

# ART PLURAL GALLERY

## PRESS RELEASE

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**After, a solo exhibition by Israeli artist Michel Platnic, opening in Singapore January 2015**

**Singapore, December 2014** – Art Plural Gallery presents *After*, a solo exhibition by French-Israeli artist Michel Platnic. Running from **22 January to 21 February 2015**, *After* is a unique exhibition experience featuring dramatic ‘living paintings’ presented in the form of video installations and large-scale prints. Using a complex combination of traditional and innovative mediums, Platnic’s portraits, stylistically described as ‘after’ the iconic Francis Bacon, come to life, moving within their frames as though existing within a microcosmic universe.

Michel Platnic’s preoccupation with the human form is vivid in his latest works, where he challenges the boundaries of artistic mediums by merging technology with tradition. In a nod to the work of Francis Bacon, Platnic’s ‘living paintings’ expand on the idea of the portrait by bringing them to life using a combination of photography, video, painting and performance. After painting a scene on a cinema-style set, Platnic then puts himself and his models into this world, painting their faces and body with bold strokes of paint in the style of Bacon’s painterly yet abstract portraits.



Michel Platnic, *After "Three Studies for Portrait of Lucian Freud, 1965"*, 2013, Full HD L15:32 C17:22 R18:48

The result is unexpected: projected videos of the portraits seem entirely static upon first glance, until one notices the gentle raising of the chest as the subject breathes, the dart of the eye as it follows the viewer around the room, and the careful tilt of the head. *“In my videos characters build their own space. The place they occupy is a product of their own actions, while in some other works they sense the space by moving into it and exploring it. There is the internal space, but there is an outside as well. There is hope, and reality is modified. Characters have their own say and their own existence”*, the artist explains. Ultimately, Platnic’s portraits break free from the existentialist torment that Bacon expressed in his work, allowing an interactive environment where the subject of a ‘painting’ can exist within its structure and seize the life that it is given.

*“The living character can show more complexity. He has a soul, and it requires more blindness to see him only as flesh.”* – Michel Platnic

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## **Artist Biography**

Born in France in 1970, Michel Platnic was a student of Electrical Engineering and remained in that field for 13 years until his decision to move to Israel at 28. He found his artistic voice in his new place of residence and went on to study acting in 2001. Realising his inclination towards the Fine Arts, Platnic took a course in the subject and graduated with a BA (Hons) in Fine Arts from the Midrasha School of Art at Beit Berl Academic College in Israel in 2010. That very year, he received the Shpilman Grant for Excellence in Photography, and was selected by Serge Tiroche for ST-ART, an incubator project for young artists. Platnic's works have been exhibited in galleries, institutions and museums across Israel and abroad. His solo exhibitions and performances presented include the Tel-Aviv Museum, Haifa Museum, the Gordon Gallery and the Fresh Paint Art Fair in Tel-Aviv. Platnic has also participated in group exhibitions around the world including the Gazelli Art House in London, Fusion Arts Museum, New York and also the Center for Contemporary Art in Tel-Aviv. Michel Platnic is currently living in Berlin.

## **About Art Plural Gallery**

Founded by Swiss art dealer Frédéric de Senarclens in May 2011, Art Plural Gallery is a unique contemporary art gallery located in the heart of Singapore's cultural district. The gallery encompasses an expansive 12,000 square feet spread across 4 levels of exhibition space, housed within an Art Deco heritage building. In 2013, Art Plural Gallery was named by Blouin Artinfo as one of the Best New Galleries in the World.

### **Exhibition Details:**

Michel Platnic: *After*  
22 January to 21 February 2015

38 Armenian Street  
179942 Singapore  
T +65 6636 8360

Opening hours from 11 am to 7 pm.  
Closed on Sundays and Public Holidays.

### **For more information, please contact:**

**Carole de Senarclens**  
**Director**  
T: +65 6636 8360  
M: +65 9002 3638  
[carole@artpluralgallery.com](mailto:carole@artpluralgallery.com)  
[press@artpluralgallery.com](mailto:press@artpluralgallery.com)

**Gillian de Boer**  
**Communications Executive**  
T: +65 6636 8360  
[gillian@artpluralgallery.com](mailto:gillian@artpluralgallery.com)

[www.artpluralgallery.com](http://www.artpluralgallery.com)  
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