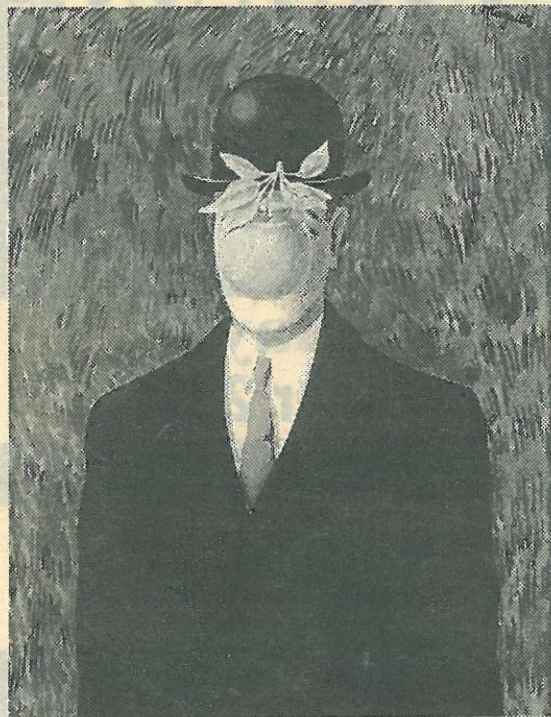


'Rene Magritte' To Inaugurate Space At Blain Di Donna's NYC Gallery



René Magritte, "Le Goût de l'invisible," 1964, gouache on paper, approximately 14 by 10 $\frac{1}{3}$ inches.

NEW YORK CITY — Blain Di Donna will present as its inaugural exhibition, "Dangerous Liaisons," a survey of paintings, works on paper and objects by Belgian Surrealist René Magritte, on view October 28–December 1.

Bringing together more than 25 major oils, gouaches and drawings, this is the first Magritte show of this scale to be presented in New York in almost 15 years, and comes at a time of renewed interest in Surrealism and its key exponents.

The exhibition's title is derived from Magritte's seminal early work, "Les Liaisons dangereuses," 1935, an enigmatic painting thought to have been inspired by the Eighteenth Century French novel of the same name, in which two rival lovers deploy sex as a weapon to humiliate others. As with many of the works in the artist's oeuvre, it delights and disturbs in equal

measure; it underlines his unsettling ability to pull at the threads of philosophical and psychological certainties, and in doing so sets the tone of the exhibition as a whole.

Also included is "La Trahison des images," 1952, Magritte's best known painting and one of the great propositions of Modern art; a smoking pipe rests on a wooden background under which 'Ceci n'est pas une pipe' is inscribed on a plaque, posing the question: how can we really believe what we see and what role does perception play in our comprehension of reality?

Equally recognizable is "Le Goût de l'invisible," 1964, in which an apple engulfs the face of a bowler-hatted man, while "L'Empire des lumières," 1954, presents one of the artist's most celebrated and popular subjects, and is characteristically an iconic image and a visual paradox. This large-scale enigmatic

painting explores phenomena including the coexistence of day and night, the nocturnal landscape and the skyscape, and the interplay of lightness and darkness.

A selection of Magritte's best work in gouache accompanies these masterpieces, and the drawings demonstrate his brilliance as a draughtsman, offering a rare insight into this aspect of his artistic practice.

"Dangerous Liaisons" will be accompanied by an illustrated catalog.

The gallery is at 981 Madison Avenue. For information, www.blaindidonna.com or 212-259-0442.

NEW YORK CITY — The School of Visual Arts (SVA) will host a lecture on "The Nelson Manobar," on October 18 at 7 pm, SVA Theatre, 333 West 23rd Street. For information, 212-592-2010 or www.sva.edu/events.

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