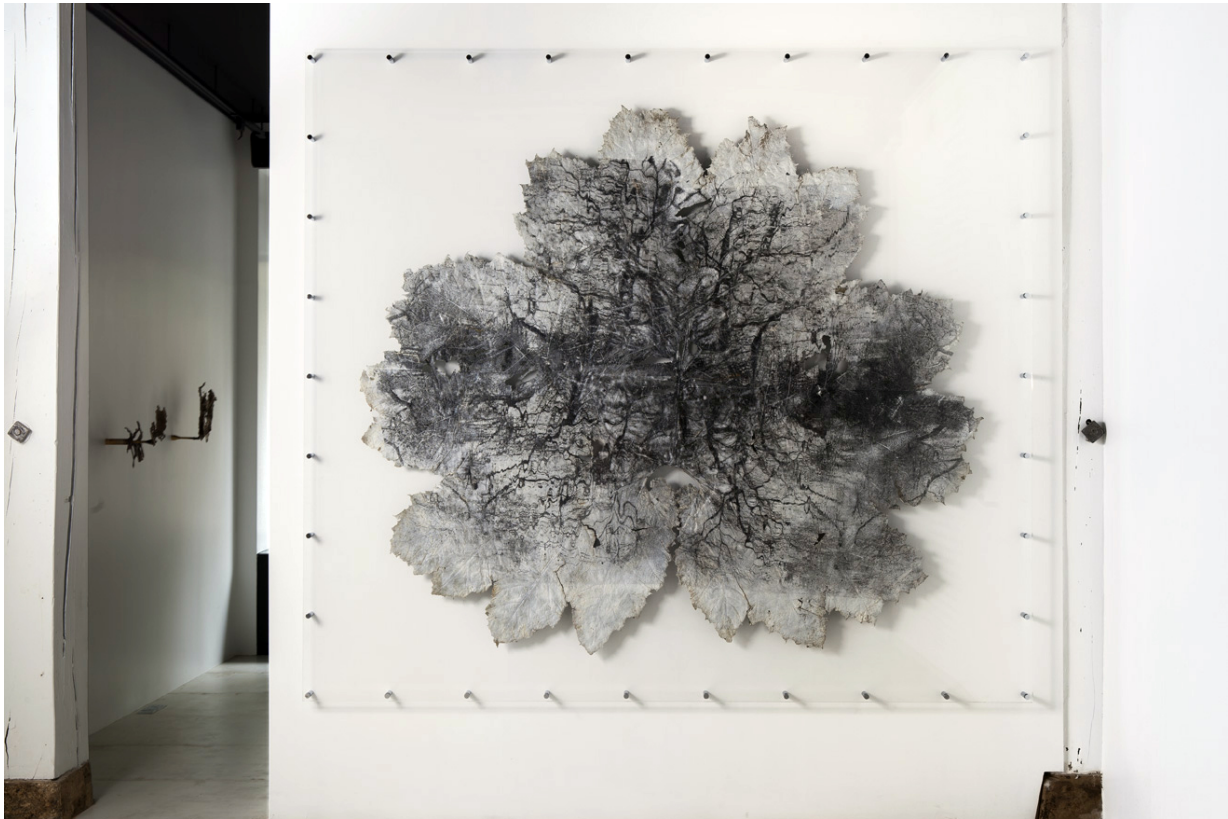


view of Dominique Lacloche's studio in Paris.

From 15th September until 31st October, the Loo & Lou Gallery will be presenting in its two exhibition spaces, Dominique Lacloche's newest artworks. A combination of silver photographs printed on giant leaves, known as *Gunnera Manicata*, and bronze sculptures inspired by this prehistoric plant will be shown in the Loo & Lou Gallery Haut – Marais. Simultaneously in the Loo & Lou Gallery George V, the artist will present a video for the first time, with a sound design made in collaboration with Thomas Bottini's association.

*Gunnera Manicata* :

Botanists call it « dinosaur food ». Since the Jurassic period, this perennial plant, naturally found in the mountainous swamps of Brazil, and whose spectacular foliage can reach more than two meters in height. This plant has been the main topic of Dominique Lacloche's work for the past fifteen years. « it gave a fresh start to my work », explains the artist. « From photography to installations, with sculptures and videos, i am constantly experimenting. Our relationship is the most important one that counts in a lifetime, because it never stops evolving ».



Dominique Lacloche « De la Gunnère », 2015, silver printing on vegetal leaf.

More than a simple object, Gunnera leaves are living entities to Dominique Lacloche. « The leaf is a silent associate that I want to hear. I do not impose my personal understanding of these plants, I collaborate with it ». « My abstract arrangements, are an interpretation, an extension of the plants ».

