

Philip Baldwin & Monica Guggisberg



Risking the journey: carrying the seeds of memory

ETIENNEGALLERY



Anecdotes in Laughter
L57cm x H11cm x W10cm



Philip Baldwin & Monica Guggisberg

18 oktober - 15 november 2009



Preview zaterdag 17 oktober na telefonische afspraak

OPENING EXPOSITIE

zondag 18 oktober 2009 - 15.00 - 17.00 uur

in aanwezigheid van

Philip Baldwin & Monica Guggisberg

Risking the Journey

"Philip, you're too formal. Speak from within as if we were on the telephone, like you normally do. When you write you sound like an art critic."

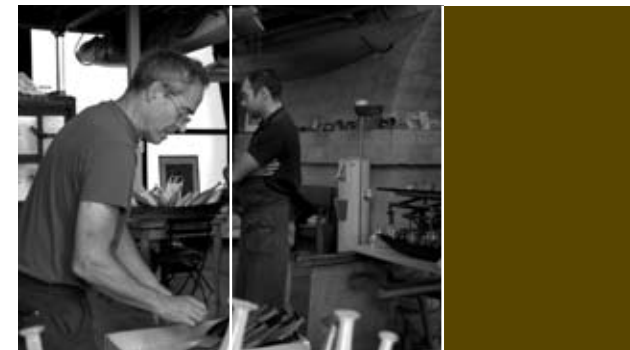
Oh dear. Serious conversations with Monica, regrouping, trying on a new hat. Well now, let's see, maybe we can kill two birds with one stone:

Growing up in Bern, land-locked Switzerland, but with a father who was a self-made man and sailor. He took me all over the Mediterranean Seas. And then when I met Philip I got to sail on the US East Coast, a bit of the North Atlantic. Philip thought he wanted to be a boat builder. But sailing boats is a faster deal than building them. Glassblowing is more like sailing. You start out, all eager and pleased, and no sooner are you out than your mind is focused on how the heck you're going to get safely home. Yes, there is much in common between these two métiers, hot, fast, intense, and sometimes dangerous. The risks of failure are endlessly looming.

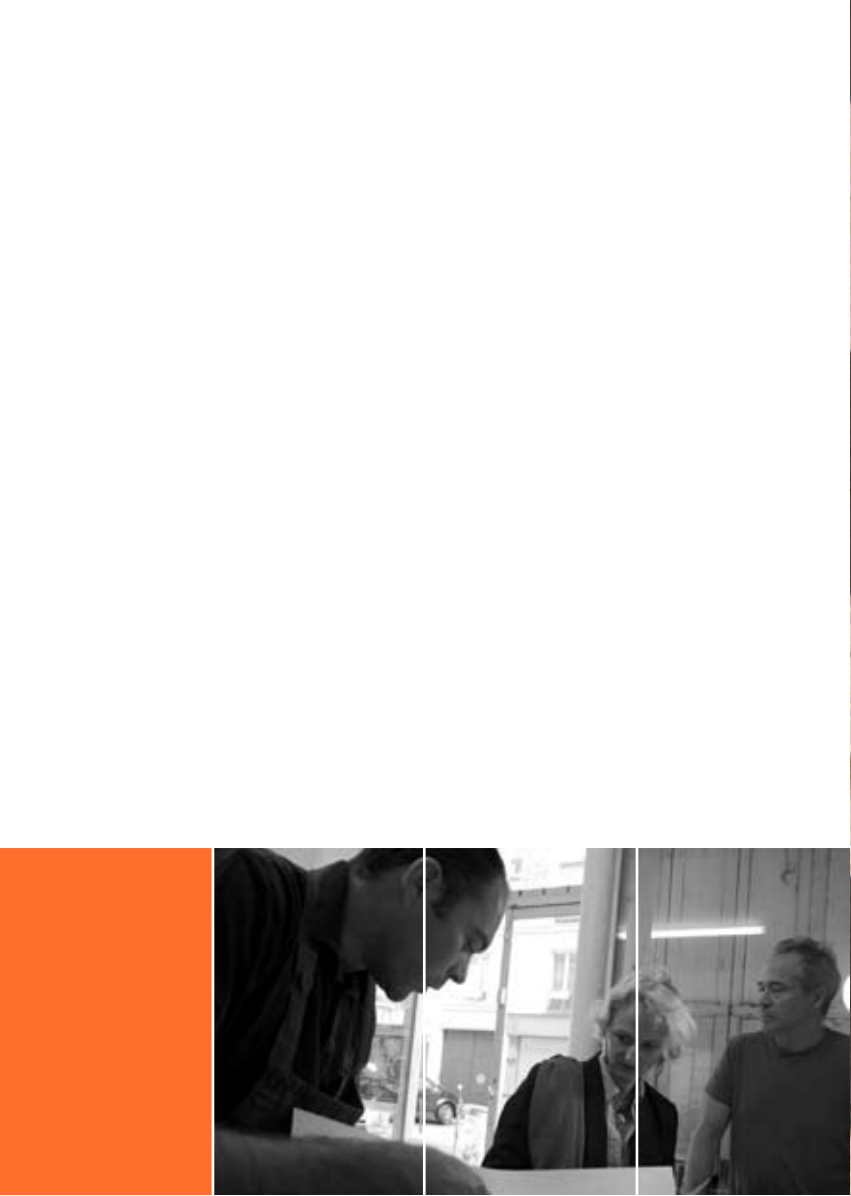
Philip rejected boat-building, and yet in a way we have always been building boats. And now we are actually putting our glass in boats. Why? Well look at the boats, look at their simple clear lines. Wouldn't you want to put your glass in these beautiful objects, delicate like a Viking ship or an Irish Currach. Built for speed, and destination. Floating on the surface, and as fragile as their cargo.

