



ATTIC CUPS
FROM THE J.L. THEODOR
COLLECTION

HARMAKHIS



ATTIC CUPS FROM THE J.L. THEODOR COLLECTION

HARMAKHIS

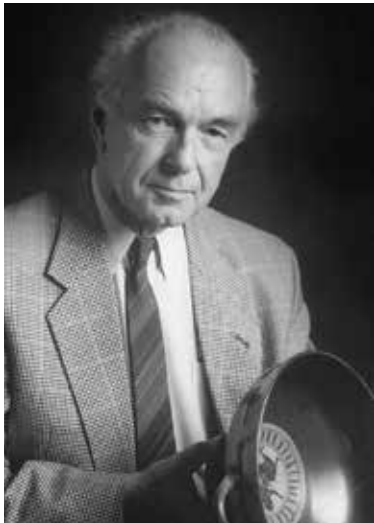
Rue des Minimes 3 (Sablon) - 1000 Brussels - Belgium
Mobile: +32 (0)475 650 285
info@harmakhis.be - www.harmakhis.be

TABLE OF CONTENTS

5	Foreword
6	Lip-cup signed Taleides
10	Lip-cup probably by the Phrynos Painter
14	Lip-cup signed Sokles
18	Band-cup signed Xenokles
20	Lip-cup attributed to the Centaur Painter
24	Band-cup signed Hermogenes
28	Band-cup attributed to Elbows Out
32	Band-cup attributed to the Centaur Painter
36	Window Band-cup
38	Top-Band Stemless Cup
42	Eye-cup attributed to the Nikosthenic Workshop

I would like to express my sincere thanks to Prof. Dr. Herman Brijder who wrote most descriptions in this catalogue and also to my colleague Jean-David Cahn for his description of the Nikosthenic Workshop eye-cup published in the TEFAF 2013 catalogue, which I shortened.

Jacques Billen



Jacques Theodor (right) photographed with Sir Edmund Hillary (left).



Jacques Theodor photographed with Prof. Dr. R.A. Lunsingh Scheurleer (centre) and Prof. Dr. H.A.G. Brijder (right).

FOREWORD

Jacques Theodor is one of the most fascinating personalities whom I have met during my career as a dealer in ancient art and it is a real privilege for me to be given the opportunity to offer for sale his collection of Attic cups.

It is almost impossible to summarise here his unconventional and multi-faceted lifetime. Jacques Theodor was born in Brussels 1926. After a short career in textile industry, Theodor’s life took a totally different turn as a pioneer of scuba diving, underwater photography and as a speleologist in the late 1940’s. Founding member of the *Groupe Belge de Recherche Sous-marine Scientifique*, he combined scientific research and adventure. He explored ship wrecks (Vigo Bay, 1954) and caves, setting in 1953 a world record for speleology at the *Gouffre de la Pierre Saint-Martin* (Pyrénées-Atlantique, France): - 753 meters ! Theodor was then in contact with many famous scholars and personalities, such as Max Cosyns, Jacques Yves-Cousteau, Robert Stenuit, Alain Bombard, the vulcanologist Haroun Tazieff with whom he explored the remnants of *L’Astrolabe*, one of Jean-François de Lapérouse’s two exploring ships that sank off the coast of Vanikoro Island in the Solomon Islands in 1788, or the Everest mountaineer Sir Edmund Hillary to mention but a few. After getting a PhD in biology, Theodor became a renowned specialist in compared immunology and marine pharmacology working for the French *Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS)*. His later research dealt with various aspects of scientific methodology.

Theodor learned Greek and Latin in secondary school, but it is only much later that his interest in antiquity really grew. He acquired 1960 his very first object, a modest undecorated Campanian bowl and after a while he decided to concentrate on Attic black-figure pottery, with an emphasis on cups. His encounter with Prof. Dr. Herman A.G. Brijder, Director of the *Allard Pierson Museum* (Amsterdam, The Netherlands) led to the publication of his collection in the Allard Pierson Series by Dr. Pieter Heesen, the specialist of Little Master Cups. Later on, vases of the collection were donated by Jacques Theodor to the Allard Pierson Museum and others were auctioned at Sotheby’s New York, an auction that proved to be a memorable “white glove sale”. Jacques Theodor also donated Greek vases from his collection to the *Université Catholique de Louvain* museum (*Louvain-la-Neuve*, Belgium).

The cups illustrated in the present catalogue are among Jacques Theodor’s favourite ones : he had kept all of them till today. Undoubtly, they reveal the discerning eye and the excellent taste of one of the best Belgian collectors and connoisseurs of Attic ceramic.

