

Jean-Marie Appriou

Biography

Jean-Marie Appriou (b. 1986 in Brest, France) is based in Paris, where he currently lives and works.

It is with remarkable technical skill that Jean-Marie Appriou takes control of sculptural materials - aluminium, bronze, glass, clay, wax—to envisage fantastical worlds inhabited by human, animal and vegetal figures. Through their skillfully constructed scale, his often imposing works nevertheless maintain an intimate relationship with the viewer, as if to better communicate their disturbing strangeness.

Deeply dreamlike, Appriou's material universe is imbued with telluric concerns approached from an original perspective: that of the legendary. Horses, snakes, locusts, sharks and seahorses compose a bestiary charged with powerful symbolism. They evolve in a dream realm, a marvellous natural world that becomes a theatre of striking characters. Sowers, gatherers, beekeepers and Japanese Ama divers—all represent figures of passage and transformation. The transition between elements—from the aquatic to the aerial, from the underground to the terrestrial—is one of the central themes of the artist's work.

From archaic ages to futuristic civilisations, between dinosaurs and child astronauts, Appriou produces visions on the edge of psychedelia, mixing pop culture and mythologies from Greek and Egyptian antiquity to science fiction. His sculpture combines the allegorical and the sensual, leaving his fingerprints visible on the material. He weaves a paradoxical narrative that unites the past and the future, the ideal and the perceptible, in a series of hallucinatory ecstasies

Solo exhibitions

2026

2026 - CANTO INFINITO, curated by Arturo Galansino, Fondazione Palazzo Strozzi, Firenze, I.
Catalogue

2025

2025 - La cinquième essence, MO.CO. - La Panacée, Montpellier, F

2024

2024 - Jean-Marie Appriou, Perrotin, Paris, F
2024 - Whale Song, Now + There, Boston, USA
2024 - Exonaut Horizon, Perrotin, Paris, F

2023

2023 - Gemini, Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Vienna, A
2023 - MAGNETIC, MASSIMODECARLO, Hong Kong, PRC
2023 - The Traveler, Langhe, Neviglie, I
2023 - La Constellation du Louvre, Musée du Louvre, Centre Dominique-Vivant Denon, Paris, F

2022

2022 - Art Club #35, curated by Pier Paolo Pancotto, Villa Medici, Roma, I
2022 - Flamingo Soup, Clearing, Los Angeles, USA

2022 - Liquid Metal Dream, Perrotin, Shanghai, PRC
2022 - Ophelia, MASSIMODECARLO, London, UK

2021

2021 - Les Soleils de Lucy, Jan Kaps, Cologne, D
2021 - Event Horizon, Kaikai Kiki Gallery, Tokyo, J
2021 - Surface Horizon, Lafayette Anticipations, Paris, F. Catalogue
2021 - Fire On The Sea, Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Zürich, CH

2020

2020 - Very Rich Hours, Clearing New York, Brooklyn, USA

2019

2019 - Seabed, Le Consortium, Dijon, F
2019 - The Horses, (organized by Public Art Fund), Doris C. Freedman Plaza, Central Park, New York, USA
2019 - Jean-Marie Appriou, Freedman Plaza, Central Park, New York, US

2018

2018 - November, Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Zürich, CH
2018 - Griffes, langue, rose et écailles, Clearing, Brussels, B
2018 - Open Space #1, curated by Ludovic Delalandre & Claier Staebler, Fondation Louis Vuitton, Paris, F

2017

2017 - Abalon, Clearing, New York, USA
2017 - Harvest, Jan Kaps, Cologne, D

2016

2016 - Raspberry Rising, Clearing, Brussels, B

2015

2015 - Salt Crystals, Jan Kaps, Cologne, D

2014

2014 - Sonde D'arc-en-taupe, Palais de Tokyo, Paris (Cur Gallien Déjean), F
2014 - Juillet, Sculpture D'extérieur, Vent of Forêts, Fresnes-au-Mont, F

2013

2013 - Moyen Age, Ecole Municipale of the Beaux Arts, Gallery Edouard Manet, Gennevilliers, F
2013 - Keymousse Éditions, Vitrine, Brussels, B

2012

2012 - Ginger Succubes, Vitrine, Air De Paris, Paris, F
2012 - Kinkyramyk, Piacé-le-radieux, Bézar-le Corbusier, Piacé, F

