



Jean Vimenet, his Work

Email Newsletter

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20 YEARS ALREADY!

By Claudine Lemaître and Pascal Vimenet
Chairwoman and vice-president of JVSCE

Twenty years ago Jean Vimenet disappeared. Since March 23, 2000, our association has not ceased to recognize his endearing, proliferating and protean work. Inventorying, classifying, maintaining, restoring, publishing and impelling exhibitions were our key words to dedicate the work of Jean Vimenet.

From 2000 to 2019, the association contributed to the relocation of the workshop and the organization of the new workshop, the inventory of nearly 2,000 works and the restoration of 300 of them. ; in addition, it has organized more than 15 exhibitions, contributed to the entry of works in the collections of 3 museums, allowed the publication of more than 10 publications, including a partial catalog raisonné.

But we want to do more and better: to reach more intensely the national and international collections so that Vimenet finally finds the right place in the history of art of the twentieth century. Thus, for this twentieth year, Jean Vimenet, his work has a facelift by acquiring this newsletter for all art lovers, by inaugurating his blog (jeanvimenetjvsce.canal.blog.com), and deeply enriching his site (jean-vimenet.com).

Thank you for following us in this new adventure!

EXHIBITION IN PREPARATION

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS OF TOURS (september 2019 - january 2020)

JEAN VIMENET : VISIONS OF ALGERIA (provisional title)

The Fine Arts Museum of Tours will present, from September 27, 2019 to January 5, 2020, as part of its "Pocket Shows" and to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the death of Jean Vimenet, an exhibition dedicated to the Algerian period of the artist (1952-1954). It will bring together about twenty works and various graphic and photographic documents around *the Bay of Algiers* (1954), that entered the permanent collections of the museum in 2000 (1).



The Bay of Algiers, oil on canvas, 96.5 x 130, Algiers, 1954 [Coll. Museum of Fine Arts of Tours, INV. 2000.6.1]

It will also give rise, during its course, to two conferences. The first will be made by the new curator of the Museums of Tours, Mr. Jerome Farigoule, on the theme of the stay of Jean Vimenet at the Villa Abd-el-Tif (November 16). The second will be held by Mr. Pascal Vimenet, on the theme of the impact of the Algerian stay on the later work of Jean Vimenet (October 12). Our association is actively involved in this preparation and this event.

Invitations to the opening will be sent to you soon as well as all the practical details.

(1) This work is first referenced in the *Tribute to donors* catalog, 1996-2000, in a note signed Sophie Join-Lambert, Museum of Fine Arts Tours, 2000, p. 78-80

EXHIBITIONS IN PREPARATION

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS OF LONS-LE-SAUNIER :

JEAN VIMENET GUEST TO CELEBRATE GUSTAVE COURBET!

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the death of Jean Vimenet, the Musée des Beaux-Arts in Lons-le-Saunier will present, from October 25, 2019 until the end of January 2020, an exhibition dedicated to a "Tribute to Courbet". It will bring together about twenty works (paintings, graphic works, sculptures) and various documents by Jean Vimenet around this theme. It will take place simultaneously and in parallel with an exhibition of homage to the sculptor Jean-Joseph Perraud (1819-1876), whose collection of sculptures is the founding of the museum. The latter is celebrating this year the 200th anniversary of the births of Perraud and Courbet. Jean Vimenet is the artist invited by the museum to close this cycle of celebrations.



Tribute to Courbet, oil on canvas, 37 x 72, Cachan, 1962

This is the first time that a museum of fine arts dedicates an exhibition of Jean Vimenet to this singular theme.

As the collectors of Jean Vimenet know, he was an admirer of Gustave Courbet, for his painting and his critical intransigence. From 1962, he made several works, painted, drawn, carved, in tribute to Courbet, including two of his works, *the Sleep [or] the Two Friends* (1866) and *the Origin of the World* (1866). A mystery remains: we do not know when Vimenet became aware of the existence of *the Origin of the World which*, in 1962, had not yet been shown public... Invitations to the opening and practical details to be sent shortly.

CLOSE UP ON...

The Two Brothers (Museum of comic strip of Angoulême)

In 2014, the Angoulême Comic Strip Museum acquired Jean Vimenet's painting, *The Two Brothers* (1960-1965). In the spring of 2018, the painting was installed by the new director, Anne-Hélène Hoog, at the entrance of the museum's permanent course. What is the particularity of this painting?



The Two Brothers, oil on canvas, printed comic strip, cut and glued, 81 x 100, Mondollot, 1960

The painting shows the eldest son and the youngest son of the artist, Pascal and Manuel, then aged of 9 and 7 respectively. They "read" an episode of the comic strip of the adventures of "Tiger Joe", published in *Pilote*.

Unique in the artist's production, the painting evokes what unites it to the world of cartoon and to those of caricature and comics.

The work is very sparse and plays with a pictorial and graphic duality. His technical mix echoes with many previous works (from Braque to art brut). But this theme, simple in appearance, hides a real rebus, characteristic of the artist.

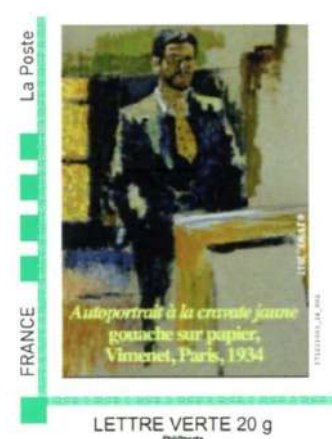
Indeed, it appears that, if Vimenet dates his canvas 1960, the comic strip that he adds deliberately designates another temporal source: "Tiger Joe, on the trail of the elephants", appeared in *Pilote* from May 28 to November 29 ... 1964. The canvas is thus conceived as an *uchronie* - an hypothesis reinforced by the existence of a work on paper, dated 1965 and entitled *The Two Brothers*, where only the two characters drawn with ink brush appear. It is necessary to follow "the track of the elephants" to unravel this skein and to understand the hidden motives of the canvas. The "two brothers" are finally maybe not the ones we could believe...

Our association has carried out a complete analytical study of the canvas and drawing that you can get directly from us.

IN SALE AT THE ASSOCIATION

Set of stamps 2018

Jean Vimenet, his work published in 2018 a new series of 6 exceptional stamps devoted to works of Jean Vimenet, belonging to several different periods. Unit price: 1,20 € (for members) or 2,00 € (all public) + shipping. We can also buy whole boards of 10, 20 or 30 stamps. Green fee.



A DISCOVERY!

The CNC and INA have just made a montage of rushes where, for the first time, we discover Jean Vimenet at Studio of Gémeaux, alongside Paul Grimault, in Paris, in 1942, during the preparation of the short film in cartoon, the Thief of Lightning Rods ... Hopefully it will soon become accessible...

ARCHIVES JEAN VIMENET

In each Newsletter, we will make you discover an original document belonging to the archives of Jean Vimenet Archives. Below, page 50 of a Cahier personnel, made in the 1990s, where Jean Vimenet pairs drawings, collages, washing drawings and various original texts, where his humor is often present.



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