

Amanda Wei Gallery presents:

French graffiti artist KONGO's solo show *La French Touch*

World-renowned graffiti artist Cyril Kongo is bringing his solo show ***La French Touch*** to Amanda Wei Gallery, located at Soho, Central, on 8th December. A series of bright-colored, street-inspired paintings and sculptures will be exhibiting, spreading the message of hope and positivity.

Throughout his artistic career, Kongo has been relentlessly breaking old rules and creating something new. A random encounter with Hermès senior while he was painting on the street in Central, brought him the opportunity to work with the prestigious fashion brand, and later with many more international brands including Richard Mille, Daum, Lacoste, Moët and Chandon. From an anonymous graffiti kid to the super star he is today, Kongo has never forgotten his root. He formed the graffiti group M.A.C. with his friends, aiming to promote and spread the love for graffiti. Kongo also collaborated with New York graffiti artist TATS cru, and together they created breath-taking pieces of graffiti art throughout the city. ATN was inspired by their tremendous work and filmed the documentary *Trumac: De Paris à South-Bronx*, recording how the incredible pieces of art were born, including a 50m x 8m mural.



Kongo's works were also spotted by established art collector, Alain-Dominique Gallizia, who brought his art to *Tags in the Grand Palais* at the Grand Palais. In 2011, film producer as well as art agent Claude Kunetz curated Kongo's first solo show, *De la rue jaillit la lumière*, which was also brought to *Cité des Outre-mer*. From then Kongo has held countless exhibitions around the globe, including Belgium, U.S.A., Brazil, Japan, China, Hong Kong etc.

Kongo is just as simple and bright as his colorful paintings – a great man who never loses his child’s heart! In 2008, Kongo met the person who would change his life forever, a senior from Hermès, while he was just leisurely painting on the street in Central. After 3 years, a crossover silk scarf from Hermès and Kongo took the fashion world by storm, which instantly became the hot item of 2011 Autumn/Winter season. It was not long before Kongo became a super star by bringing street culture to couture, popular especially among young people.



In 2006, Kongo collaborated with Richard Mille, the eponymous brand of luxury Swiss watches, and created the unprecedented *RM 68-01 Kongo Tourbillon*. He perfectly hand-painted every piece of components with special-made brushes, requiring incredible precision and craftsmanship. With his unique vision, Kongo gives the watch an artistic touch, and reminds us all that we should always live our lives to the fullest, and not to be afraid to paint it the brightest shade of colors.

Kongo's art is as well collected by well-known art collector Alain-Dominique Gallizia, who brought his art to *Tags in the Grand Palais*, proving his works with collectable value. In 2011, film producer as well as art agent Claude Kunetz curated Kongo's first solo show, *De la rue jaillit la lumière*, which was also brought to *Cité des Outre-mer*. From then Kongo has held countless exhibitions around the globe, including Belgium, U.S.A., Brazil, Japan, China, Hong Kong etc., launching his successful career as a street artist.



Cyril Kongo x Hermès in Barcelona, Spain



Cyril Kongo

Kongo enjoys observing life for inspiration. All elements in real life, such as travels, new friends, flowers, the ocean, urban landscapes, etc. are translated through his art as eulogy of joy and freedom. He also likes to learn from great masters – Andy Warhol, Monet, Basquiat, Dubuffet, Ai Weiwei, for the simple fact that art always makes him happy.