Group exhibitions

2025

2025 - I Sought My Soul, St. Elisabeth Kirche, Berlin, D
2025 - Amsterdam Sculpture Biennale, ARTZUID, Amsterdam, NL
2025 - The Air is Subtle, Yet it Moves, AMA House, Athens, GR
2025 - I sought my soul, Saint Elisabeth Kirche, Berlin, D
2025 - Last Night I Dreamt of Manderley, Alison Jacques Gallery, London, UK
2025 - Old Vessels, New Spirits, MASSIMODECARLO, Milano, I

2024

2024 - The Persistence of a Present Past, curated by Jesi Khadivi, SOCIETE, Berlin, D
2024 - White sea olive groves, Malta Biennial, Valletta, M
2024 - Van Gogh et les Étoiles, Fondation Vincent Van Gogh Arles, Arles, F
2024 - Van Gogh and The Stars, Fondation Vincent van Gogh Arles, Arles, F
2024 - Faire corps, Fondation Villa Datris, Isle-sur-la-Sorgue, F

2024 - Forever Is Now, The Pyramids of Giza, Giza, ET
2024 - A Drawing A Day, MASSIMODECARLO Seoul Studio, Seoul, ROK

2023

2023 - Jean-Marie Appriou and Andrew Lord (forthcoming), Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Vienna, A
2023 - MAIDEN VOYAGE, Clearing, New York, USA
2023 - I've Only Got Eyes for You, Sammlung Philara, Düsseldorf, D
2023 - Prospettive/Perspectives, Langhe Monferrato Roergo, I
2023 - Sammlung Boros, Boros, Berlino, D
2023 - Au hasard des oiseaux, Biennale de Saint-Paul de Vence, Saint-Paul de Vence, F
2023 - Shanghai-Jing'An International Sculpture Project, Jing'an Sculpture Park, Shanghai, PRC
2023 - Les Fleurs du Mal, Maison Guerlain, Paris, F
2023 - Printed Matters: La Chalcographie du Louvre au Consortium, Le Consortium, Dijon, F
2023 - CAB 5, CAB OPENING PUBLIC PROGRAMS, Chicago Architecture Biennial, Chicago, USA
2023 - Saint Paul de Vence Biennale, Saint Paul de Vence, F
2023 - Melancolia, Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Zurich, CH
2023 - Nocturnal Ballads, Perrotin, Shanghai, PRC
2023 - Group Show, Galerie Eva Presenhuber X Taxa Seoul, Seoul, ROK
2023 - Tie To All The Earth, Teagan Art Space, Beijing, PRC
2023 - French Delights, Bodrum Loft , Bodrum, TR

2022

2022 - Les Portes du possible. Art & science-fiction, Centre Pompidou-Metz, Metz, F
2022 - Earthing, Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Waldmannstrasse, Zurich, CH
2022 - Jean-Marie Appriou, Amy Feldman, Louisa Gagliardi, Kris Lemsalu, Conny Maier, Sofia Mitsollt, Tobias Pils, Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Maag Areal, Zurich, CH
2022 - In Bloom, MASSIMODECARLO Pièce Unique, Paris, F
2022 - Art Paris, Grand Palais Ephemere, Paris, F

2021

2021 - Portraiture One Century Apart, MASSIMODECARLO, Milano, I
2021 - Souffler de son Souffle, Fondation Vincent Van Gogh, Arles, F
2021 - Bijoux, Fitzpatrick Gallery, Paris, F
2021 - La Dame à la licorne, médiévale et si contemporaine, Les Abattoirs, Toulouse, F
2021 - The Dreamers, 58th October Salon, Belgrade Biennial, Beograd, SRB. Catalogue
2021 - I'VE SEEN THINGS YOU PEOPLE WOULDN'T BELIEVE, FRAC Corsica, Corte, F
2021 - Jean-Marie Appriou, Sam Falls, Shara Hughes, Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Paris, F
2021 - Grand Ménage, Clearing, Paris, F
2021 - Superamas, Clearing, Brussels, B
2021 - The Imaginary Sea, Fondation Carmignac, Ile de Porquerolles, Hyères, F

2020

2020 - Dream Baby Dream, Haus Mödrath - Räume für Kunst, Kerpen, D
2020 - Anima Mundi, Saint-Victor, Marseille, F
2020 - Possédé-e-s - Deviance, Performance, Resistance, MO.CO. Panacée, Montpellier, F