Jacques Billen

ΤΥΛΕΙΔΕΣΙΝ ΟΙΕΣΑΝ



LIP-CUP

C. 550 BC

H.: 12.2 cm; diam.: 16.4 cm; width with handles: 23.6 cm

Sides A and B: galloping centaur holding a boulder, about to throw.

Signature: ΤΑΛΕΙΔΕΣ : ΕΠΟΙΕΣΕΝ (Taleides made me). Palmettes at the handles.

Interior: nude warrior with helmet running to right and holding a round shield in profile.

Inscription painted in white on shield: ΣΩΤΗΡ (saviour); border: group of three concentric rings.

Attributed to the Potter Taleides and the Taleides Painter.

Published:

Heesen, P., The J.L. Theodor Collection of Attic Black-Figure Vases, Allard Pierson Series 10 (Amsterdam 1996) 127-29, n° 29 (attribution), figs 80--83, pl. 29; Heesen P., Mededelingenblad Amsterdam 66--67, 10--12, fig. 10a-b; Heesen, P., Athenian Little-master Cups (Amsterdam 2009) 274, no. 124, pl. 40c-d; Beazley Archive n° 19876.





LIP-CUP

Mid-6th century BC

H.: 15.4 cm; diam.: 21.3 cm; width with handles: 29.4 cm

Sides A and B: a nude youth fighting a swan.

On A, he is turned to the left, confronting the swan. He is holding the swan with his left hand against his left knee and grasping its neck firmly in a stranglehold.

On B: he is turned to the right, facing the swan which is standing on the ground. The youth is about to hit the swan with the stick or club in his raised left hand, while grasping the swan's neck with his right one.

In the handle-zone, panthers are standing turned to the handle attachments, one forepaw lifted. There is a nonsense inscription in the middle.

Interior: reserved disc with two concentric rings and a dot.

By the Phrynos Painter or a painter very close to him.

Not previously published. For the Phrynos Painter, see: Brijder, H.A.G., 'A Band-cup by the Phrynos Painter in Amsterdam', in: Gnade, M. (ed.), *Stips Votiva. Papers presented to C.M. Stibbe* (Amsterdam 1991) 22--30; Heesen, P., *Athenian Little Master Cups* (Amsterdam 2011) 60--71. Cf. also the lip-cup in the Barbara and Lawrence Fleischman collection with comparable panthers at the handles, attributed to the 'Workshop of the Phrynos Painter', in: *A Passion for Antiquities. Ancient Art from the Collection of Barbara and Lawrence Fleischman* (The J. Paul Getty Museum in association with The Cleveland Museum of Art 1994) 79--81, n° 33.



ΛΟΚΛΕΣ ΕΠΟΙΕΝ



LIP-CUP

550/545 BC

H.: 9.1 cm; diam.: 14.1 cm; width with handles: 19 cm

Sides A and B: signature ΣΟΚΛΕΣΕΠΟΙΕΣΕΝ (Sokles made me).
Palmettes at handles.

Interior: medallion with Siren; border: tongue-band.

Attributed to the Potter Sokles and the Sokles Painter.

Published:

Heesen, P., Athenian Little-Master Cups, (Amsterdam 2011) 264, n° 43 (attribution), pl. 12 b-c.



BAND-CUP

550/540 BC

H.: 9.4 cm; diam.: 13.7 cm; width with handles: 19 cm

Sides A and B: signature by the potter Xenokles; ΧΣΕΝΟΚΛΕΣ : ΕΠΟΙΕΣΕΝ (Xenokles made me).

Palmettes at the handles.

Interior: no decoration.

Made by the Potter Xenokles and attributed to the Xenokles Painter.

Published:

Heesen, P., The J.L. Theodor Collection of Attic Black-Figure Vases, Allard Pierson Series 10 (Amsterdam 1996) 124-26, n° 28 (attribution), figs. 77--79, pl. 28; Heesen, P., Mededelingenblad Amsterdam 66--67 (1996) 10--11, fig. 9; Heesen, P., Athenian Little-Master Cups (Amsterdam 2011) 267, no. 77, fig. 2; Beazley Archive n° 19875.





LIP-CUP

C. 540 BC

H.: 9.6 cm; diam.: 13.8 cm; width with handles: 18.7 cm

Side A: bull striding to right.

Side B: boar striding to right.

Handle-zone: not decorated.

Interior: reserved circle with three rings around central dot.

