

NICOLAS RUEL: In the Blink of an Eye

Par : Dorota Kozinska 29 mai, 2015

«Inventing a new symmetry is intoxicating, and the search for this discreet sensuousness is what moves both artists and scientists.» (1)

The above quote comes from the website of artist, photographer Nicolas Ruel.

Fascinated by the urban landscape and architecture, he embarked on an impressive project several years ago, 8 seconds, which by now bore a wealth of images. It is also a rich catalogue of international megalopolises, but not only. Docks, highways, villages and parks also catch his eye. This time Ruel turns his camera on his home city, Montreal, in an exhibition not to be missed by anyone whose heartbeat is synchronised with the rhythm of this colourful and unique place.

Using very long exposures, he condenses the photographs into "a kind of 8-second micromovie". As interesting as the technical process is in itself, what is truly a revelation is the final result. Printed onto stainless steel, in large format, his works reveal a landscape at once recognizable and totally painterly, where overlapping scenes create a theatre-like setting. It is no wonder that choreographers and theatre directors like Marie Chouinard and Robert Lepage sought his collaboration, as did Cirque du Soleil. In his latest exhibition at Galerie de Bellefeuille, Montreal takes on an entirely new guise. In Alter Ego the downtown core seems to be growing out of a lush park, while in Aurore, the Olympic Stadium looms like an alien reflection. The golden glow that envelops our mountain in Mont-Royal is stunning, and the view of Lac aux Castors resembles an Impressionistic painting.

Born in Montreal in 1973, Nicolas Ruel is the winner of eight LUX grand prizes. Three monographs of his work have been published: *Inox* (2007), *Elements* (2007) and *Carnival* (2010).

(1) Roland Fivaz, *L'ordre et la volupté* (Order and sensuousness)

NICOLAS RUEL

20 May - 7 July 2015

Galerie de Bellefeuille

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Westmount

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<http://debellefeuille.com>(lien externe)

www.nicolasruel.com(lien externe)

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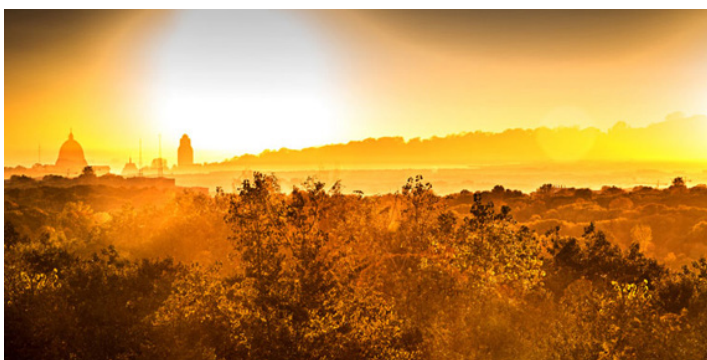
Alter Ego, 2014

Photograph printed on stainless steel
60.9 x 121.9 cm, 101.6 x 203.2 cm, 121.9 x 243.8 cm



Lac aux Castors, 2013

Photograph printed on stainless steel
60.9 x 121.9 cm, 101.6 x 203.2 cm, 121.9 x 243.8 cm



Mont-Royal, 2013

Photograph on stainless steel
60.9 x 121.9 cm, 101.6 x 203.2 cm, 121.9 x 243.8 cm