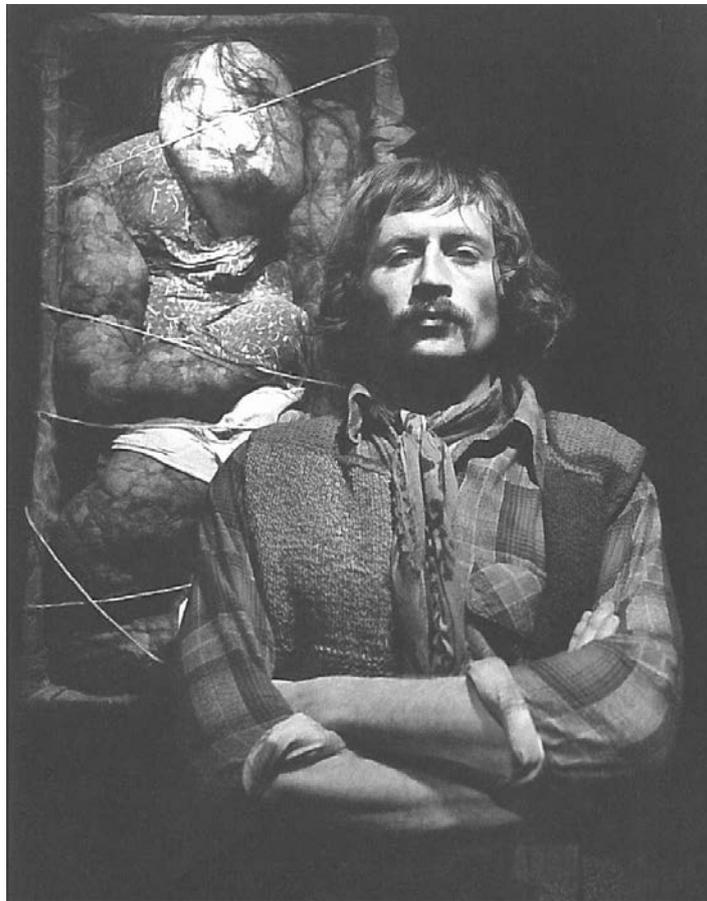


FRANCIS MARSHALL AND THE BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE



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THE GALLERY OF EVERYTHING

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FRANCIS MARSHALL (B 1946)

FRANCIS MARSHALL, untitled

Living on the outskirts of Paris, FRANCIS MARSHALL's mysterious practice is inextricably intertwined with his unconventional life. Working over forty-years to create a society of more than four-hundred figurative sculptures, his work draws from the 'raw' state, uncooked by socially indoctrinated cultural influences.

MARSHALL's stuffed objects and figures are made from pieces of wood, rags, old nylons, discarded bicycles, radios, cupboards and debris found on the banks of the River Seine. His is the material of the discarded, a world of apparent darkness is filled with dystopian humour. His population are assembled in familiar quotidian scenes, they collapse into splintered furniture, they arrange themselves around kitchen tables.

In this world of delapidation, there is levity and charm that captivates and lures us into spending time in the strange company of this country cast. Faces smile up from slumped bodies and peek through cupboard doors, an obedient dog waits for his grinning master and old mouldy shoes sit in neat lines as bundles of discarded clothes tumble from mouldy shelving. A tree of poetic musings points to nowhere, as a haggerdy girl makes off on a bright pink bicycle.

Discovered Alain Bourbonnais the undiscovered champion of Art Brut and founder of La Fabuloserie MARSHALL's work was first exhibited in 1973 at the Jacob workshop in Paris. Since then, MARSHALL has exhibited internationally at the Musée d'Art Moderne (France), American Visionary Art Museum (USA), Kunstrai (Netherlands) and notably at The Hayward Gallery in the seminal 'Outsiders' exhibition in 1979.

MARSHALL's works are in collections internationally including La Fabuloserie in France and The Museum of Everything.

The sprawling studio of **FRANCIS MARSHALL** is an open-air theatre of wondrous and peculiar folk. For the population of this artistic endeavour are the random and everyday, the curious and the bored, where family feasts and abandoned waiting-rooms squash their cast's bulbous bodies into tight-fitted space.

MARSHALL's people are beautiful people. They live in the wilderness, unattended for decades, and their skins share a patina of dirt, stink and sun. Like the leathery works of a time long forgot, **MARSHALL**'s figures seem to mirror the personality of their maker. They yearn for another kind of life.

Championed by Alain Bourbonnais - the legendary founder of La Fabuloserie in Dicy, France - **MARSHALL**'s work was first made public in 1973 at Atelier Jacob in Paris. Since then he has been exhibited at the Musee d'Art Modern (France), American Visionary Art Museum (USA) and Hayward Gallery in the seminal Outsiders exhibition in 1979.

Now **MARSHALL**'s cast of outsiders are housed in a gallery for the first time after years of exterior imprisonment. The Gallery of **Everything** invites you to sit amongst **FRANCIS MARSHALL**'s beautiful people, to wait for the bus, to drink soup and to ride discarded bicycles, until the summer sun fades.

The artist will be in attendance for the opening of the exhibition.

FRANCIS MARSHALL AND THE BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE also features a selection of works by Liberian artist **JOHNSON WEREE**.

The Gallery of **Everything** is London's first and only commercial space dedicated to non-academic and private art-making. The gallery's roster includes major historical master artists & newly discovered authors and creators. Events include group and solo exhibitions, talks, readings & happenings. Please visit www.gallevery.com



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