

Balthasar Burkhard

Homage

May 12th - June 25th 2011

Private viewing Thursday May 12th from 6pm to 9pm.



This exhibition is a tribute to Balthasar Burkhard who died last year.

After a lot of travels, in the 70's, he exposed his work for the first time : personal works of art with a contrasted black and white and a preference for the shadow which nibbles at the light. The centring is strict, closed and frontal. The scale is thoughtful and it makes us understand each things in a whole. Balthasar Burkhard is inspired by series. After the nudes of the 80's, he realised, for example, large format photographic series of metropolis from helicopter. The artist is interested in the landscape which reaffirms the explorative virtue, characteristic

of photography and permits infinity. He let a tonal unity, in his negatives, which compares his pictures from paintings.

Balthasar Burkhard looks for the remote motif and wants to separate it from the initial subject. Thus, he looks to be close to the abstracted painters. He cuts up the bodies, divides it into chosen pieces. In a parallel direction, he develops an interest for infinity of landscapes-as those presented in this *Homage*- in which the motif is losing itself. The landscape looks like a skin. His negatives, ranging from the naked bodies to the vast stretches of sand in Namibia, including the views from the plane of Brasilia or Japan, reveal the artist's quest, who wants to show, by playing with shadow and light, eroticism and the skin sensuality.



Several retrospectives have been devoted to his work in Europe (Bern, Grenoble, Strasbourg...), which is currently exhibited in Grand Hornu in Belgium until the 29th of May 2011.