

MATALI CRASSET

*1965, France. Lives and works in Paris (France).



Madeleine Vernet, 2018
Digital print on paper
80 x 60 cm
Edition 3
Courtesy Gandy gallery



Rachel Carson, 2018
Digital print on paper
80 x 60 cm
Edition 3
Courtesy Gandy gallery

Madeleine Vernet was a French educator, writer and libertarian peace activist. She has established an orphanage entitled The Social Future, designed for children of workers. Already in 1906 it was mixed long before schools. Rachel Carson was an American biologist and writer. In the late 1950s, Carson focused on the protection of the environment and on the problems caused by the usage of synthetic biocides. This led her to the publication of "Silent Spring" in 1962 what triggered a reversal in national policy towards biocides – leading to a national ban of DDT and other pesticides.

matali crasset studied to be an industrial designer. She took her first steps in the 1990s with Denis Santachiara in Italy and Philippe Starck in France. In the early 2000s, she created her own organisation "matali crasset productions". She set up her studio in the heart of the popular Parisian district of Belleville, in an old printing shop refurbished into lodgings and small gardens, alongside her home right in the midst of the neighbourhood with gallivanting children. matali crasset sees design as a research process. She works from an off-centred posture that lets her act on daily life and project scenarios for the future at the same time. Her methodology is made up of observations of practices and challenges of ordinary organisation principles, likewise her emblematic object – a hospitality column "When Jim comes to Paris" which is based on a close observation of customs from which she invents new rituals. With a gaze that is both expert and always new on the world, she questions the obvious codes in order to go beyond them. Her work then consists of looking for new typologies and formulating innovative life logic. She defines this research as an accompaniment toward the contemporary.