

BLOUIN **modern** painters

ART / ARCHITECTURE / DESIGN / PERFORMANCE / FILM

OCTOBER 2018



TOP WOMEN ARTISTS

**ROBERT COMBAS,
ECCE HOMO**

**+ JÉRÔME NEUTRES ON MIRÓ RETROSPECTIVE
AT THE GRAND PALAIS IN PARIS**

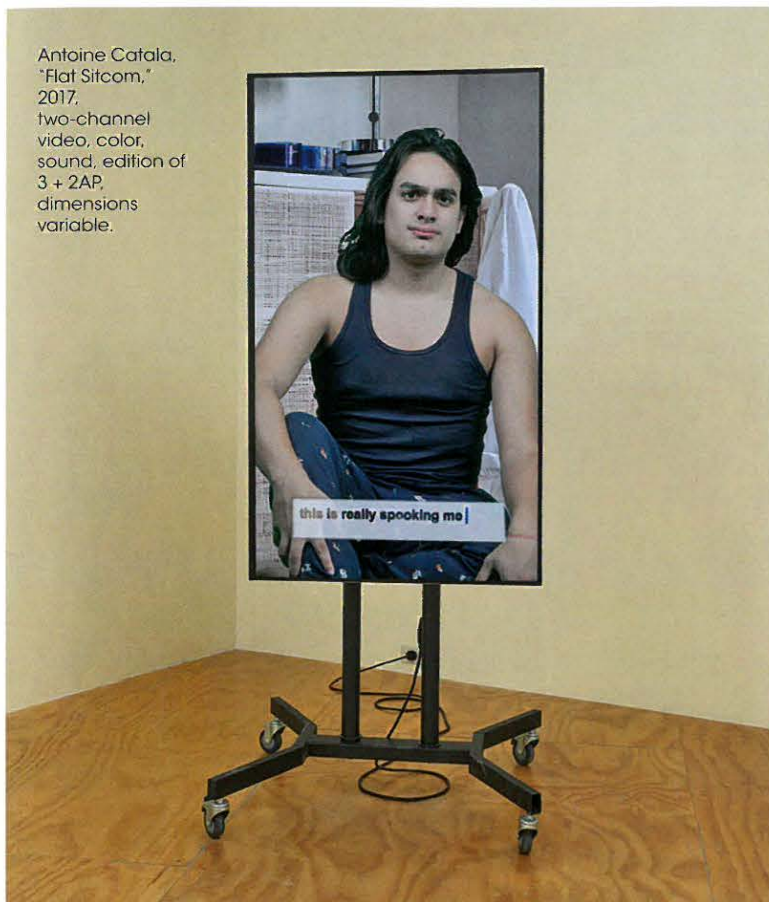


LEFT: Antoine Catala, "Everything is Okay (ground)," 2017, latex, wood, foam, pump, edition of 3 + 2AP, 58 x 36 in. / 147.32 x 91.44 cm.

RIGHT: Antoine Catala "Bandaid (Desert)," 2017, latex, wood, foam, pump, edition of 3 + 2AP, 58 x 36 in. / 147.32 x 91.44 cm.



Antoine Catala, "Flat Sitcom," 2017, two-channel video, color, sound, edition of 3 + 2AP, dimensions variable.



LEFT: Antoine Catala, "I am here for you (t-shirt)," 2017, silicone rubber, coated foam, resin coated foam, pneumatic, edition of 3 + 2AP, 10 x 34 x 31 in. / 25.40 x 86.36 x 78.74 cm.

LONDON

Antoine Catala's Loaded Emojis at Marlborough Contemporary

"Everything is Okay: Season 2," an exhibition of social media-inspired work by the French artist Antoine Catala, is on view at Marlborough Contemporary in London through October 13.

"Text messages allow us to communicate as quickly as we speak," the gallery says. "They enable multiple conversations at once, bridge geographical distance, and fit around our modern, fragmented lives, reflecting our easily distracted minds. Catala explores how this minimal version of interpersonal communication can lead to misunderstanding, and in a time lapse

between messages, discomfort can easily grow. This is where emojis come in — symbols to diffuse tension and state the intended 'mood' of the message as a substitution of vocal intonation."

"The show has the feel of a haunted house, driven by a loop of videos and songs as an opera in multiple acts," in the description of the gallery. "It is centred around a narrative and transforms the gallery space into an uncanny domestic setting."

The gallery says that Catala is influenced by the media theorist Marshall McLuhan, who, long before the internet

emerged, predicted the hazards of mass communication taken to its extreme ends. McLuhan warned of the "manipulation of our senses for the benefit of private bodies" and propaganda in the electronic age could profoundly alter people's perspectives in unhealthy ways — as in the rise of 'Fake News' currently infecting the global political scene. "In his works, Catala reflects how communication is almost entirely corporation driven and is shaped and owned by the platforms we use. Hence, emojis become a refuge for individualism," the gallery says.

www.marlboroughcontemporary.com