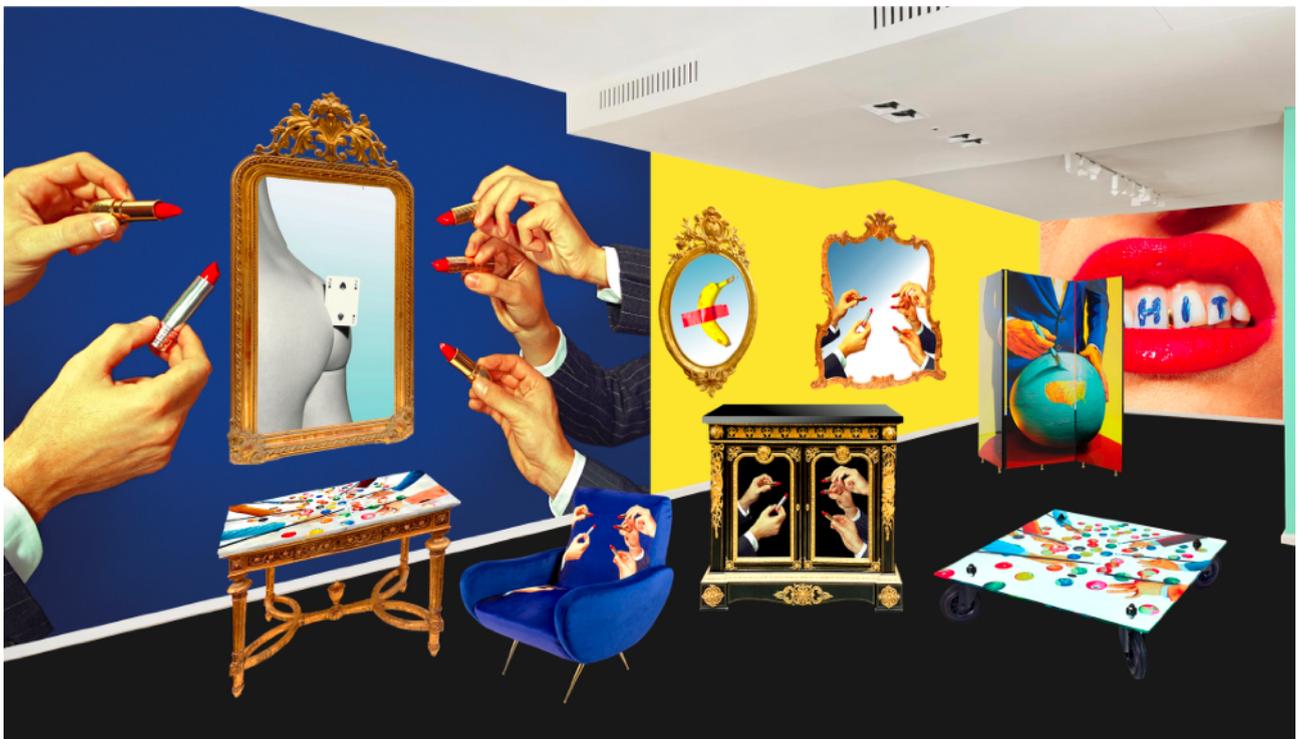


TOILETPAPER

AUGUST 3 - SEPTEMBER 2, 2018

Kustlaan 90, Knokke



We are delighted to announce Toiletpapers' first exhibition at our gallery, a tongue-in-cheek exhibition of antique furniture redesigned by artist Maurizio Cattelan and photographer Pierpaolo Ferrari. The works stand out against the powerful but sober environmental works of Justin Brice Guariglia in the second part of the show.

Founded in 2010 by Maurizio Cattelan and Pierpaolo Ferrari, Toiletpaper started as an unparalleled magazine. It is a half-artist's book, mid-magazine, that questions our contemporary obsession with images by exploring our most untold desires and impulses.

Consisting exclusively of photographs, each of which is painstakingly constructed within a specific mental environment, Toiletpaper perverts the codes of media iconography, borrowing from fashion, advertising, cinema, combining commercial photography, twisted visual narratives and surreal imagery to create a series of striking paintings, mixtures of disturbing normality and disturbing ambiguity, in front of which the dread mixes with the visual pleasure.

As a work of art as such, Toiletpaper also questions, through the accessibility of the magazine format and a wide distribution, the nature and limits of the contemporary art market.

Their first show in Belgium will exhibit unique pieces of antique furniture, redecorated with the provocative and humorous imagery of Toiletpaper.

Maurizio Cattelan is a contemporary Italian Conceptual artist. Known equally for his dark humor as for his realistic sculpture, he frequently depicts celebrities, art historical figures, or taxidermied animals in comically absurd scenes. Cattelan takes inspiration from the Dadaist and Surrealist movements to create his biting and surreal satire, as evidenced in *La Nona Ora* (*The Ninth Hour* (1999)), where Pope John Paul II is struck down by a meteor, or in *Not Afraid of Love* (2000), where a life-sized elephant stands hidden in a white sheet, its curious eyes peering out from two cut holes. His work alludes to a sense of failure or shame through psychological projection, and has at times sparked controversy for their irreverence towards normally revered figures.

Born in 1960 in Padua, Italy, Cattelan originally worked as a furniture maker in Forlì before embarking on his art career. He went on to participate in the 1993, 1997, 1999, 2002, and 2011 Venice Biennales as well the 2004 Whitney Biennial, and was the subject of a 2011 retrospective titled *All* at the Guggenheim Museum in New York, hanging a massive chandelier arrangement of his works from the center of the building's famous rotunda.

Cattelan lives and works between Milan, Italy and New York, NY.



Toiletpaper, *Two of spades / Due di Picche*, 2017
Shaped gilt wood mirror with carved and pierced crest decorated with volutes and canvas scrolls
North Italy (Piemont) around 1880
121 x 143 cm | 47 2/3 x 56 1/3 in

Pierpaolo Ferrari was born and raised in Milan (1971) where he developed his passion for photography and art. Since 1994 he specialised in advertising photography, collaborating with all the major agencies like BBDO, McCann Erikson, DDB, Saatchi and Saatchi, Cheil Communication, Thompson and Widen & Kennedy, working for brands like Nike, Mercedes, Vespa, BMW, Sony, Rayban, Heineken and the Biennale of Venice. His portrait for Campari has been chosen for the Cover of Archive Magazine and he amongst the top10 ranked photographer in the magazine.

In 2006, with Federico Pepe, he realised *Le Dictateur*, a luxury art magazine, publishing personal artworks from the best artists and photographers from all over the world. Ferrari then teamed up with Cattelan to created Toiletpaper in 2010.

Ferrari lives and works between Milan, Italy and New York, NY.

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