

Loevenbruck

Solo show

GILLES AILLAUD

(France, 1928–2005)

AR
CO

Madrid

Stand 7B27

Portrait of Gilles Aillaud, undated. Photograph by Camille Adami. Photographic reproduction: Florian Kleinfenn

About Gilles Aillaud and his work

Gilles Aillaud is a painter, and also poet (*Dans le bleu foncé du matin*, edited by Christian Bourgois), art critic (revue *Rebelote*), author of prefaces (Héliou, Titina Maselli), and set designer (fifty-two productions with the stage directors Jean Jourdheuil, Klaus Michael Grüber, and Luc Bondy). He has methodically recorded the name of every painting in a class notebook. However, he is said to have painted one painting a day in the 1950s, in a period of complete solitary isolation, between his first exhibition in 1950 in Rome and his exhibition in 1963 at the Galerie Claude Levin. He distanced himself from philosophy, which he studied with Merleau-Ponty, to focus on painting, which he always practiced alone in his studio.

The beautiful title of Gilles Aillaud's text on Vermeer, *Voir sans être vu* (Seeing without being seen), could also define all his paintings. Gilles Aillaud looks at the paintings by the master of Delft as he paints his own canvases. He uses oil paints to portraits animals that are clearly visible or hidden away in zoos, landscapes, beaches, mountains, and skies full of flying birds. He never appropriates his subjects: "I paint things as they wish to be painted." He portrays them, rendering them free of nostalgia, in their picturesque nature. History has seen fit to define him as a painter of animals, as linked to the movement of Narrative Figuration, and as a militant member of the "Jeune Peinture" movement in 1968, a learned expert, and the metaphorical assassin of Duchamp in 1965. Many young painters and amateurs weren't taken in.

Recent news about the work of Gilles Aillaud

- The Musée national d'art moderne – Centre Pompidou presented the monographic exhibition “Gilles Aillaud. Political animal” in Paris, from October 4, 2023 to February 26, 2024.
- Librairie Métamorphoses published the catalogue raisonné of Gilles Aillaud's printmaking work, *Gilles Aillaud, Le serval et la tortue*, in June 2023.
- Éditions L'Atelier Contemporain, co-publishing with Éditions Loevenbruck, released a collection of Gilles Aillaud's writings, *Gilles Aillaud, Pierre entourée de chutes. Écrits et entretiens sur la peinture, la politique et le théâtre (1953–1998)*, in November 2022.

Major exhibitions in France and abroad

- Posthumously, several retrospectives have been devoted to the work of Gilles Aillaud, notably at the Musée des Beaux-Arts de Rennes in 2015; at the Musée de la Chasse et de la Nature in Paris in 2009; and at the Musée national d'Histoire et d'Art of Luxembourg in 2005.
- During his lifetime, several international exhibitions were held, including at the Central Academy of Fine Arts Museum in Beijing in 1998 (“Gilles Aillaud : le proche et le lointain”) and at the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía in Madrid in 1991, among others.
- In France, the Musée d'Art moderne de la Ville de Paris devoted two exhibitions to his work: “Gilles Aillaud, peintures 1964–1971” (1971) and “Gilles Aillaud, le proche et le lointain” (1980).

Collections

Gilles Aillaud's work is held in the public collections of the Centre national des arts plastiques; the Collection of the Institut d'art contemporain; the Fonds d'art contemporain – Paris Collections; Frac Bretagne; Frac Normandie Caen; Frac Occitanie Toulouse – Les Abattoirs; Frac Sud – Cité de l'art contemporain; the [mac] musée d'art contemporain de Marseille; MAC VAL – Musée d'Art Contemporain du Val-de-Marne; the Musée d'Art moderne de Paris; the Musée d'art moderne de Céret; the Musée d'art moderne et contemporain de Saint-Étienne Métropole; the Musée d'art moderne et contemporain de Strasbourg; the Musée de Grenoble; the Musée des Beaux-Arts de Dole; the Musée des Beaux-Arts de Rennes; the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía in Madrid; and the Musée national d'art moderne – Centre Pompidou.













Exhibited artworks list

Gilles Aillaud *Désert, 1987*

Oil on canvas
168 × 200 cm (66 1/8 × 78 3/4 in)
Courtesy galerie Loevenbruck, Paris
Inv. No. : GA190102

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Gilles Aillaud *Mangoustes, nuit bleue, 1976*

Oil on canvas
195 × 130 cm (76 3/4 × 51 3/16 in)
Courtesy galerie Loevenbruck, Paris
Inv. No. : GA220902

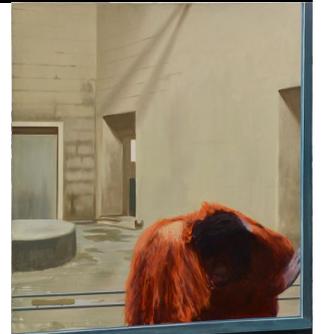
© ADAGP, Paris. Fonds Gilles Aillaud | Archives Galerie de France. Photo Fabrice Gousset, courtesy Loevenbruck, Paris.

