



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LUSUS NATURAE

By 100TAUR & HISHAM ECHAFAKI



Private View: 14 October 2015, 6 - 10 PM
Exhibition Dates: 14 – 16 October 2015
94 Leonard Street, London EC2A 4RH

Lusus Naturae is a two-person exhibition with French artists **100TAUR** and **Hisham Echafaki** featuring a series of new paintings, drawings and three dimensional works.

In natural history, the latin terminology '**Lusus Naturae**' is used to describe any creature or specimen that defied classification, an animal or a person that is markedly unusual or a freak of nature.

Curated by **Butterflyartnews**, the show explores notions of anthropomorphism, human fascination with oddities or monstrosities and our fragile relationship with the natural world.

The works on display invite the viewer into a world where fantastical hybrid creatures evolve alongside wonderfully bizarre animal figures. **100TAUR**'s mythical monsters are portrayed in a surrealist dark enchanted world with colourful details rich in narrative.

Hisham Echafaki's paintings play with intricate repetitive patterns found in nature and examine the impact that humankind exerts on its fragile balance. For the first time Hisham Echafaki will also present a series of his three-dimensional paintings. Using a unique technique of resin layering and acrylic paint, the artist meticulously builds layers to create three-dimensional insects in transparent boxes. Oniric butterflies, bees and dragonflies appear to be suspended and preserved in the manner of fragile taxidermy insects.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Based in Toulouse, French artist [100TAUR](#) (pronounced Centaur) is a multidisciplinary artist belonging to the Low Brow movement. Halfway between innocence and horror, his artworks explore the concepts of difference and imperfection with dark enchanted creatures through graffiti murals, installations, drawings, paintings, engraving and taxidermy sculptures. Each tiny detail of his work pays tribute to the famous sentence by Francisco De Goya "The sleep of reason produces monsters".

Having been widely exhibited since 2005 in France, Italy and the US, his artworks are also part of the permanent collection of the Museum of Toulouse. And more recently his latest large scale mural 'Saint Dominique' for the 800th anniversary of the 'Order of the Preachers' has been nominated as historical building for the Journées du Patrimoine 2015 in France.

[Hisham Echafaki](#) is a French contemporary artist based in London. Having exhibited in Paris, London and Marrakesh, his artwork explores symmetrical patterns and a fascination for the animal world (in particular; insects).

Through elaborate representational techniques in oil, acrylic or resin, his intricate compositions evoke a sense of wonderment for nature's colours and patterns reminiscent of traditional 'trompe-l'oeil' art but with an anthropomorphic quality to them, like his portrait of David Bowie which was featured in the 2013 Exhibition 'The Many Faces of David Bowie' in London.

[Butterflyartnews](#) has been supporting and nurturing emerging and established talents in the urban and comporary art scene by documenting the creative process in numerous publications and curating events at an international level. Some of the projects include Shepard Fairey's mural 'Rise Above Rebel' in Paris, curating Urban Masters exhibition with Opera Gallery in London, and 'Au dela du Street Art' at the Musee de la Poste in Paris.

For press enquiries, interview or image requests,
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