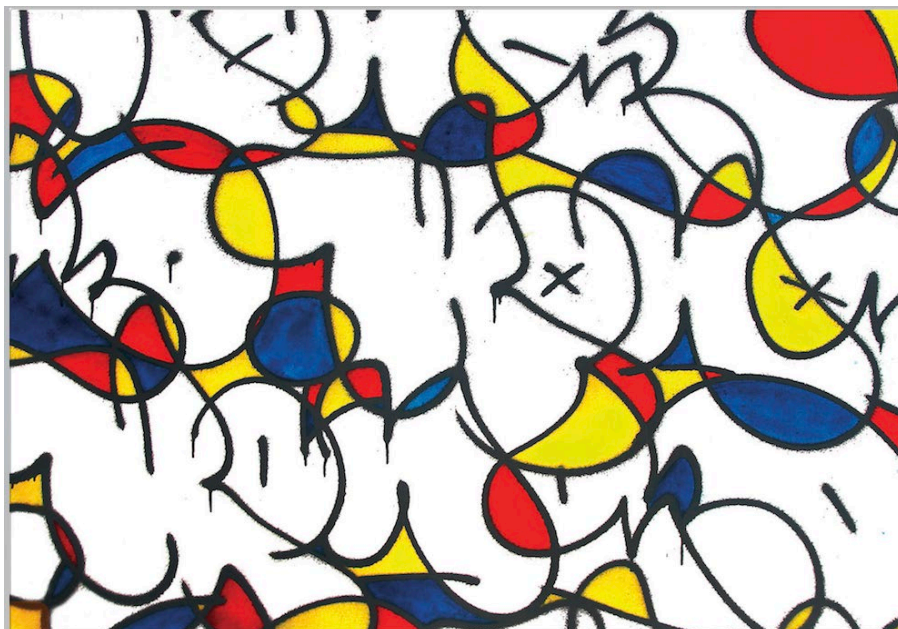
Solutions, 100 x 100 cm, Mixed media on canvas



La formule, 130 x 210 cm, Mixed media on canvas



Lanmou pou zot, 100 x 100 cm, Mixed media on canvas



Hommage à Mondrian, 85 x 123.5 cm, Mixed media on canvas

What does graffiti remind you – ruthless venting from young people to the government at the New York subway? For decades authorities have tried to shut up graffiti art, but the art has always prevailed. As a member of the first generation of Parisian graffiti artists, Kongo has witnessed the radical, rebellious era of graffiti, through its transformation into the fashion world, and eventually is taken seriously as an art. Graffiti art can now be seen in galleries, museums, and are popular among the youngsters. It is spontaneous, vibrant, versatile, and never boring. Graffiti art is not elitist as traditional art is, hence it becomes an accessible medium for young people to channel their creativities.



Kongo in his studio



Kongo working with Daum team

Owner of Amanda Wei Gallery, Amanda Wei, has carefully chosen 18 pieces of Kongo's art for the new show **La French Touch**. With the theme of love and peace, it is the perfect show to go during the Christmas season. Kongo will also be joining the opening reception on 8th December, all the way from Paris to Hong Kong, to share his art with art lovers. We invite you with great pleasure to the opening of **La French Touch**!



AMANDA WEI 
GALLERY

Presents
呈獻

Kongo's Solo Show
Kongo 個人藝術展

"La French Touch"

Opening : Friday, 8th December, 2017 @ 5pm – 9pm

From 8th December till 8th February, 2018

開幕 2017年12月8日 下午5點 - 9點
展覽由12月8日到2月8日止

Amanda Wei Gallery
Shop B, Lower Ground Floor, Wilson House,
19 - 27 Wyndham Street, Central, Hong Kong
香港中環雲咸街19-27號威信大廈地舖B

Tel : (+852) 2656 2908 Email: info@amandaweigallery.com

Opening reception: 8th December 2017 5PM – 9PM

Exhibition: 8th December 2017 – 8th February 2018

Opening time: Mondays to Saturdays 11AM – 8PM

Address: Amanda Wei Gallery

Shop B, Lower Ground Floor, Wilson House, 19-27 Wyndham Street, Central, Hong Kong (Near Central Station Exit D)

Inquiry: +852 2656 2908 / info@amandaweigallery.com

Amanda Wei Gallery website: amandaweigallery.com

Cyril Kongo website: kongo-art.com

#art #france #painter #artist #kongo #centralsoho #amandaweigallery #gallery #artmuseum