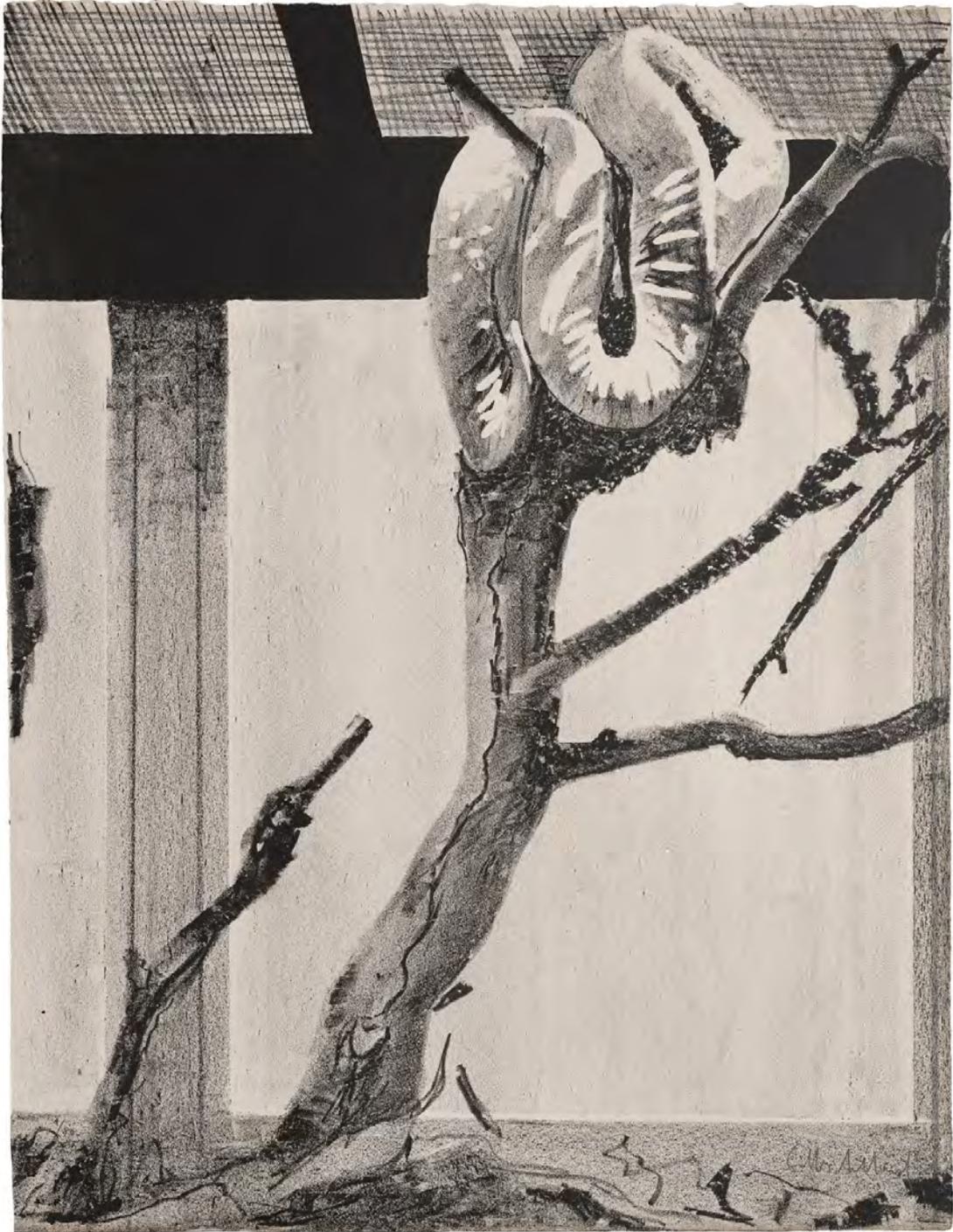


Gilles Aillaud *Orang-outang derrière vitre, 1975*

Oil on canvas
135 × 120 cm (53 1/8 × 47 1/4 in)
Courtesy galerie Loevenbruck, Paris
Inv. No. : GA161101

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Jean-Christophe Bailly, Franck Bordas and Gilles Aillaud in the Masai Mara reserve, Kenya, 1988.
Photograph by Ianna Andréadis.



Gilles Aillaud drawing on the big lithographic stone in Franck Bordas's workshop in the rue Princesse, Paris.
Photograph by Ianna Andréadis.



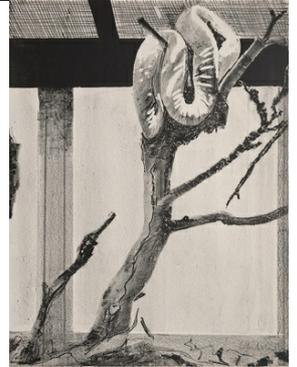


Exhibited lithographs

Gilles Aillaud *Serpent*, 1980

Lithograph in black on Arches wove paper
80 numbered and signed prints
1 A.P.
Atelier Franck Bordas, printer, Paris
Amis du Musée d'Art moderne de la Ville de Paris, publisher
66 × 50 cm (26 × 19 11/16 in)
Ed. 1/80
Courtesy galerie Loevenbruck, Paris
Inv. No. : GA230306

© ADAGP, Paris. Fonds Gilles Aillaud | Archives Galerie de France. Photo Fabrice Gousset, courtesy Loevenbruck, Paris.