2019

2019 - L'âge de Raison, CLEARING, Bruxelles, B
2019 - Là où eaux se melent, La Biennale de Lyon, Lyon, F
2019 - Les Chemins du Sud, Musée régional d'art contemporain Occitanie, Sérignan, F
2019 - Bêtes de Scène, Fondation Villa Datri, L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue, F
2019 - Parfum d'épines, PHILLIPS X VO CURATIONS, Paris, F
2019 - Cicatrices, VO Curations, London, UK

2018

2018 - Smooth Transitions, Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Zurich, CH
2018 - Childhood: Another Banana Day for the Dream Fish, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, F
2018 - Deux sens du décoratif, curated by Michal Novotny, Centre d'art contemporain Passerelle, Brest, F
2018 - Here Here - Das Ich Und Alles Anderen, curated by Tenzing Barshee, Braunsfelder, Cologne, D
2018 - Group Show, Galerie Eva Presenhuber, Zürich, CH

2017

- 2017 - ARTIFICIAL TEARS. Singularität & Menschsein - Eine Spekulation, MAK Exhibition Hall - Vienna Biennale. Roboter. Arbeit. Unsere Zukunft, Wien, A
- 2017 - How It's Made, Carl Kostyal, Stockholm, S
- 2017 - Voyage D'hiver, Château De Versailles Spectacles and Palais De Tokyo, Versailles, F
- 2017 - The Leftovers, Simon Lee Gallery, New York, USA
- 2017 - Medusa, Musee D'art Moderne De La Ville De Paris, Paris, F
- 2017 - De Nature En Sculpture, Villa Datris, L'Isle-sur-la-Sorgue, F
- 2017 - Artificial Tears. Singularity & Humanness – a Speculation, Vienna Biennale, Mak, Vienna, A

2016

- 2016 - Lanzarote, Union Pacific, London, UK
- 2016 - Streams of Warm Impermanence, David Roberts Art Foundation, London, UK
- 2016 - Pastoral Myths, La Loge, Brussels, B
- 2016 - History Made by Artists, CLEARING, New York, USA

2015

- 2015 - The Great Depression, Balice Hertling, Paris, F
- 2015 - L'usage des formes, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, F
- 2015 - Mon Horizontalité, curated by Julie Boukobza, Untilthen Gallery, Paris, F
- 2015 - Deep Screen, Centre d'Art Contemporain, Parc Saint Léger, Paris, F

2014

- 2014 - La Solitude, Astrup Firnley Museum of Modern Art, Oslo, N
- 2014 - Elusive Earths, curated by Jennifer Teets, Établissement d'En Face Projects, Brussels, B
- 2014 - Let's Play, Galeries du Cloître, École des Beaux-Arts, Dans le Cadre de "Play Time" - Biennale d'Art Contemporaine de Rennes, Rennes, F
- 2014 - Formes Simples, curated by Jean De Loisy & Sandra Adam, Cristallerie de Saint Louis-lès-Bitche, Saint-Louis-lès-Bitche, F
- 2014 - L'Écho / Ce qui Sépare, curated by Bruno Peinado, Hab Galerie à Nantes et Frac des Pays-de-la-Loire, Carquefou, F

2013

- 2013 - I've Lost My Marbles, curated by Barbara Sirieix, Athens, GR
- 2013 - No Fear, No Shame, No Confusion, curated by Céline Kopp, Triangle France, Marseille, F
- 2013 - Prix Sciences Po Pour L'Art Contemporain, Paris, F
- 2013 - Galerie le Minotaure, curated by Mathieu Mercier, Paris, F

2012

- 2012 - Pavillon de Chasse, Galerie Semiose, Paris, F
- 2012 - Etrange Été, curated by Stéphane Corréad, Galerie White Project, Paris, F
- 2012 - 57ème Salon de Montrouge, Le Beffroi, Montrouge, F
- 2012 - BYOB, curated by Rebecca Lamarche-Vadel, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, F
- 2012 - Sur un pied, Galerie Sémiose, Paris, F

2011

- 2011 - Nul Ptyx, curated by Laetitia Paviani, Cité International des Arts, Paris, F

Public Collections

Belgium

Vanhaerents Art Collection, Brussels

China

Long Museum, Shanghai

France

CNAP, Paris

Fondation Louis Vuitton, Paris

FRAC Corse

FRAC Ile de France

Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris

Musée du Louvre, Paris

Centre National d'Art et de la Culture Georges Pompidou, Paris

Germany

Borros Collection, Berlin

Sammlung Philara, Düsseldorf

United Kingdom

Zabludowicz Collection, London