In her apartment located in the 15th arrondissement of Paris, we discover among many books by Albert Camus, Gilles Deleuze and Felix Guattari, dozens of silver negatives in large scale that the artist has cut up to isolate small details. On the floor an immense Gunnera Manica herbarium, face to face with an enlarged photo. These photographs are bound to be printed on the leafs in real scale, which demands a very complex and meticulous work, experimenting in different stages. The results of this operation stands between the « livings » and physical chemistry. Between art and nature. This « visual experiment » that is in Dominique Lacloche's art work, is unsettling to the viewer. At the same time, intimate and poetic.

The Loo & Lou Gallery Haut-Marais, will feature these immense botanical prints, exposed with smaller bronze sculptures, made from pieces of Gunnera leaf prints. Dominique Lacloche, produces her sculptures herself in a secondary studio. « I couldn't go to a foundry studio in the first place : My curiosity and desire to fully experiment the junction between the leaf and metal were too big ». These sculptures give us another look on the Gunnera. From her botanical prints to her bronze moulds, the artist succeeds in merging two distinct approaches.

On the other hand, the Loo & Lou Gallery George V, presents for the first time a video, « cinema scale » arranged in a room with a sound installation. (In collaboration with Thomas Bottini, composer, and who previously worked as a researcher at IRCAM). A video picturing an African river. The water has become red by the blood of fishes that fishermen are cutting and cleaning out in the water. Beautiful yet cruel, the camera seeks to references an unknown world. The sequence is about the relationship between time and scale, repetitions, and perpetual movement. Through the video, Dominique Lacloche also questions visual perceptions. The image is cut and worked, even going as far as in the visual grain texture. Almost comparable with the act of painting or sculpting. The gallery is displayed as a black box for this experiment and permits the audio video installation to evolve harmoniously.

## ABOUT DOMINIQUE LACLOCHE

Born in Rome in 1960, Dominique Lacloche lives and works in Paris and London. In 1983 she was accepted to the School of Fine Arts, Paris, which led in 1985 to her first artistic project in Afghanistan. In this country which was in the midst of war, she paints for months, fighting for the Afghan refugees and then exhibits in London. This experiment indicates the beginning of a long series of trips to meet different populations, especially in Asia and Africa.

As a painter, Dominique Lacloche already holds dear the elements of nature and pursues long researches about the making of her paints, created from different organic extractions. During early 00's, the artist discovers the *Gunnera Manicata*. She experiments using photography, video, installation and sculpture and starts to develop its notion of perception. In Paris she exhibits during the Nuit Blanche 2013, one of the most remarkable installations : « Un Degré Plus Haut ». A monumental installation composed of forty-two suspended sculptures in resin, (rising up to 55 meters high). Rising towards the top of the Saint-Paul-Saint-Louis Church, this giant mobile creates waves under the influence of the breeze : playing with juxtapositions and shadows.



Dominique Lacloche with *Gunnera Manicata* leaf.

## ABOUT LOO & LOU GALLERY

Committed both to young talents and acknowledged artists, the Loo & Lou Gallery opened for the first time in June 2015. With two exhibition spaces: 20 rue Notre-Dame-de-Nazareth and 45 avenue Georges V, near the Champs Élysées, Paris. These two spaces give Loo & Lou the perfect playground to confront different visions. We offer a space for new approaches and the possibility of a dialogue between different artists. Furthermore, we aspire to accompany our artists and their public outside of these walls through collaboration with other galleries and institutions. Creating interaction around art at its essence. The Loo & Lou gallery was created by Aurélie Deguest and Patrice Lucas, after their Fondation Loo & Lou for contemporary art – whose action took form during participation in the Nuit Blanche in 2013 and 2014 as well as a partnership with the MUDAM – Bruno Blossé has been in charge of the creation and development of the Loo & Lou Gallery, opening new paths.

During 13 years, Bruno Blossé worked at the Culture Department of the City of Paris. His love for contemporary art and his will to work with artists, led him towards artistic direction and curating.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATIONS :

Loo & Lou Gallery Haut-Marais  
20 rue Notre-Dame-de-Nazareth, 75003 Paris  
open from Tuesday to Saturday, 11am to 19pm  
+33 (0) 42 74 03 97

Loo & Lou Gallery Georges V  
45 avenue Georges V, 75008 Paris  
open from Tuesday to Saturday, 11am to 19pm  
+ 33 (0) 1 53 75 40 13

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[facebook/LooandLouGallery](https://www.facebook.com/LooandLouGallery)  
[contact@looandlougallery.com](mailto:contact@looandlougallery.com)

The logo for Loo & Lou Gallery is a red rectangle with the text "LOO & LOU GALLERY" in white, bold, uppercase letters. The text is arranged in two lines: "LOO & LOU" on the top line and "GALLERY" on the bottom line.

**LOO & LOU  
GALLERY**