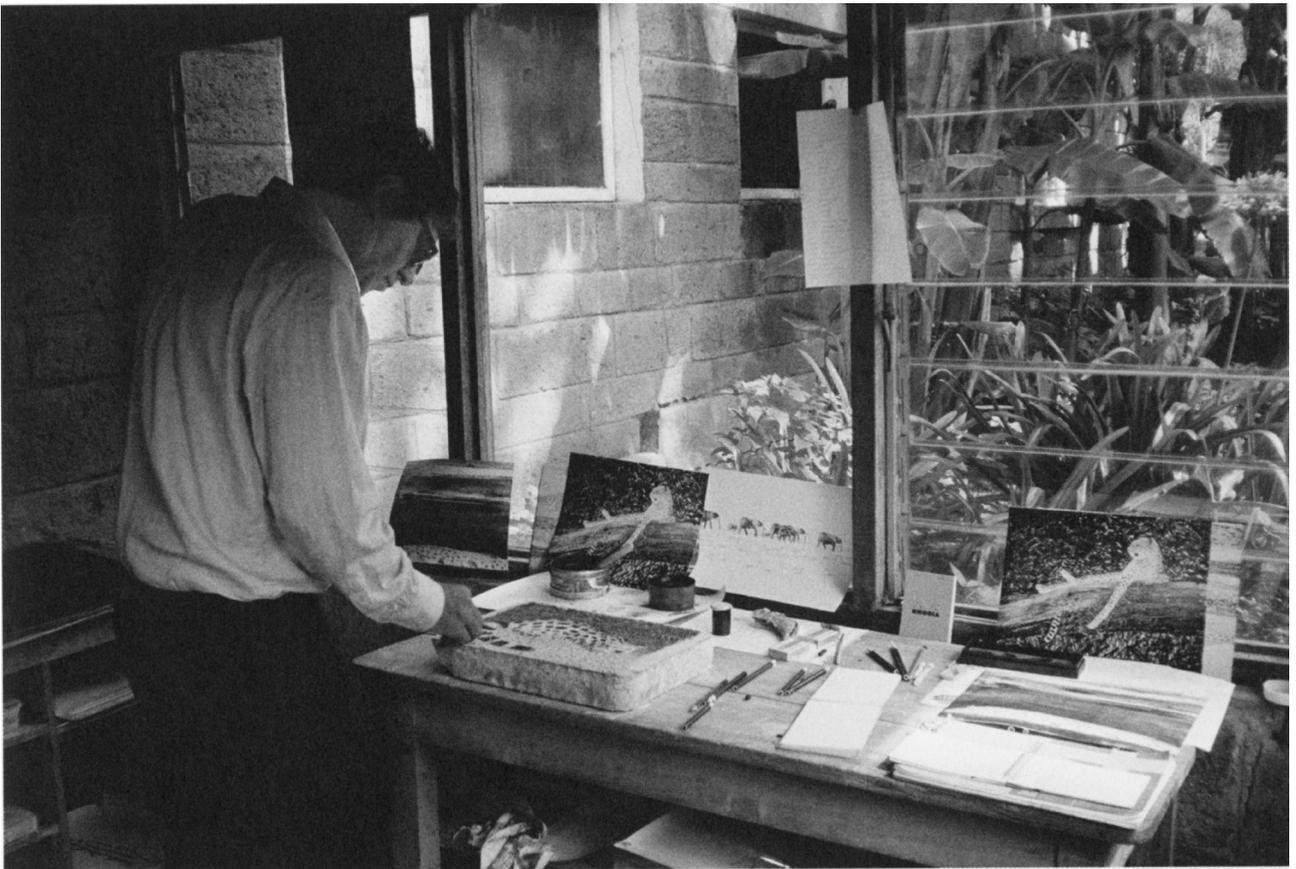


Gilles Aillaud *Masai Mara / Savane*, 1989

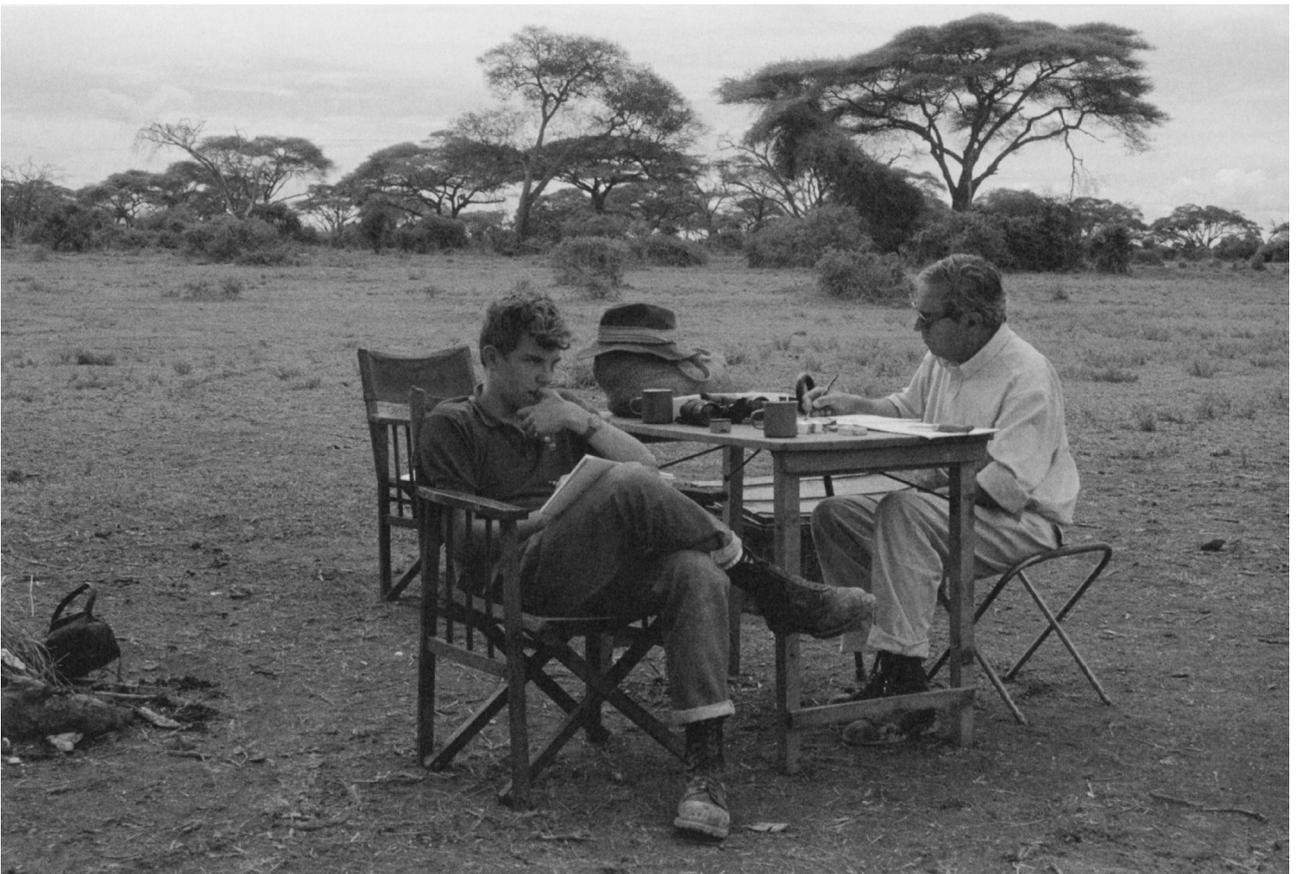
Lithograph in black on Arches wove paper
10 numbered and signed proofs and 2 A.P.
Atelier Bordas, Paris, printer and publisher, Paris
120 × 160 cm (47 1/4 × 63 in)
Ed. 6/10
Courtesy galerie Loevenbruck, Paris
Inv. No. : GA240302

© ADAGP, Paris. Fonds Gilles Aillaud | Archives Galerie de France. Photo Fabrice Gousset, courtesy Loevenbruck, Paris.





