

GEORGIK
Histoires d'analphabètes
24.04 — 22.05.2025

The multi-media artist Georgik's most recent exhibition is on display at Galerie Rue Antoine until the end of May. *Histoires d'analphabètes*, or "Stories of the illiterate," is his second solo exhibition to be featured by the gallery. It features an adventure between two characters, each piece containing a story without use of words, full of vitality, adventures, and challenges.

Georgik, born Georges Braunschweig in 1957 in La Chaux-de-Fonds in Switzerland in 1957, would leave for Paris at age 17. A few years later he spent a year studying at Parsons School of Design where he took courses in illustration. Upon his return to France, he met Daniel Cordier, an art connoisseur and collector who would become one of his loyal collectors. Georgik's work would eventually be shown at the Centre Pompidou in 1989 following the donation of Cordier's collection to the national museums. In the 2000s Georgik began creating more works employing oils and watercolors, using perspective to challenge the viewer's perspective of what angle they were viewing.

A variety of mediums have been used throughout the artist's career, from old machines, plotters, carbon paper, lithographic stone, iron, stamps, computers, ceramic reconstruction, etc. This multifaceted approach to creativity makes it difficult to place Georgik into only one category of contemporary art. Much of his work diverts from traditional line drawing, instead favoring ink drawing mixed with character/letter stamps forming miniature figures, like in his drawings covering the back wall of Rue Antoine exhibition, originally from a 250-page notepad. Visitors could partake in a raffle, where they would draw one number out of a bowl, after purchasing a ticket, corresponding to one of the 250 drawings displayed on the wall.

Continuing his unorthodox approach, he uses the layering of mediums to make dynamic pieces where each layer blends into one oeuvre as in his series "Les Invisibles" where ink, paint, lithographs, and augmented reality are incorporated into one experience. With "Les Invisibles", a pair of figures emerges through the stacking of clothing and accessories depicted in various materials granting each piece its personality to the spirited but absent figures.

The vernissage that took place on the 24th of April at Rue Antoine incorporated Georgik's work of adventurous personas created by character stamps, the drawings on the Biscuiterie franco-suisse notepad, ceramics, and "Les Invisibles" and its VR world into one artistic universe. The work was incredibly engaging through both its content and the interactive aspects of the exhibition. An iPad depicted the animated figures of letters and characters, and gallery visitors excitedly entered Georgik's world of invisible dolls and dancing letters accompanied by dogs, trains, and guns and various other creations and creatures of his imagination.

- Fiona Fortunato