

**Atelier les
deux Garçons**

**« The age
of bronze »**





Atelier les deux Garçons

« The age of bronze »

Sculpture exhibition,
September 2026



For twenty-five years, Michel Vanderheijden van Tinteren and Roel Moonen have worked as one under the name Atelier les Deux Garçons. Creating strange yet endearing assemblages, combining taxidermy, porcelain, found objects and collectibles, but also casting their hybrid creatures in bronze. Doubling runs through everything they make: animals fused as Siamese twins or multiples, joined at the spine or skull, speak to kinship, dependence, and the impossibility of standing entirely alone. The egg returns again and again as a quiet counterpoint — fragile, unresolved, an unborn future balanced on the animal's back. Ears, oversized or repeated, become organs of listening turned uncanny: vigilance, eavesdropping, or simply a body too attuned to the world around it. Across each work, disparate elements — animal, object, found form — are grafted into a single bronze body, blurring the line between specimen and invention. The result is a bestiary of hybrids that feels at once ancient and freshly conjured.

Depuis plus de 25 ans, Atelier Les Deux Garçons crée des sculptures où se mêlent imagination, maîtrise technique et univers surréaliste. Principalement connus pour leurs assemblages en taxidermie, le duo néerlandais travaille également le bronze avec une remarquable virtuosité. Cette exposition met à l'honneur cette partie de leur œuvre: figures énigmatiques, formes siamoises et assemblages inattendus, dans un univers où la beauté rencontre l'étrange, à la fois ludique, troublant et profondément évocateur.

Al meer dan 25 jaar creëert Atelier Les Deux Garçons buitengewone sculpturen waarin verbeelding, vakmanschap en surrealisme samenkomen. Het Nederlandse duo is vooral bekend om zijn taxidermische assemblages, maar werkt ook op indrukwekkende wijze in brons. Deze tentoonstelling brengt hun bronzen sculpturen centraal: raadselachtige figuren, Siamese vormen en onverwachte assemblages, in een wereld waar schoonheid en het bizarre elkaar ontmoeten – speels, intrigerend en diep tot de verbeelding sprekend.





Title: « L'évolution contemporaine », 2025
 Details: patinated bronze, ed. 6/7
 Format: H41 x 60 x 37 cm
 Price: € 24.000-



Title: « Le dernier Himalaya », 2019
 Details: patinated bronze, ed. 6/7
 Format: H25 x 39 x 20 cm
 Price: € 14.500-



Title: «La force primordiale nécessaire», 2018
 Details: patinated bronze, ed. 2/7
 Format: 5» x 20 x 45 cm
 Price: € 19.500-





Title: « L'adieu impossible », 2026
 Details: Assemblage epoxy, mixed media,
 natural stone
 Format: 9,5 x 9,5 x 18 cm
 Price: EUR 850-



Title: « L'adieu impossible », 2026
 Details: Assemblage epoxy, mixed media,
 natural stone
 Format: 7,5 x 5 x 15 cm
 Price: EUR 850-



Title: « L'adieu impossible », 2026
 Details: Assemblage epoxy, mixed media,
 natural stone
 Format: 7,5 x 7,5 x 14 cm
 Price: EUR 850-



Title:	« La tentation blanche », 2018
Details:	patinated bronze, ed. of 7
Format:	50 x 44 x 33 cm
Price:	€ 19.500-



Title:
Details:
Format:
Price:

«Bambi Saurus» , 2018
Patinated bronze, ed; 1/7
114 x 28 x 40 cm
EUR 12.900-



Title: « Le petit grand bonhomme », 2015
 Details: Patinated bronze, ed; 1/7
 Format: H27 x 18 x 12 cm
 Price: € 7.000-



Title: « Bambi », 2015
 Details: Patinated bronze, ed; EA
 Format: H30 x 28 x 14 cm
 Price: € 11.500-



Title:
Details:
Format:
Price:

« Le mariage »
patinated & polished bronze, ed. 5/7
86 x 39 x 39 cm
EUR 22.500-



Title:
Details:
Format:
Price:

« L'écouteur I », 2006
Patinated bronze, ed. 5/7
100 x diam 80 cm
EUR 60.000-



Title:
Details:
Format:
Price:

« Le petit écouleur », 2006
Patinated bronze, ed. 2/7
32 x diam 23 cm
EUR 11.500-





Title:

Details:

Format:

Price:

“Mr Messerschmidt”, 2015
Patinated bronze, glass eyes &
mouthpiece, golden tooth, ed. 2/7
83 x 43 x 33 cm
EUR 30.000-



A delicate balance...

In some artworks, Atelier Les Deux Garçons place animals in deliberately unnatural, impossible positions. Balanced on the smallest of surfaces, their bodies are forced to bend, twist and adapt in order to keep standing, or even survive.

Their precarious poses evoke a natural world increasingly compressed by human presence. As habitats shrink and ecosystems are transformed, wildlife is left with ever less space — compelled to adapt to conditions it did not choose.

The egg, a recurring motif in the artists' work, adds another layer of meaning. A universal symbol of life, vulnerability and potential, it suggests something not yet born — a future that remains possible, but is profoundly fragile. Perched improbably on the puma's back, it becomes something the animal must carry and protect while struggling to maintain its own balance.