Gilles Aillaud drawing on the *Common genet* stone in the workshop set up in Mahindu, Naivasha, Kenya, 1988.
Photograph by Ianna Andréadis.



Gilles Aillaud and his son Arthur drawing in the Amboseli camp, Kenya, 1988.
Photograph by Ianna Andréadis.

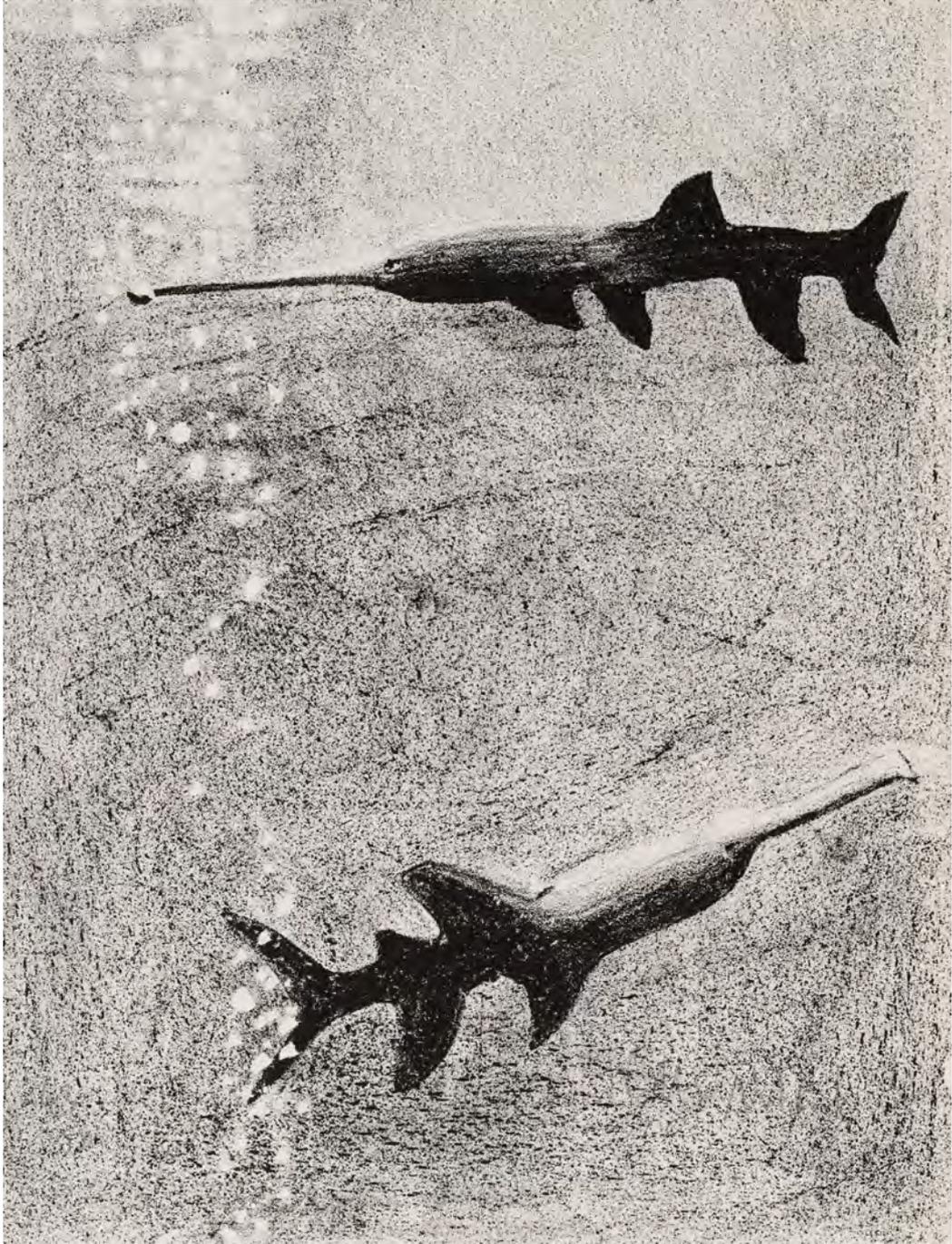


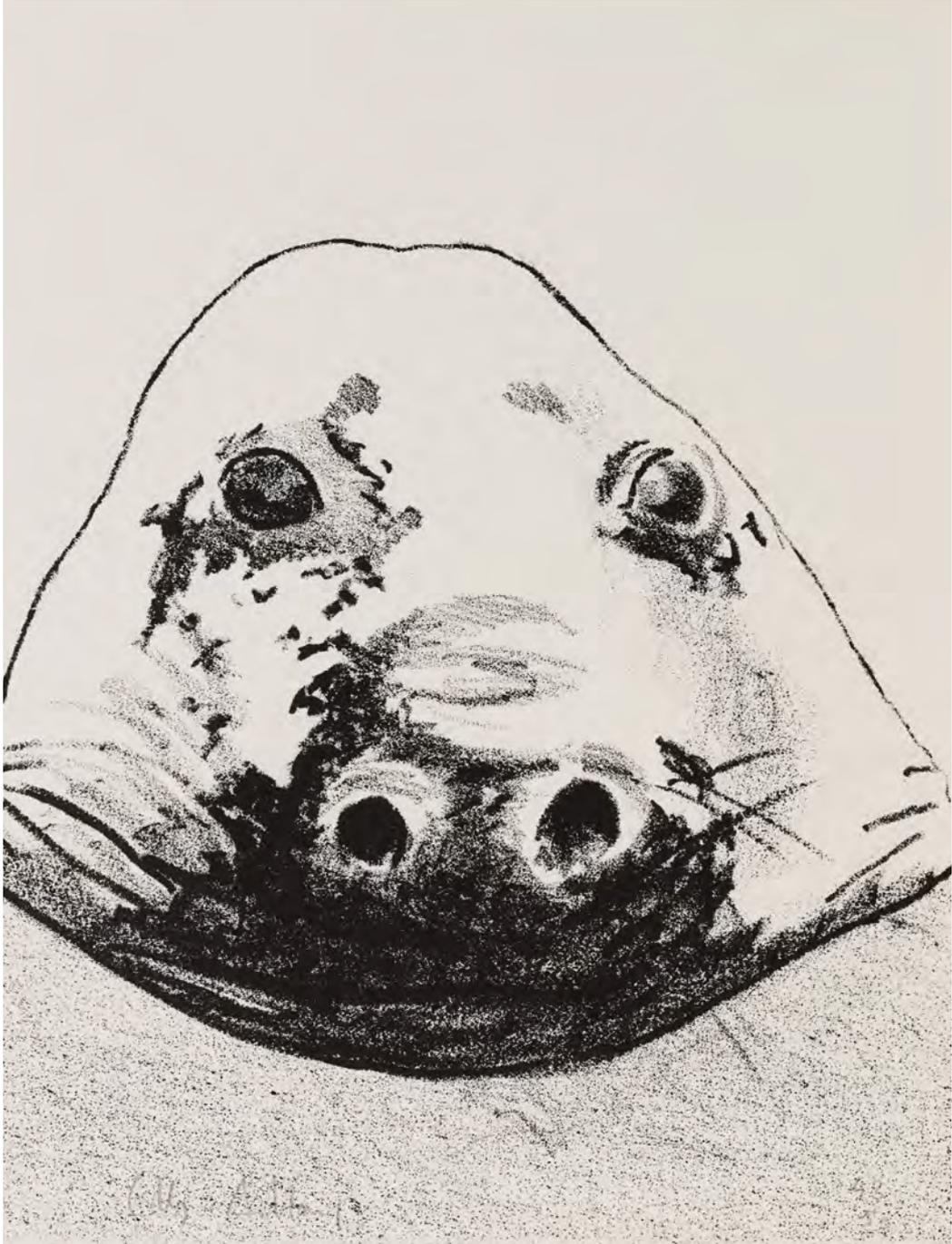
Gilles Aillaud and Franck Bordas with prints of the *Encyclopédie* in Mahindu, Kenya, 1988.
Photograph by Ianna Andréadis.



43
50

Elly Asmann





Lithographs from the “Encyclopédie de tous les animaux y compris les minéraux”

Gilles Aillaud *Mangouste, IX, 1988*

From the “Encyclopédie de tous les animaux y compris les minéraux”
Volume I, 1988
50 black lithographs and 2 beige monochromes, numbered and signed,
each plate titled on the verso and numbered from I to LII
Arches vellum, 32,5 × 25 cm
Atelier Franck Bordas, Paris
Ed. 43/50 + 10 EA
Inv. No. : GA240201.1.009

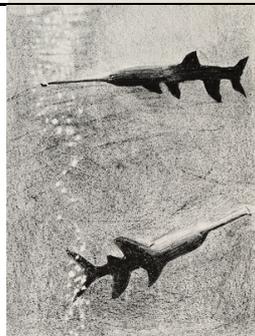
© ADAGP, Paris. Photo Fabrice Gousset, courtesy Loevenbruck, Paris.



Gilles Aillaud *Spatulaire, XI, 1988*

From the “Encyclopédie de tous les animaux y compris les minéraux”
Volume I, 1988
50 black lithographs and 2 beige monochromes, numbered and signed,
each plate titled on the verso and numbered from I to LII
Arches vellum, 32,5 × 25 cm
Atelier Franck Bordas, Paris
Ed. 43/50 + 10 EA
Inv. No. : GA240201.1.011

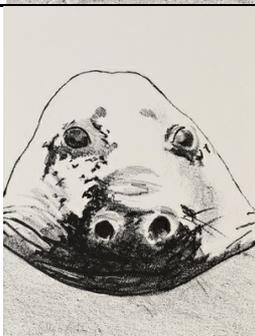
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Gilles Aillaud *Phoque, L, 1988*

From the “Encyclopédie de tous les animaux y compris les minéraux”
Volume I, 1988