Attributed to the Centaur Painter.

Published:

Catalogue Gallery Vollmöller (Zürich 1984) n° 5228; Catalogue of the 7th Int. Antiquitäten- und Kunstaussstellung (Essen 1984) 117; Fellmann, B., CVA Munich 10 (1988) 33 (attribution); Heesen, P., The J.L. Theodor Collection of Attic Black-Figure Vases, Allard Pierson Series 10 (Amsterdam 1996) 146-48, n° 35, figs. 99--102, pl. 35; Heesen, P., Athenian Little-Master Cups (Amsterdam 2011) 318, n° 566, pl.145b-c; Beazley Archive n° 21033.







BAND-CUP

C. 540/35 BC
H.: 12.6 cm; diam.: 20 cm; width with handles: 29 cm

Side A-B: charioteer and hoplite.

Side A, signed: **HEPM[...]**ΓΕΝΕΣ ΕΠΟΙΕΣΕΝΕΜΕ (Hermogenes made me);
side B, signed: ...]ΓΕΝΕΣ ΕΠΟΙΕΣΕΝΕΜΙ (Hermogenes made me). Palmettes at handles.

Interior: reserved disc with two concentric rings around central dot.

Attributed to the Potter Hermogenes and Hermogenes Painter.

Published:
Invitation card H. A. C. Kunst der Antike, TEFAF, Maastricht 1997; Heesen, P., Athenian Littler-Master
Cups (Amsterdam 2011) 278, n° 164 (attribution), pl. 49b.





BAND-CUP

C. 540 BC.

H.: 12.9cm; diam.: 21.1 cm; width with handles: 29.6 cm

Sides A and B: two opposing stags; on either side, imitation inscriptions.

Palmettes at handles.

Interior: reserved disc with one ring.

Attributed to Elbows Out.

Published:

Atelier Amphora, Catalogo 1, Animali nel mondo antico (Lugano 1992) no. 45; Heesen, P., The J.L. Theodor Collection of Attic Black-Figure Vases, Allard Pierson Series 10 (Amsterdam 1996) 161--63, n° 40 (attribution), figs. 119--21, pl. 40.







BAND-CUP

540/530 BC

H.: 12.1 cm; diam.: 17.0 cm; width with handles: 21.6 cm

Sides A-B: warrior running to right, looking round, being attacked from both sides by archer.

Interior: reserved disc with two concentric circles.

Attributed to the Centaur Painter.

Published:

Sotheby's (New York), auction catalogue June 12, 2001, n° 43; J.-D. Cahn AG, Auktion 5 (Basel, September 2005) n° 396; Heesen, P., Athenian Little-Master Cups (Amsterdam 2011) 315, n° 527, pl. 131b (attribution); Beazley Archive n° 24506.



WINDOW BAND-CUP

540/530 BC
H.: 9.0 cm; diam.: 15.0 cm

Sides A-B: a bull going to right in a reserved window in the black handle-zone.
Interior: no decoration.

Related to the Centaur Painter.

Published:
Blatter, R., 'Eine ungewöhnliche Kleinmeisterschale', AA 82 (1967) 12--14, figs. 1--2; N. Malagardis, 'Coupes à lucarne à figures noires: une création attique. Un étrange attelage au service d'Héraclès sur une coupe à lucarne de Sellada, Théra', in: E.M. Moormann and V.V. Stissi (eds.), Shapes and Images. Studies on Attic Black Figure and Related Topics in Honour of Herman A. G. Brijder, BABesch Supplement 14 (2009) 104, n° 7, fig. 13a-b.





