

And out of the Darkness springs the Light ...

*“Divination, the intuition of things, belong to the artist and the poet alone”
(Gustave Moreau)*

Like that of Charles Baudelaire, whose poetic alchemy made him «the first seer», the youth of Elric Miault «was only a dark storm crossed here and there by brilliant suns». The pangs of life transcended, the affliction was transmuted into beauty and from the darkness springs the light...

Baudelaire’s «sunset suns and blurred skies» once had their pictorial ideal in the painting of William Turner, forerunner of a new style, yet largely inspired, or even borrowed, from Claude Le Lorrain whom considered the light to be the supreme reality of the world. This lyrical abstraction, whose beginnings we had seen in Turner, finds today, in the work of Elric Miault, a flamboyant blossoming, taking on a demiurgic allure, a primordial force endowed with a refined precision. The play of reflections and light is here at its peak, which seems to have been sucked into the canvas by some enchantment, giving to these paintings an almost immaterial character. The underlying shadows are only there to magnify a little more the brightness and iridescence of the skillfully matched colours. As for hermetic symbolism, it is not without adding to the alchemical mystery and inevitably refers us to the work of Gustave Moreau.

Elric Miault’s painting is an irrepressible invitation to imaginary travel. On each canvas, the artist tells us a story, with the difference that he proposes to us the story that one chooses to see according to one’s soul at a specific moment. “What is created by the spirit is more alive than any materials,” Baudelaire said. Gustave Moreau agreed with the poet when he declared: “I do not believe in what I touch or what I see. I only believe in what I don’t see and only in what I feel”. Elric Miault’s paintings are living paintings in more ways than one, because of their changing effects and because of new images, which are incessantly offered. Reflecting the impulses of the soul, his works translate what Gustave Moreau called «inner lightnings». Like his predecessor, the artist’s unbridled imagination takes us into other worlds, unknown and secret

worlds. This quest for the Mysteries magnifies even more the spiritual dimension of the work.

Without abusing the comparison, we may relate an artist to a famous predecessor when we find the ingredients which allow us to recognize the true artistic talent: pure, unique, personal and innovative creation. His peers used to say of Turner's works that they attracted the eye as soon as one entered the room, so much so that they did not want to see their paintings displayed next to his. The same is true of Elric Miault's paintings, dazzling with talent, strength and originality, marks of an extraordinary artist and, therefore, out of his time.

Forever inspired, Elric Miault is not about to lose «the desire to paint».

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