50 black lithographs and 2 beige monochromes, numbered and signed,
each plate titled on the verso and numbered from I to LII
Arches vellum, 32,5 × 25 cm
Atelier Franck Bordas, Paris
Ed. 43/50 + 10 EA
Inv. No. : GA240201.1.050

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Gilles Aillaud *Vervet, LIX, 1989*

From the “Encyclopédie de tous les animaux y compris les minéraux”
Volume II, 1989
53 lithographs in black, including 1 in black and gray, numbered and signed,
each plate is titled on the verso and numbered from LIII to CIV
except for *Paysage*
Arches vellum, 32,5 × 25 cm
Atelier Franck Bordas, Paris
Ed. 43/50 + 10 EA
Inv. No. : GA240201.2.060

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Gilles Aillaud *Autruche, LXII, 1989*

From the “Encyclopédie de tous les animaux y compris les minéraux”
Volume II, 1989
53 lithographs in black, including 1 in black and gray, numbered and signed,
each plate is titled on the verso and numbered from LIII to CIV
except for *Paysage*
Arches vellum, 25 cm × 32,5
Atelier Franck Bordas, Paris
Ed. 43/50 + 10 EA
Inv. No. : GA240201.2.063

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Gilles Aillaud *Vautour*, LXXIX, 1989

From the "Encyclopédie de tous les animaux y compris les minéraux"
Volume II, 1989
53 lithographs in black, including 1 in black and gray, numbered and signed,
each plate is titled on the verso and numbered from LIII to CIV
except for *Paysage*
Arches vellum, 32,5 × 25 cm
Atelier Franck Bordas, Paris
Ed. 43/50 + 10 EA
Inv. No. : GA240201.2.080

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Gilles Aillaud *Tisserin*, C, 1989

