



# Original Digital

August 19th - September 11th

An art exhibition by Christophe Jannin

*“Laissez de côté les préjugés, ne prenez pour guide que la raison”*

(Eugène de Viollet le Duc, entretiens sur l'architecture, 1863).

*“la popularité est le fruit de la publicité, la longévité celui du talent”*

*“Let the prejudice appart, only keep reason as a guide”*

(Eugène de Viollet le Duc, talks about architecture, 1863).

*“Popularity is a product of publicity, whilst longevity is a product of artistry.”*

## Sensuous symbols

Christophe Jannin is a human bomb of enthusiasm, his life an evolving and never-ending brainstorm. He is a straightforward and uncompromising man, a seducer who proclaims his orientations and allegiances unashamedly.

He is in a perpetual search of a total art, mixing Art Nouveau naturalism with the altruism of Freemasonry. Working magic with arabesque stylings and loving semiotic detail, his subtle fusion between nature and symbol is timeless, challenging his contemporaries between the two artistic worlds of Auckland and Paris.

Angels or demons, his models are like him: generous, poetic and filled with a strong temper; kind-hearted and spiritual. But to have a better understanding of his work, I invite you to discover and decrypt the artist himself on an emotional level.



### *"The big rush"*

Original drawing: Indian ink on white cardboard, Ecoline watercolour, white chalk, white pencil, digital colours.

Colour printing  
90 cm x 65cm  
300 NZ\$ 19 copies left

Original Drawing  
90cm X 65cm

500 NZ\$



### *"The red Cardinal"*

Acrylics on canvas  
76 cm x 76cm

3000 \$ SOLD



## Heart:

Christophe's heart beats with a natural empathy, a need to discover emotion and depict it through his work, line by line. Inspired by sensuality, his art shows the sweet, subtle and loving man he is.

Alphonse Mucha, the famous poster artist of the Parisian "belle époque" is always close to him, his work surrounding him on the walls of his Auckland studio, like a protective friend.

But the slender muses of Mucha are replaced in Christophe's work by his male ideals, with the same sensual delight, the bodies unveil themselves with refinement and sophistication.

The characters are idealized in evocative poses with light clothes or silky draperies, ornate with elements inspired by nature, olive tree foliage, willows and magic flowers.

Drawn on paper with strong, expressive black outlines and shimmering colors. The decorative friezes are often used as a framing; with floral compositions giving depth of field to the centered illustrations.



*"Jehanne"*

Indian ink on white cardboard.  
Digital colours.

Colour printing  
1.33m x 59cm  
200 NZ\$  
90x32cm  
100 NZ\$ 12 copies left

Original Drawing  
90cm X 32cm  
500 NZ\$



*"The fisherman's daughter"*

Indian ink on white cardboard.

Colour printing  
90 cm x 45cm  
100NZ\$ 18 copies left

Original Drawing  
90cm X 55cm  
500 NZ\$



## **Soul:**

Like bubbles in a glass of champagne, the area of France in which he grew up, Christophe's brain is effervescent and constantly active. He's always two drawings ahead from what's already on his paper or canvas, but with a continuity that sees each drawing building on the strength and the human soul depicted in his previous works.

Through his work and his life, he aims to further the spiritual and moral improvement of his surrounding world, beliefs rooted in his irregular Freemasonry. Under his caustic and critical eye, he uses his art to both protest and express.

Each work encourages multiple viewings; underneath the bold vibrancy of his characters are a garden of precise and ancient symbols, with each character placed within a setting that in turn questions, disturbs and stimulates us.

His taste for reflection is based on his deep love for the famous and magnificent Reims Cathedral, 800 years young. Like him, that monumental stone lady is strong in appearance but filled inside with softness and light.

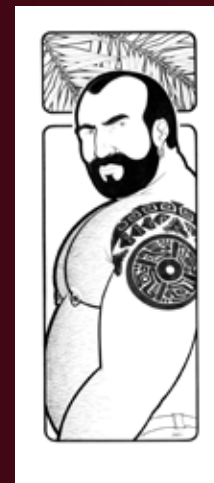


### *"Ballon Ovale"*

Indian ink on white cardboard, Ecoline watercolour, white chalk, white pencil, digital colours.

Colour printing  
90 cm x 45cm  
100 NZ\$ 17 copies left

Original Drawing  
90cm X 55cm  
500 NZ\$



### *"Night & Day", dyptich.*

Indian ink on white cardboard, Ecoline watercolour, white chalk, white pencil, digital colours.  
90cm x 32cm each

Colour printing  
90 cm x 45cm  
80 NZ\$

Original Drawing  
90cm X 55cm  
350 NZ\$ both 500 NZ\$





## **Belly:**

Christophe is the exact mirror of his models. He is an epicurean ogre, of that there is no doubt!

With a huge appetite for life, he'd ideally be able to be in many places at once, in order to please his loved ones.

The artist's work is solitary, in the studio or in the shade of his New Zealand garden; but the man himself is extrovert, inspired and thriving in the company of others.

I believe his hidden ambition is to wake up in all of us the dormant artist, to create a fraternity based on ideas, to reinvent new modes of expression that encourage us all to look deeper than the surface.

