

CHATEAUSHATTO

BODY BY BODY & ODILON REDON

Education Pig

Opening Saturday, July 26, 2014

6 – 9 pm

Through September 6, 2014

Château Shatto opens in downtown Los Angeles on July 26, 2014. The gallery commences its program with an exhibition of new work by Body by Body and a presentation of Odilon Redon's *The Temptation of St Anthony* and *The Apocalypse of Saint John*.

Body by Body's exhibitions read like fictive accounts. They pull upon styles, push plot devices and draw (or co-opt) characters to populate these zones of imagination. For the principal exhibition at Château Shatto, Body by Body will produce *Education Pig*, an exhibition that speaks to the intemperate refinement of taste. This education of sensibilities is commonly pursued by accompanying surfeit consumption with the study of other people's opinions; or, pairing the digestion of one's individual aesthetic experience with the voices of influential critics. Body by Body's exhibitions are defined by the totalising experience they invite, though they are composed of several varied forms. *Education Pig* takes form in printed and transparent sculptures, wall-mounted reliefs, graphic prints and an illustrated novel.

Odilon Redon (1840–1916) was a French printmaker, painter and draughtsman, whose life's work offers one of the definitive visions of Symbolism. Joining Body by Body's exhibition will be Redon's lithographic illustrations of *The Apocalypse of Saint John* and of Gustave Flaubert's *The Temptation of St Anthony*. To re-stage *The Temptation of St Anthony*, Redon selects single lines to illustrate from Flaubert's vast, supple, sensory account of the story of St Anthony's night spent in the Egyptian desert, a fictive event that receives recurring accounts in art and literature. Redon attaches phantasmagorical illustrations to short abbreviations of Flaubert's text, interpreting the language from a position where images evolve not from what is observed, but what is felt.

The first exhibition presented by Château Shatto tenders an arc between Body by Body and Odilon Redon, who are not contemporary with one another but share a perceptible spirit in their work. Both Body by Body and Redon work through graphic illustration and use the wanderings of the mind as a productive method, where there is space granted to peaks of the imagination. As such, this exhibition is tangled in several fictions and involves narrative leaps, like Body by Body's collaborations with renowned food critics on a graphic novel to accompany the exhibition. And while Redon's contribution to art is now canonical, it was in J.K. Huysmans novel *À rebours* that his notoriety was first established. The central character of *À rebours* collects Odilon Redon's work and is devoted to the ideals of Symbolist artists and poets, as they encourage him to sink further into his internalised aesthetics.