

# A Baronian

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## Press Release

« MAJORETTE », Alain Séchas

**Exhibition from 02 March until 14 April 2018**  
**Opening Thursday March 1st, 6-9pm**

OH JOY! OH RAGE!

Since having made himself pass as a painter, Alain Séchas has never seemed this close to cinema. He places spots, blocks of colour, with a sense of harmony, and giving them a certain energy and speed with his brushstrokes (more and more freely and loosely) just like how others combine images and sound. His cats remain his characteristic mode of expression, his way to share his joyful bewilderment with us. Drawing and painting work together and sometimes exchange roles, producing the equivalent of the harmolodics of Ornette Coleman, excelling freely outside all categories.

For Alain Séchas painting means, above all, having time to breathe. Let's forget for a moment the fantastical machines and little films addressing young and old at a time when art seems to have been taken over by production houses and project leaders. What counts the most for him is the way he can continue to carve out his own definition of art and declare his love for countless things; you only had to watch him a few weeks ago when he discovered the tapestry the Gobelins Manufactory created after one of his works, revealing how much joy it brought him to become part of the collective heritage.

An artist, that's certain, a creator like almost everybody else; but above all an experimenter, inspired by the likes of Free Radicals and Len Lye just as much as Matisse's *Grand intérieur rouge*. The anecdotes and jokes are a way to divert attention and to show the impossibility of an abstraction as an idea and project. Abstraction today, that's either teaching the lesson via geometrics in the first or second degree, or dramatizing the work of a painter: should I go towards form? Or not? With his art, Séchas has always wanted to shine a light on his relation with the world and on the art of his time, without being able to restrain himself from making a little fun of this necessary pretentiousness. Hard not to feel the influences of Léger or De Kooning (for example) then, to lighten the atmosphere and provide some fresh air, an octopus (séchasesque?) grabs our attention and two or three pumps of spray or browning free up space. It's this or making him perform on his balcony or taking refuge under his bluetooth headset hoping for the end of hostilities.

Patrick Javault  
February 2018