As Plato's cave myth says, we should put aside our prejudices and be guided by reason not appearances, to be aware of meaning, beauty and truth - all of which are visible in Christophe's gallery of work.

Rebuilding the world, together, somewhere between dream and reality, is - to me - the fundamentally humanist spirit I share with him as a friend, throughout all disciplines.

Vincent Callebaut, Architect.

Paris



*"St Michael"*  
Acrylics on canvas  
60cm x 50cm

2500 NZ\$ SOLD

*"Lucifer & Gabriel,  
Fall to hell"*

Indian ink on white  
cardboard, Ecoline watercolour,  
white chalk, white pencil,  
digital colours.

Colour printing  
1.33m x 59cm  
100 NZ\$ 19 copies left

Original Drawing  
90cm X 65 cm

500 NZ\$





*"The 3 Kings"*

Indian ink on white cardboard, Ecoline watercolour, white chalk, white pencil, digital colours.

Colour printing  
90cm x 60cm  
125 NZ\$

Original Drawing  
130cm X 90cm  
750 NZ\$



*"L'ours marin"*

Indian ink on white cardboard, Ecoline watercolour, white chalk, white pencil, digital colours.

Colour printing  
92 cm x 42cm  
100 NZ\$ 19 copies left

Original Drawing  
90cm X 32cm  
450 NZ\$



*"Dusk & Dawn", dyptich.*

Indian ink on white  
cardboard, Ecoline watercolour, white  
chalk, white pencil, digital colours.

Colour printing  
90 cm x 32cm  
80 NZ\$

Original Drawing  
90cm X 32cm  
350 NZ\$ both 500 NZ\$





*"Winter"*, from the 4 seasons series

Indian ink on white  
cardboard, Ecoline watercolour, white chalk, white  
pencil.

Colour printing  
45 cm x 90 cm  
100 NZ\$

Original Drawing  
45 cm X 90 cm  
450 NZ\$

*"Summer"*, from the 4 seasons series

Indian ink on white  
cardboard, Ecoline watercolour, white chalk, white  
pencil.

Colour printing  
45 cm x 90 cm  
100 NZ\$

Original Drawing  
45 cm X 90 cm  
450 NZ\$





*"Spring"*, from the 4 seasons series

Indian ink on white cardboard, Ecoline watercolour, white chalk, white pencil.

Colour printing  
45 cm x 90 cm  
100 NZ\$

Original Drawing  
45 cm X 90 cm  
450 NZ\$

full series "seasons" printed in colour  
350 NZD



*"Veritas"*

Indian ink on white cardboard, Ecoline watercolour, white chalk, white pencil.

Colour printing  
90 cm x 40 cm  
100 NZ\$ 19 copies left

Original Drawing  
90 cm X 65 cm  
450 NZ\$





### *"Lorenzaccio"*

Indian ink on white  
cardboard, Ecoline watercolour,  
white pencil, white chalk.  
Digital colours

Colour printing  
90 cm x 37 cm  
100 NZ\$ 17 copies left

Original Drawing  
128 cm X 45 cm  
600 NZ\$





*"Polynesian spirit"*

Original drawing  
Sepia ink on brown cardboard,  
Ecoline watercolour, white gouache,  
white pencil.

Original Drawing  
39cm X 14.5 cm  
250 NZ\$ SOLD



A3 format Black & White line art prints, special "Original Digital" exhibition edition of all works are available on order (excepted paintings and "*Polynesian spirit*").

Limited to 10 copies each

Giclee print on white Hahnemühle high quality paper 100% cotton  
numbered and signed

120 NZ\$

Colour prints of all works exhibited are available on order  
(except "4 seasons" series. colour version available under 15 days)

Limited to 20 copies each (max height 90cm)

archival poster paper

numbered and signed

prices as shown on catalogue.

A 30\$ + applies for poster mounted on wooden frame or exhibition copy.



More than drawings or illustrations this art exhibition is a window open on our humanity with all its contradictions.

Most of the drawings and paintings on show have been done in 2011 or late 2010, they are the reflection of my vision of the world. Light or darkness, one can't exist without the other.

Our world is made of people far more different from the image we can find in magazines, books or other medias.

So is my work, different from standards served daily.

Either it's Inspirational or floral, masculine or decorative, symbolic or symbolist, historical or contemporary, I always keep a close eye on our human condition and wrap it with allegories.

I am building myself, drawing after drawing, like bricks in a wall supporting a building, tending to be better on so many ways.

I want to thank: The Digital Darkroom staff, Mike and John, for their professionalism, their trust in my work and their wonderful help. All the people I have met for the last five years living in New Zealand and gave me so much, their friendship and love, especially Paul Heard and Alan Granville from Urge bar, Don Chooi, Chris banks and Andy Jalfon and of course, my partner Den.

Thank you so much guys

Christophe Jannin



Christophe Jannin  
illustrations

illustration - Art Nouveau revival - Bear art

[www.christophe-jannin.com](http://www.christophe-jannin.com)

## The Digital Darkroom

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To my mother.

All drawings, paintings and illustrations © Christophe Jannin 2011