

Do you want to die today?
2008

First exhibition in Paris, M2N Gallery, May 2008.

Text by Cecile Evans.

David Houcheringer's "Do You Want to Die Today?" is a collision between phantasmagorical playground and contemporary socio-psychological reality. A collaboration with makeup artist Vanaelle Mercanton, these controlled environments manage to transcend their own complexity to illuminate us to a very simple conclusion; while the act of death is violent, the after is rather still.

This eerie calmness in Houcheringer's series permits us to linger on the absurdity, the beauty, and the pure curiosity that propulses us into an investigative dissection of what exactly this sudden disconnection consists of.

The humor of the images allows us to face death a little longer and confront the violence that preceded it.

Hailing from a characteristically non violent country, Swiss photographer David Houcheringer does not attempt to show us violence or death but rather our position vis a vis its representation.

His work evokes a "fantasme-en-scene" derived from this age of decadence created by a generational fear.

In the global truth of exorbitant media, it is an opportunity to stop and digest the existing absurdities, confronting them with a raised eyebrow rather than a raised fist... then chased by the wink of an eye.