



## ***Sommergäste: Jean Dubuffet***

**BASTIAN, 8 Davies Street, London W1K 3DW**

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> July – Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2021**

BASTIAN have announced *Sommergäste*, a new summer series of single work spotlight exhibitions. This unusual and exciting series will see each work exhibited for three weeks, throwing a spotlight on a stand-out piece from an outstanding artist's oeuvre.

The first *Sommergäste* is Jean Dubuffet's brightly coloured and wonderfully exuberant work, *Site avec 5 personnages* [*Site with 5 characters*] – a timely exploration considering the current London survey show at the Barbican which will be on view until 22<sup>nd</sup> August. French artist Jean Dubuffet (1901-1985) is considered one of the most singular and provocative voices in post-war modern art. Many artists long for the painterly freedom and the power that engulfed their earlier work but few are able to carry it into their later years. Matisse's riotous cut-outs and Picasso's raw, dramatic late portraits are marked exceptions. Dubuffet is another.

This acrylic on paper on canvas from 1981 is a key example of Dubuffet's acclaimed late series known as the *Psycho-sites*. Feverishly executed over the course of 1981-82, the works have a spontaneity and vitality that is totally apart from his earlier body of work.

Dubuffet's 'passants', or "passersby" populate unlocatable sites and places, enclosed in their own personal spheres while scrawls, patterns and other drawings charge each composition. Linked in the materiality of their execution - acrylic on paper, laid onto canvas, the series boasts a host of similarities but none are equal to one another.

Jean Dubuffet said of the works, *The theme [of the Psycho-sites] is constantly the same; that of a site in which appear varying numbers of standing characters. A site – one could also very much call it a place – that is very undetermined, very general, of which one could not know to say whether it is situated in the city or in the country, in a room or outside... More so than with a site, one would need to speak of an idea of a site, something more abstract if you will, no more than the notion of place, without specificity of any kind.*

## Notes to Editors

Title	<i>Sommergäste: Jean Dubuffet</i>
Exhibition Dates	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> July – Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> July 2021
Location	BASTIAN, 8 Davies Street, London W1K 3DW <a href="http://www.bastian-gallery.com">www.bastian-gallery.com</a> 020 3940 5009
Opening Hours	Tuesday - Saturday, 10am – 6pm
Admission	Free
Getting there	Located in the heart of Mayfair, the closest underground stations are Green Park (on the Jubilee, Piccadilly and Victoria lines) and Bond Street (on the Central and Jubilee lines). The nearest rail station is Charing Cross.

## BASTIAN

Established by Céline and Heiner Bastian in 1989, the gallery is directed by Aeneas Bastian since 2016. 20th Century artists, such as Pablo Picasso, Jean Dubuffet, as well as German and American post-war artists including Joseph Beuys, Anselm Kiefer, Cy Twombly, Robert Rauschenberg and Andy Warhol, form the core of the exhibition program.

The gallery publishes numerous exhibition catalogues, artist monographs and catalogues raisonnés. BASTIAN participates at international art fairs, such as MASTERPIECE London, Taipei Dangdai, Art Cologne and Art Düsseldorf.

From 2007 until 2019 BASTIAN Berlin has shown exhibitions dedicated to modern and contemporary art. At the beginning of 2019, the Bastian family donated their building Am Kupfergraben to the State Museums of Berlin, who have established an art education center there, which was inaugurated on 1 September 2019. The Bastian family will open a new gallery space in Berlin Dahlem, Taylorstraße in November 2021.

Located in Mayfair, the London gallery opened on 1 February 2019. Since its opening the gallery has presented solo exhibitions of Andy Warhol, Cy Twombly, Ulrich Erben, Dan Flavin, Hans Hofmann, Pablo Picasso, Robert Rauschenberg and Sonia Delaunay.

**All enquiries, high res images and further information:**

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