At once playful and unsettling, these sculptures speak of adaptation, fragility and survival, and invite us to consider the increasingly precarious balance between the human and animal worlds.



Title:

Details:

Format:

Price:

“Dans le silence de l’instant”, 2025
taxidermied Puma, marble
pedestal, mixed media, unique,
115 x 75 x 35 cm
€ 38.500-



Title: « La vérité fragile », 2025
 Details: taxidermy on marble base, unique
 Format: H60 cm x 36 x 26 cm
 Price: € 9.750-



Title: « Sous sa véritable formée », 2025
 Details: taxidermy on marble base, unique
 Format: H54 cm x 28 x 20 cm
 Price: € 9.750-



Title:
Details:
Format:
Price:

« La force puissante », 2025
taxidermy and mixed media
77 x 75 x 27 cm
€ 9.500-



Title:
Details:
Format:
Price:

« Côte d'Or », 2015
patinated bronze, ed. 6/7
43 x 21 x 17 cm
€ 7.500-



Title: « Chocococongo », 2015
 Details: patinated bronze, ed. 3/7
 Format: 35 x 15 x 15 cm
 Price: € 6.500-



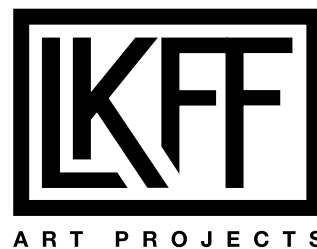
Title: « Rhinongo », 2015
 Details: patinated bronze, ed. 2/7
 Format: 50 x 17 x 10 cm
 Price: € 6.500-



Title: « la Suédoise », 2025
 Details: taxidermy and metal bucket, unique
 Format: 128 x 34 x 32 cm
 Price: € 6.800-



Title: « L'Haïtienne », 2025
 Details: taxidermy and metal bucket, unique
 Format: 150 x 34 x 32 cm
 Price: € 6.800-



Title:
Details:
Format:
Price:

“ La force vulnérable ”, 2025
assemblage taxidermy, unique,
20 x 30 x 12 cm
€ 6.000-

ATELIER LES DEUX GARÇONS

Michel Vanderheijden van Tinteren (b. 1965, Heerlen, the Netherlands)
Roel Moonen (b. 1966, Maastricht, the Netherlands)

Atelier Les Deux Garçons is the artistic partnership of Dutch artists Michel Vanderheijden van Tinteren and Roel Moonen. The two met while studying Plastic Design at the Academy of Visual Arts in Maastricht, now the Maastricht Institute of Arts, and have worked together under the name Atelier Les Deux Garçons since 2000. Their studio is based in Landgraaf, in the Dutch province of Limburg.

Working across sculpture, assemblage and collage, the duo has developed a distinctive practice combining taxidermy, bronze and objets trouvés. Their wider practice has also encompassed installations, costumes and stage sets. Found materials play an important role: objects sourced from taxidermists, auctions and antique dealers are brought together and transformed into meticulously constructed new compositions.

Atelier Les Deux Garçons became particularly known for its taxidermy sculptures. Deer, lambs, birds, piglets and other animals are altered, multiplied or combined with unexpected objects; animals frequently appear as Siamese twins or multiples, or in hybrid configurations in which the familiar becomes strange. Their imagery can be humorous, absurd or unsettling, while recurring subjects identified in published accounts of their work include recognition, fear, fate, transience, sexuality, gender, religion and concern for the planet.

This tension between attraction and discomfort runs throughout their oeuvre. Lannoo, publisher of the duo's 25-year retrospective monograph, describes their sculptures as reflecting both "the struggle between humans and animals" and a duality between beauty and confrontation. Their work consequently moves between seduction and disturbance: highly refined objects whose visual beauty often leads towards less comfortable questions about human behaviour and our relationship with the natural world.

Alongside taxidermy and assemblage, bronze has become an important part of their sculptural language. Here too, hybridisation and doubling recur. Forms are combined, repeated and transformed into imaginary creatures and figures, extending the visual vocabulary developed elsewhere in their practice into a traditional and enduring sculptural material.

A major milestone came in 2016, when Museum aan het Vrijthof in Maastricht presented PURE, the duo's first retrospective exhibition. Running from 6 March to 6 June 2016, the exhibition brought together their taxidermy sculptures, bronzes and mixed-media objects. The museum described the presentation as demonstrating the diversity of their artistic practice.



Their relationship with Maastricht continued with a significant public commission. In 2023, to mark the 200th anniversary of the Maastricht Institute of Arts, Atelier Les Deux Garçons created the monumental sculpture group *The Citizens of Maastricht*, which was ceremonially unveiled by Maastricht mayor Wim Hillenaar. Both artists are alumni of the institute.

In 2025, Atelier Les Deux Garçons celebrated twenty-five years of collaboration. The anniversary was marked by *Vingt-cinq*, a 240-page monograph published by Lannoo, bringing together a broad overview of their oeuvre and three essays by Dutch art curators examining recurring themes and the evolution of their practice.

Twenty-five years after beginning their collaboration, Vanderheijden van Tinteren and Moonen continue to conceive and execute their work jointly. As the artists explained in a 2026 interview, every work is considered and worked on by both of them — the result not of two separate practices, but of a shared artistic process and a single evolving body of work.

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