

Ludo. 'The Ten Commitments'

An exhibition & tattoo parlour featuring 10 original artworks & 10 tattoos

Opening Friday, October 13

The Garage, Amsterdam



Ludo, 'Love' and 'Forever Ever'- Two of Ten Artworks Featured in *The Ten Commitments*.
Originals, Pencil & Oil Paint on 300gsm Arches Paper, Signed & Dated by the Artist, 31 x 41 cm.

The Garage is excited to announce the return of French artist Ludo to Amsterdam with a new exhibition and tattoo parlour *The Ten Commitments*, opening October 13.

In addition to his signature style of black, white, and neon green, Ludo is known for his nature and technology hybrids that display his dystopian yet romantic musings through his impeccable hand.

The Ten Commitments presents 10 new artworks and 10 tattoo designs, with tattooing taking place centrally in the gallery through the exhibition.

“Every day I cross people with wishes and dreams, but how many of them have goals they are truly willing to commit to?” asks Ludo. Taking the rose as its central emblem, *The Ten Commitments* uses this iconic symbol to explore the promises we make to ourselves and those around us.

“Be happy, be depressed, be romantic, be naughty, be rich...at least go for it!” Ludo says, “Life is short and there will be enough time to remorse in our graves. ‘Get rich or die tryin’ said the famous philosopher 50 Cent. Dude is now broke, but I guess it makes sense, don’t *just* dream.”

Taking this a step further, *The Ten Commitments* provides the chance to make a promise, a personal pact or the opportunity to “go for it” by having a Ludo artwork inked permanently on your skin.

Book an appointment to get tattooed in the gallery and choose between 10 Ludo tattoo designs. Tattoos are created with black ink and uniquely finished with Ludo green, directed by the artist.

“Commitment is a global issue. Europe for sure. Look at Catalonia, look at Brexit, and equally look at China - committed to change and pushing ahead,” says Mark Chalmers, founder and director, The Garage, “Ludo is one of the few European artists who has broken through to be widely celebrated in China. This is a symbolic show and we’re super excited about it.”

The artist will be present Friday, October 13 at the opening of the exhibition and tattoo parlour and throughout the weekend during gallery hours.

The Ten Commitments is a unique show offering a new series of Ludo works on the wall, or onto your body, depending on how far you’re willing to commit.



Ludo 'The Ten Commitments' Tattoo Flash Designs.

The work of Paris-based Ludo (Ludovic Vernhet), often called Nature’s Revenge, explores a world where biotechnological chimeras offer to merge plants and animals with our technological universe. Through his work, Ludo aims to reveal the opposites that cohabit our world, often taking unlikely

pairings to absurd lengths. These dualities are reconciled by the artist through the creation of hybrid organisms.

Drawn with the precision of botanical illustrations, this new order of hybrid organisms is both elegant and ferocious, simple & sometimes caustic. Butterflies become brass knuckles; carnivorous plants bare rows of hunting-knife teeth; bees hover hidden behind gas masks and goggles; automatic weapons crown the head of sunflowers; human skulls cluster together like grapes.

As a protean figure of contemporary creation, Ludo expresses himself in various media, locations and sizes, including giant murals on the walls of streets worldwide, and gallery and museum exhibitions presenting installations, canvas, drawing, sculpture and photography all with his signature style of black, white and neon green.

In 2017 alone, Ludo has presented a reunion solo show at Paris' esteemed Magda Danysz gallery, was recognised as a key figure in the landscape of urban art through the creation, exhibition and acquisition of a new sculpture in the permanent collection of the newly established Musée Urban Nation in Berlin, and as a continuation of his *Epherma* project, created of a new large-scale installation in the middle of Guangzhou, China's second most populous city, an endeavour supported by the governments of China and France.

Regardless of the medium or technique used, Ludo's work provokes the enthusiasm of international collectors, galleries and museums worldwide. Of particular note, Ludo has exhibited at the Shanghai Power Station of Art Museum, CAFA Peking & Centre Pompidou Paris.



Ludo, *Epherma* project, Shanghai, 2014.

The Ten Commitments opens to the public on Friday, October 13 with tattoo parlour and drinks reception taking place from 18.00-21.00. The show and parlour run for the weekend of Saturday, October 14 & Sunday 15 from 11.00-17.00, with tattoo appointments available throughout this time. The Garage is located at Brouwersgracht 75, Amsterdam.

For press inquiries, catalogue, and tattoo info & bookings please contact:
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Portrait of Ludo, Photo by Søren Solkær