TOP-BAND STEMLESS CUP

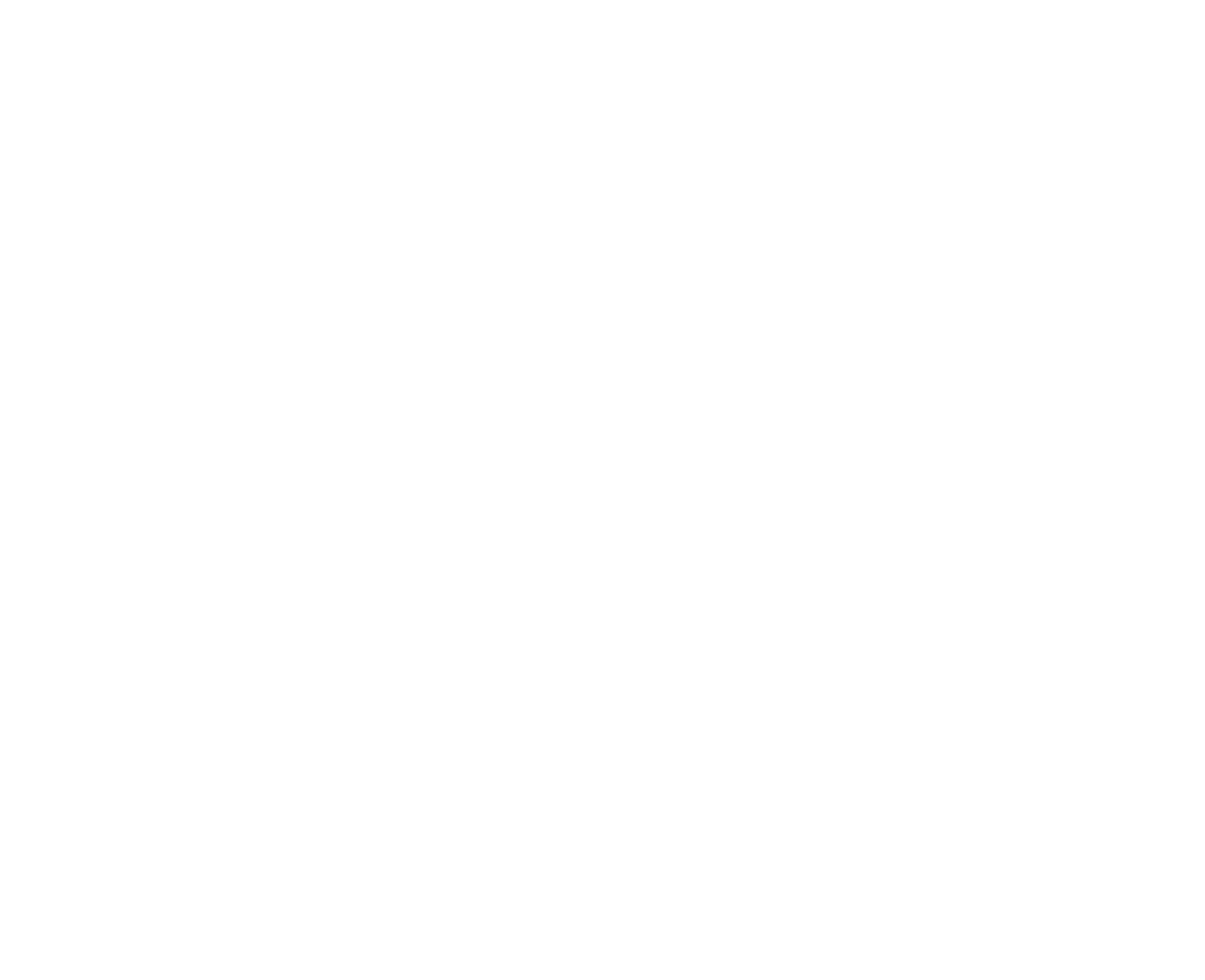
C. 530 BC
H.: 7.2 cm; diam.: 18 cm; width with handles: 23.4 cm

Sides A-B: top painted black. Handle-zone: eyes with thin brows and nose; sprays at the handles.
Interior: tondo with gorgoneion.

Not attributed.

Published:
Kunst der Antike, Galerie Günter Puhze, Katalog 24 (Freiburg im Breisgau 2011) 49, n° 91.







C. 530-520 BC
H.: 11,6 cm; diam.: 27 cm; width with handles: 34,7 cm.

Between two eyes are two heraldic male busts overlapping and rightward facing.

Side A: bearded male positioned behind and slightly ahead of a warrior in Corinthian helmet.

Side B : a similar pair, with beardless youth and a warrior in Corinthian helmet.
In the handle-zones are depicted lone sirens.

Interior: a circumscribed dot within a small circular reserved field.

Attributed to the Nikosthenic Workshop

Published:
Catalogue TEFAF 2013, Cahn International AG, pp. 378-9 (formerly Collection P.Y. Becker, Cannes, 1999).



Many thanks
to Nathalie and Alain Speltdoorn for the photography,
to Jean-Christophe Geluck and Thierry Suykens for the lay-out,
to Michel Bertulot for the printing of the catalogue.

Galerie Harmakhis
Rue des Minimes 3 (Sablon) - 1000 Brussels - Belgium
Mobile: +32 (0)475 650 285
info-harmakhis.be
www.harmakhis.be

Copyright Harmakhis 2018