And this show is also about the cargo, for once, genuinely autobiographical, for we are embarked on a new journey, a destination unknown, carrying on our backs the memories of our culture, our civilization, and our own personal stories. Grain, seeds, artifacts, wine, whiskey, gold, silver, all the "stuffs" of our millennia old civilizations carried down through the ages, to say nothing of the stories themselves, the wandering of peoples all across this magnificent planetary landscape. People just like us. Seeking, questing, looking for new horizons, and carrying their culture, their history and stories on their backs, in carts, and in boats. It's our story. It's humankind's story.

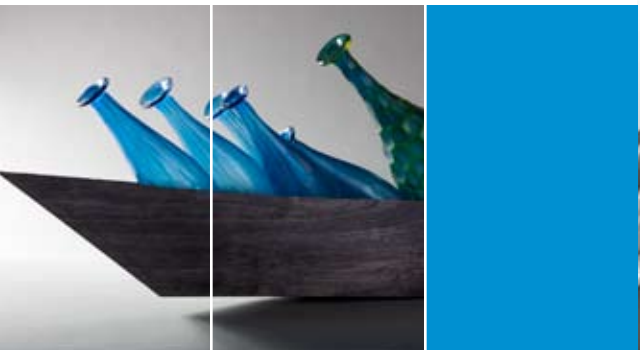
Monica Guggisberg & Philip Baldwin

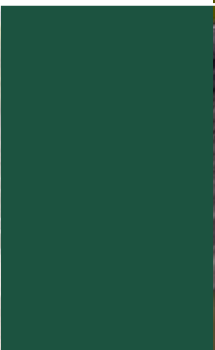
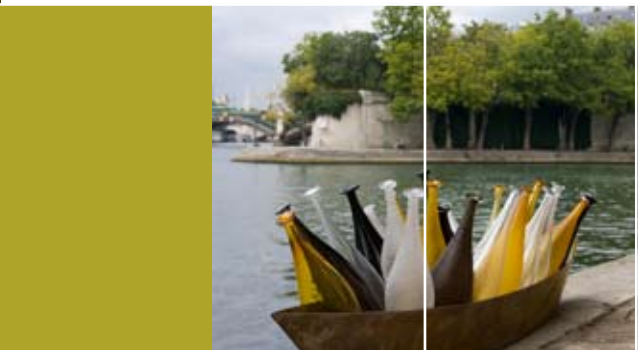


First Memories
L140 cm x W 35 cm x H35 cm



The Red Queen
L 140 cm x W 50 cm x H 42 cm







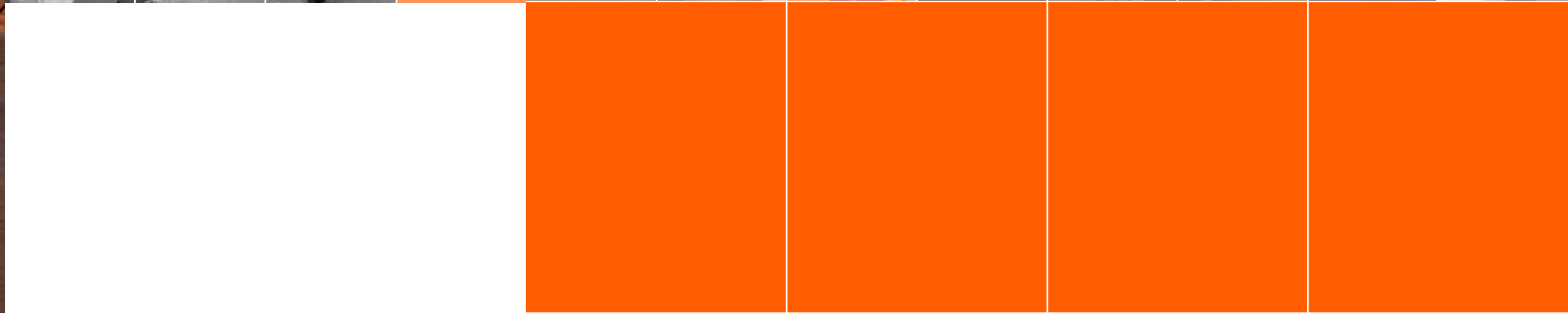


Metalwork:
Alain Nicolet, Yverdon, Switzerland

Woodwork:
Pascal Kent, Paris France

Glassblowing and cutting:
Philip and Monica, Jean-Charles Miot,
Riccardo Ferro, Ian Baldwin, Pietro Ferro

Photography:
Gaetane Girard, Paris, France



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Journey in Twilight, L110 cm x W20cm x H25cm

Openingstijden:
woensdag t/m zondag van 12.00 tot 17.00 uur
maandag en dinsdag op afspraak