

portrait

Juan Kiti

Atypical...
which differs from the habitual type, which is difficult to be classified, a definition in the Chamber's dictionary applying perfectly to JUAN KITI. One thinks he's here, one discovers him there. Hardly time to join him and he's off again. No doubt, however, he's not trying to reinvent the wheel, he creates it every day. Simply, naturally. So be it...

Carine Prignon

I don't work, I'm having a great time... The fashion is set and will not change during the whole conversation. No scouring humour but a disconcerting freshness of life.

Hugging the others with the limpidity of his gaze and

being on familiar terms with everyday life by using an eternal smile. Observing him and his work, life is nothing but optimism. Who are you, Juan Kiti? *I'm not an artist but a designer. An artist, that is an artisan having the perfect mastery of a determined activity. As for me, I am what one could call a Jack-of-all-trades. I paint, I sculpt, I draw carpets, furniture, jewels, in short, everything I like to do. Constantly evolving and on the lookout for each discovery, I haven't reached yet the stage of artisan. And still, each of his works shows well and truly a perfect mastery...*

Juan Kiti yesterday and now...

He doesn't speak about his past, an eloquent silence, a mutism he managed to exorcize in his first paintings. Tortured style, vivid colours, terrifying expressions... he dugged up all the nightmares of his childhood and adolescence in order to bury them better and for good, and made room for a from day to day happiness in the serenity of his own family.

Though Juan Kiti likes peace, he hates loneliness. Louise, his lifelong companion, their daughter Charlotte, four dogs, horses and even more cats, his property seems close to Noah's ark with all the disposability, attention, patience and kindness it involves towards this small world. *In fact, he concludes, I'm simply selfish. My pleasure is that of the others. A selfishness one should be delighted with for more than one reason...*

Juan Kiti and success...

Wanting it all, no need for anything. To him, money's

only value is that of allowing to overwhelm the others. Even to the question why his works are so affordable, he answers: This will offer a double advantage: that of being within the reach of the general public and followed by that of evolving. Quantity generates quality. The more one has to sell, the more one creates and the more one discovers itself, the more one gets better. Becoming an elitist, is being the prisoner of a style. One doesn't diversify anymore, one repeats oneself. I refuse to sacrifice my pleasure of creating on the altar of a holy sacred « popularity » which is superficially determined by the art gallery circuit. Being worth on market X or Y doesn't matter much to me. On the contrary, I'm flattered that there are forged Kiti's in circulation. Being plagiarized, ain't that a nice form of gratitude?

Juan Kiti tomorrow...

He started painting like one decides one day to change tack. This about-turn – at which he is delighted at each moment – is not for all that the result of chance. *The only school subject I distinguished myself at, was in drawing. Moreover, from his very first works, many art critics have been able to perceive be-tween the lines his unde-niable talent. Dissatisfaction gives rise to creation. All autosatisfaction is catastro-phi-c. How to do afterwards? When, nevertheless, I hap-pened to love something I had realized, it didn't fortunately last but one or two hours. Afterwards I move on to other matters. Maybe this is also an aspect of « pampered child » he grants himself for*

lack of having been it in the past...

Juan Kiti if it would have to be done again...

Is the question to be asked? I'm happy. If, however I had to go back into time, based on the acquired experience, I would without hesitation go and live in the heart of the jungle. To do what? Nothing but being busy with nature and the surrounding tribes! So he's off again, just the time to ask him the final word... It's the beginning, I boil with ideas!

The words he prefers...

Down... *De toutes les matières c'est celle que je préfère, he sings... Down is a synonym for sleep. Every night I multiply my dreams. I go to sleep and I am somewhere else.*

He who sleeps doesn't forget to create?

Challenge *for it induces creativity, renewal, continuous evolution.*

Unknown... *to discover. Everything I don't know, fascinates me.*

Love. *My dearest desire is everybody to love me. I know that it is impossible but it is important to me. Furthermore, of course and first of all, there is Charlotte, my daughter, the symbol itself for love.*

Colour. *In the beginning it was red. It turned blue due to a lack of red!*

The words he hates...

Constraint *because it the antithesis of creativity.*

Anticonstitutionally. *Too long, I do not succeed in pronouncing this word.*

Poverty. *This fills me with anxiety. I would like to seize the opportunity to mention, without his knowledge, the generosity he always shows towards others by offering paintings during a charity or by organizing an auction sale with other artists for the benefit of the most penniless.*

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