

NEWS FLASH

Paris/Bruxelles, 2 May 2013

SOCIETE GENERALE PRIVATE BANKING SPONSORS FABIENNE VERDIER, THE FRENCH CONTEMPORARY PAINTER

Societe Generale Private Banking has become sponsor of the French contemporary painter Fabienne Verdier.

Committed to the values of artistic creation, the private bank of Societe Generale group is supporting this artist, who has followed an unusual path. Although she remains outside the trends of the world of contemporary art, she is nevertheless one of its major living exponents. She recently set herself the challenge of producing work inspired by the early Flemish masterpieces, from Van Eyck to Memling, and suggesting a new way to look at them.

Fabienne Verdier will present the results of her 4-year long work at a major exhibition entitled "**The Spirit of Painting: A Tribute to the Flemish Renaissance**" organised both at the Groeninge and Hans Memling Museums in Bruges, Belgium, from 5 May to 25 August 2013.



*Fabienne Verdier - Saint Christophe traversant les eaux II (2011)
- Tribute to Hans Memling Le Triptyque Moreel*

PRESS SERVICE
SOCIETE GENERALE - GIMS

ELISA O'NEILL
+33 (0)1 42 14 39 24
elisa.oneill@socgen.com

ESTELLE DUNAND
+33 (0)1 42 14 38 99
estelle.dunand@socgen.com

JOLYON BARTHORPE
+33 (0)1 42 14 34 55
jolyon.barthorpe@socgen.com

SOCIETE GENERALE
GIMS/COM
75886 PARIS CEDEX 18 - FRANCE
SOCIETEGENERALE.COM

A FRENCH CORPORATION WITH SHARE CAPITAL OF
EUR 976,447,673.75
552 120 222 RCS PARIS

At the same time, another exhibition entitled "**Spirit of Painting, Notes and Notebooks**" and organised at the Erasmus House in Brussels from 3 May to 25 August 2013, will present a selection of the artist's ink sketches and notebooks which will cast light upon her research and understanding of the paintings of the Flemish Masters shown in Bruges.

Societe Generale Private Banking's support for Fabienne Verdier, is part of Societe Generale group's commitment to contemporary art. Societe Generale has become one of the most active players in the sponsorship of art in France, in particular through its collection of 300 original works and 700 lithographs, prints and silk-screens. This living collection highlights creation in all its forms – painting, sculpture and photography – of acknowledged international artists such as Pierre Soulages, Pierre Alechinsky, Zao Wou-Ki, Antoni Tapies, Wang Du, Raymond Hains, and young talents from emerging artistic milieus.

For more information : www.collectionsocietegenerale.com

Fabienne Verdier is a French contemporary painter. After studying at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Toulouse in the 1980s, she decided to travel to China to study painting, aesthetics and philosophy alongside the last great Chinese masters. Returning to France, in 2003 she published "*Passenger of Silence: 10 Years of Initiation in China*" in which she recounted her experience. A pioneer in linking two worlds, Fabienne Verdier created a hitherto unseen form of artistic expression which steps out of the strict framework of calligraphy and uses ink and increasingly enormous paintbrushes to invent works where the lessons learned in China come together with modern art, a mix of Chinese calligraphy and contemporary art.

Fabienne Verdier regularly displays her work in Europe and Asia. Her paintings have entered numerous collections, including Centre Pompidou and Cernuschi Museum in Paris or Hubert Looser Foundation in Zurich.

www.fabienneverdier.com

Societe Generale

Societe Generale is one of the largest European financial services groups. Based on a diversified universal banking model, the Group combines financial solidity with a strategy of sustainable growth, and aims to be the reference for relationship banking, recognised on its markets, close to clients, chosen for the quality and commitment of its teams.

More than 154,000 employees, based in 76 countries, accompany 32 million clients throughout the world on a daily basis.

Societe Generale's teams offer advice and services to individual, corporate and institutional customers in three core businesses:

- Retail banking in France with the Societe Generale branch network, Credit du Nord and Boursorama;
- International retail banking, with a presence in Central and Eastern Europe, Russia, in the Mediterranean basin, in Sub-Saharan Africa, in Asia and in the French Overseas Territories;
- Corporate and investment banking with a global expertise in investment banking, financing and global markets.

Societe Generale is also a significant player in specialised financing and insurance, private banking, asset management and securities services.

Societe Generale is included in the socially-responsible investment indices FTSE4Good and ASPI.

For more information, you can follow us on twitter @societegenerale or visit our website www.societegenerale.com.

Societe Generale Private Banking

Societe Generale Private Banking, the wealth management arm of Societe Generale, is one of the leading private banks worldwide, with EUR 86.1 billion of assets under management at the end of December 2012.

With 2,500 staff in 17 countries across the globe, Societe Generale Private Banking offers wealth management solutions to entrepreneurs and High Net Worth Individuals with financial assets in excess of one million euros.

The expertise of its private banking teams in wealth planning, investment advisory and financing solutions regularly receives awards. In 2012 and 2013 Societe Generale Private Banking was voted:

- Best Private Bank in France and Monaco (Euromoney 2013),
- Best Private Bank in France and Monaco – Relationship Management (Euromoney 2013),
- Best Private Bank in France and Monaco – Range of Investment products (Euromoney 2013),
- Best Private Bank in Western Europe for its offer in Structured Products, for the 9th consecutive year, (Euromoney 2013),
- Best Private Bank in the Middle East, for the 2nd consecutive year (Banker Middle East 2012),
- Outstanding Wealth Planning and Trust Provider – Highly commended (Private Banker International 2012),
- Best Private Bank in Luxembourg (Professional Wealth Management/The Banker 2012).

www.privatebanking.societegenerale.com

Follow us at twitter.com/sg_privatebank