From the "Encyclopédie de tous les animaux y compris les minéraux"
Volume II, 1989
53 lithographs in black, including 1 in black and gray, numbered and signed,
each plate is titled on the verso and numbered from LIII to CIV
except for *Paysage*
Arches vellum, 32,5 × 25 cm
Atelier Franck Bordas, Paris
Ed. 43/50 + 10 EA
Inv. No. : GA240201.2.101

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Gilles Aillaud *Crevette*, CXXX, 1990

From the "Encyclopédie de tous les animaux y compris les minéraux"
Volume III, 1990
52 numbered and signed lithographs in black,
each plate is titled on the reverse and numbered from CV to CLVI
Arches vellum, 32,5 × 25 cm
Atelier Franck Bordas, Paris
Ed. 43/50 + 10 EA
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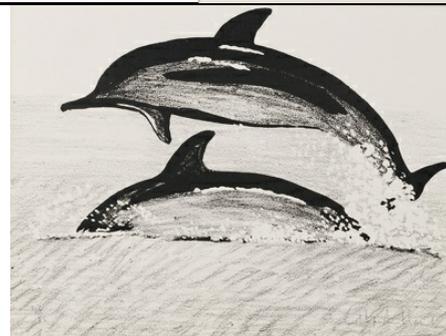
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Gilles Aillaud *Dauphin*, CXXXVI, 1990

From the "Encyclopédie de tous les animaux y compris les minéraux"
Volume III, 1990
52 numbered and signed lithographs in black,
each plate is titled on the reverse and numbered from CV to CLVI
Arches vellum, 25 × 32,5 cm
Atelier Franck Bordas, Paris
Ed. 43/50 + 10 EA
Inv. No. : GA240201.3.137

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Gilles Aillaud *Buccin*, CXXXIX, 1990

From the "Encyclopédie de tous les animaux y compris les minéraux"
Volume III, 1990
52 numbered and signed lithographs in black,
each plate is titled on the reverse and numbered from CV to CLVI
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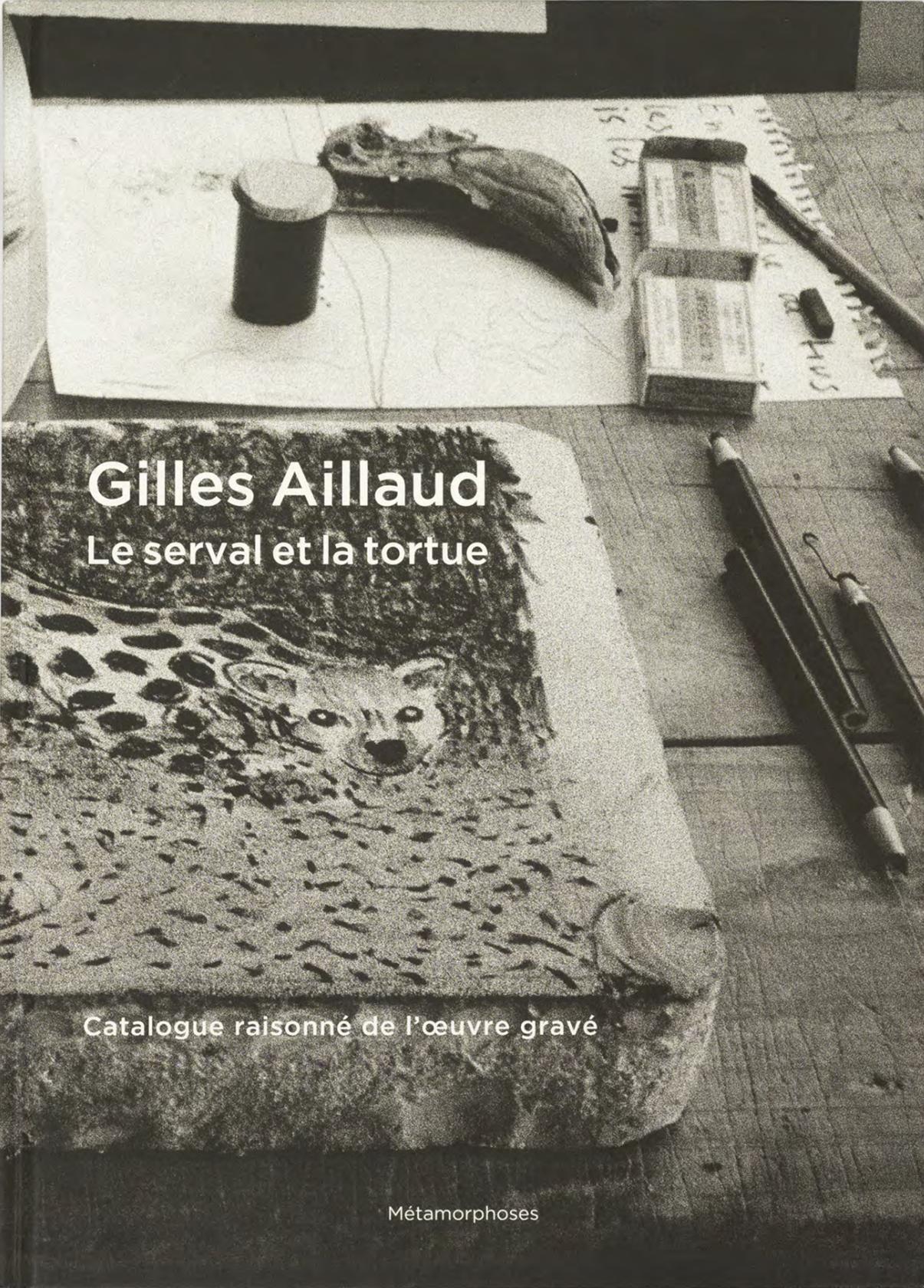
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Jean-Christophe Bailly
Gilles Aillaud

