

**LES DOUCHES
LA GALERIE**

PRESS KIT

THE THINGS OF LIFE

**MARCEL ARTHAUD • PIERRE BOUCHER
RENÉ JACQUES • JEAN MORAL • ROGER PARRY
JEAN ROUBIER • ANDRÉ STEINER • RENÉ ZUBER**



© Brigitte Moral / Courtesy Les Douches la Galerie, Paris

OPENING ON JANUARY 23 FROM 6 TO 9 PM

EXHIBITION FROM JANUARY 24 TO MARCH 14, 2020

Les Douches la Galerie is pleased to present the group show *The Things of Life*, featuring works by Marcel Arthaud, Pierre Boucher, René Jacques, Jean Moral, Roger Parry, Jean Roubier, André Steiner and René Zuber, with the complicity of Eric Remy.

Artisans of the experimental New Vision in the 1930s, these photographers captured the essence of simple moments, the strangeness of a faded object or the fugacity of a light ray in a familiar interior.

Les Douches la Galerie
5, rue Legouvé 75010 Paris
lesdoucheslagalerie.com

Contact : Françoise Morin
+33 (1) 78 94 03 00
contact@lesdoucheslagalerie.com

From Wednesday to Saturday
from 2 to 7 pm
or by appointment

THE THINGS OF LIFE

PRESS RELEASE

Straying from the classical themes that photography had tackled as a rival to painting, some young photographers of the 1920s-30s started pointing their easier-to-handle cameras towards more intimate and emotional subjects, giving up the conventionality of landscapes.

They found inspiration in their daily lives, unless they were busy with commissioned work (portraits, advertisements, features or news).

Their partner, their workshop or a tangle of objects inspired them to capture the poetic charm of a fleeting moment.

No need for a studio with sophisticated lighting, or complicated compositions in an effort to achieve striking effects: it was the subject that mattered, offering up its simplicity and ordinariness – but full of the poetry of the moment.

A scene would appear before the eye of the beholder.

A self-taught photographer, Jean Moral wandered the streets of Paris and captured some parts of the city with an audacious way of framing. But it was his partner Juliette, whom he had met in 1927, who became his favourite model. Straying from classical posing, Moral broke her body down. An arm or a leg would become more than a compositional element – an object of desire. Far from the coldness of abstract compositions, his pictures burst with erotic tension. Jean Moral would touch his partner with his camera so that her skin would seem within reach.

With André Steiner or Pierre Boucher, discarded objects found a second life. Doomed to disappear after good and faithful service, they were saved from oblivion. The entanglement of old objects would attract the eye one last time. Dolls, tailor's dummies, masks – modest human doubles came back to life for a posed picture.

Sometimes, the eye of the photographer was caught by a subtle light or shadow effect. Marcel Arthaud captured the waving shadow of a balcony railing on an immaculate net curtain momentarily turned into a graphic canvas showing the mysterious powers of light.

As for Zuber, he was interested in the light playing on glass panels and the aesthetic power of printer trays in his own workshop.

A disturbing strangeness sometimes emerges from some of these pictures – a sense of insecurity. As witnesses to transient moments or the uncertainty of the future, they are often imbued with a sense of nostalgia.

Taken with the sole purpose of keeping a trace of a fleeting emotion or sensation, they are small silver poems, silent echoes of the things of life.

Éric Rémy

THE THINGS OF LIFE

IMAGES

Jean Moral

Sans titre, 1935

Gelatin silver print

Size: 27 x 21 cm

Stamped on verso

© Brigitte Moral SAIF Paris Collection

ADAGP

Courtesy Les Douches la Galerie, Paris

N° Inv. JM1902003



Pierre Boucher

Sans titre, c. 1937

Gelatin silver print

Size: 18 x 23,8 cm

Stamped on verso

© Jean-Louis Boucher

Courtesy Les Douches la Galerie, Paris

N° Inv. PB1902002



Roger Parry

Pieds sur la plage, c.1930

Gelatin silver print, contrecollé sur carton

Size: 22,6 x 15,9 cm

Stamped on verso

Courtesy Les Douches la Galerie, Paris

N° Inv. RP1912001



THE THINGS OF LIFE

IMAGES

Marcel Arthaud

Sans titre, n.d

Gelatin silver print

Size: 22,8 x 16,7 cm

Stamped on verso

Courtesy Les Douches la Galerie, Paris

N° Inv. MA1912001



René Zuber

Plaques de verre, 1929

Gelatin silver print

Size: 17,2 x 12,5 cm

Unique

Stamped on verso

© René Zuber

Courtesy Les Douches la Galerie, Paris

N° Inv. RZ1912001



René Jacques

Marie Antoinette, c. 1935

Gelatin silver print

Size: 19,3 x 11,7 cm

Stamped on verso

Courtesy Les Douches la Galerie, Paris

N° Inv. RJ1912001



Les Douches la Galerie

5, rue Legouvé 75010 Paris

01 78 94 03 00 | lesdoucheslagalerie.com

THE THINGS OF LIFE

IMAGES

Jean Roubier

Sans titre, n.d.

Gelatin silver print

Size: 21,2 x 17,7 cm

Unique

Signed by the artist

Courtesy Les Douches la Galerie, Paris

N° Inv. JR1912001



André Steiner

Sans titre, n.d.

Gelatin silver print

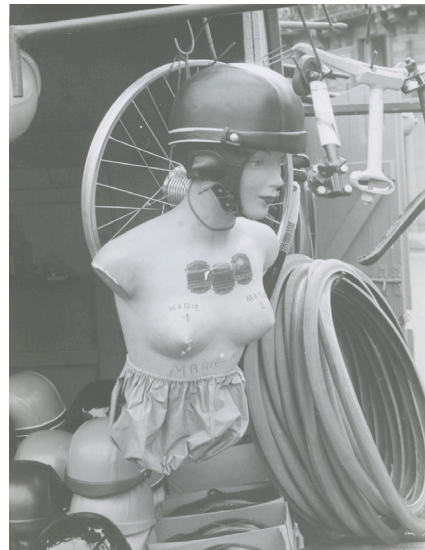
Size: 23,7 x 18,2 cm

Unique

Stamped on verso

Courtesy Les Douches la Galerie, Paris

N° Inv. AS1912001



Les Douches la Galerie

5, rue Legouvé 75010 Paris

01 78 94 03 00 | lesdoucheslagalerie.com