André Dimanche Éditeur

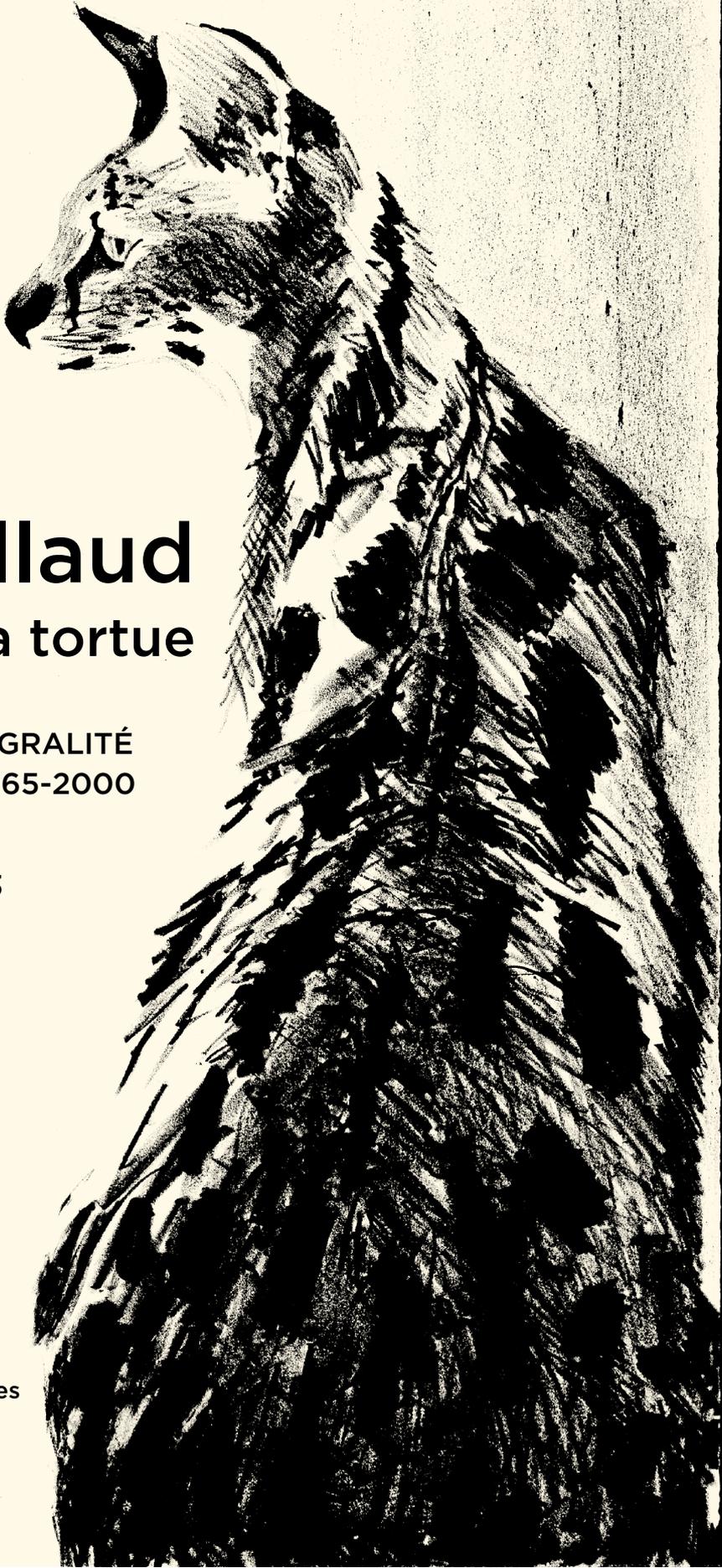




Gilles Aillaud
Le serval et la tortue

Catalogue raisonné de l'œuvre gravé

Métamorphoses



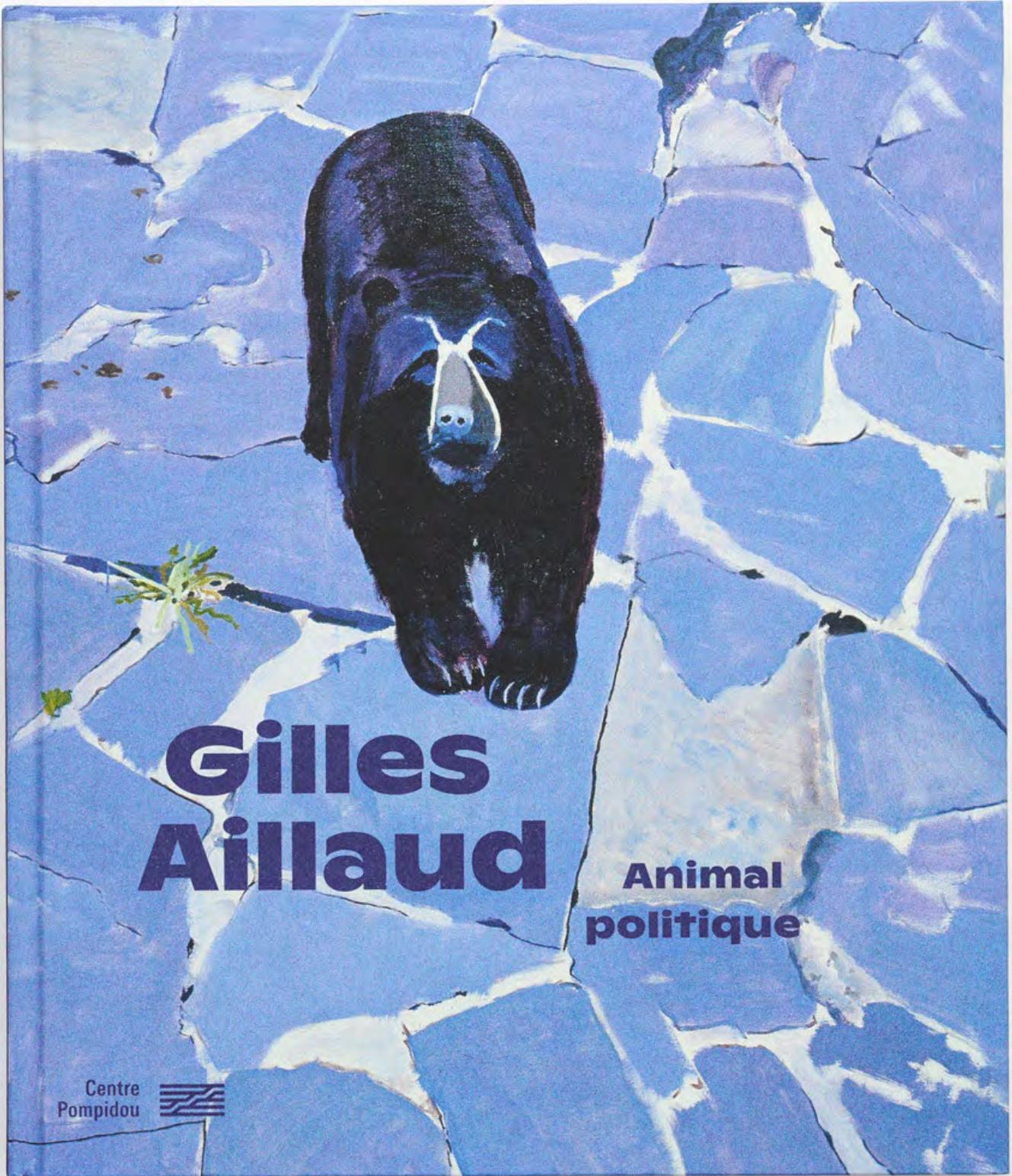
Gilles Aillaud

Le serval et la tortue

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DU 28 SEPTEMBRE
AU 18 NOVEMBRE 2023

Librairie galerie Métamorphoses
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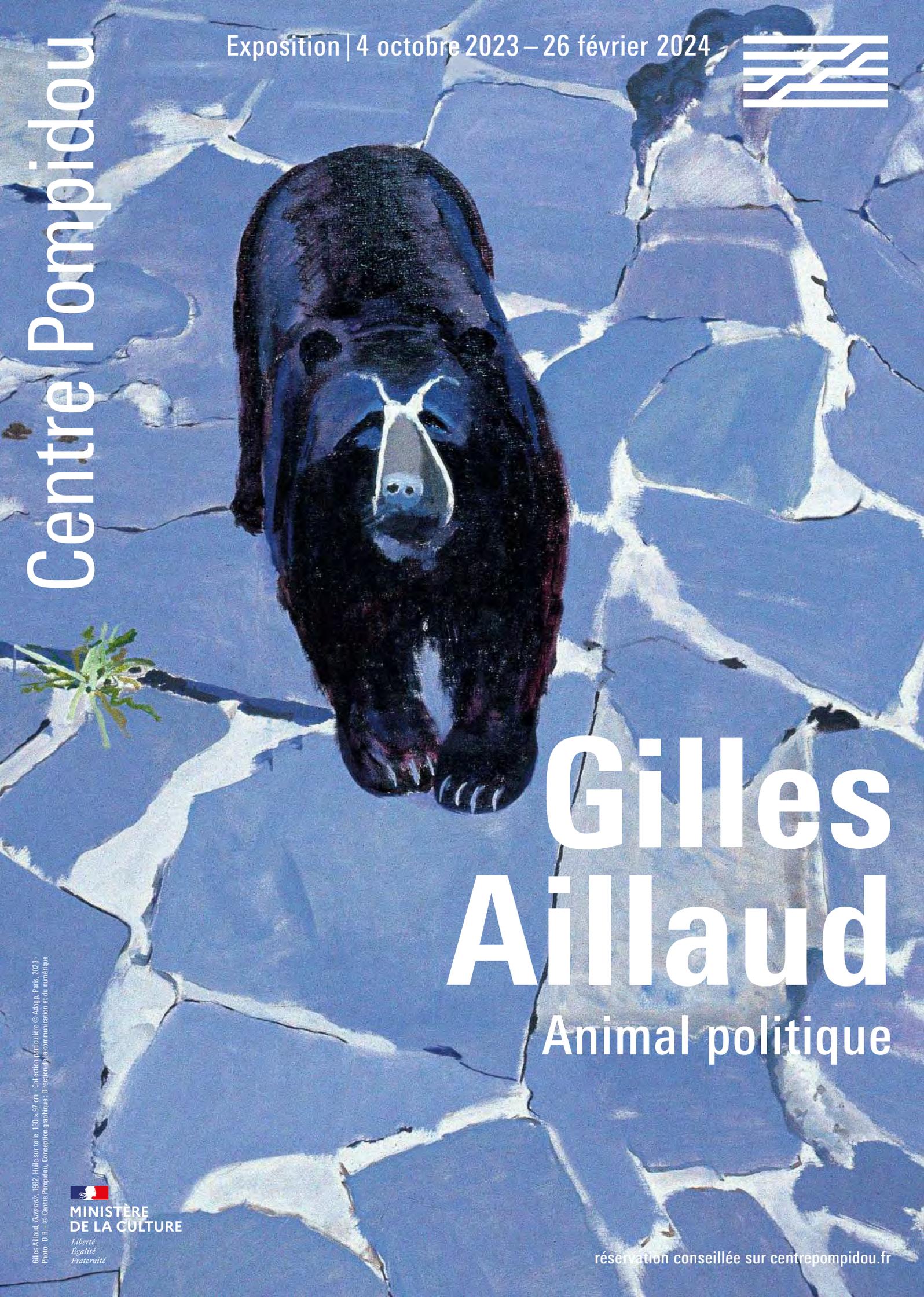
**Gilles
Aillaud**

**Animal
politique**

Centre
Pompidou 

Centre Pompidou

Exposition | 4 octobre 2023 – 26 février 2024



Gilles Aillaud

Animal politique

Gilles Aillaud, *Ours rose*, 1982. Huile sur toile, 130 x 97 cm. Collection particulière © Adagio Paris, 2023.
Photo: D. B. © Centre Pompidou, Conception graphique: Direction de la communication et du numérique



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Gilles Aillaud in Italy, c. 1938. Unidentified photographer.

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