

ART PARIS 2026

April 09 — April 12, 2026
Grand Palais | 75008 Paris

Brecht EVENS

Miles HYMAN

Yann KEBBI

Lorenzo MATTOTTI

Miroslav SEKULIC-STRUJA



Since its founding in Paris by Rina Zavagli nearly twenty years ago, Galerie Martel has built its identity on the diversity of artistic paths it explores and the voices it seeks to champion. Its outlook is international; its inclination is multidisciplinary. The artists it chooses to represent include painters, illustrators, and also pioneering or emerging figures in the narrative arts of animation and comics.

It is through the ninth art, in particular, that the gallery has distinguished itself, being among the very first to promote the work of comic artists as artworks in their own right. These same artists play with boundaries, styles, and techniques, moving from one shore to another, unfolding lines, patterns, textures, and colors, allowing text and image to converse. An ongoing dialogue that has found a new resonance since September 2024, with the opening of a second exhibition space in Brussels, another capital of contemporary art.

“Never interrupt a dreamer. How could he not hate you?”
Henri Michaux, Poteaux d’angle

On paper, cardboard, or canvas, made of ink or acrylic, of artifice or transparency, still or in motion, contemplating their own reflections or chasing clouds, all are dreaming. Sometimes, these are dreams begun behind closed doors, escapes that collide with the bars of apartment blocks. Sometimes, these dreams open onto travel and become omens of elsewhere. The road is full of graces that promise the traveler a horizon, only to ultimately return them to themselves.

Galerie Martel presents the works of five artists—comic authors who here move beyond pure graphic narration and into large-scale formats—as so many journeys. Works as stops, as suspensions.

Cathia Engelbach

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Miroslav Sekulić-Struja (born 1976 in Rijeka, Croatia)

His often wordless narratives, rich in imagery and open to interpretation, brought him recognition in the international comics scene, notably at Angoulême in 2010. His work, marked by *Pelote dans la fumée* and *Petar & Lisa* (2022), has received international critical acclaim and been exhibited across Europe and the United States.

The perspective is vast; streets and buildings sometimes dissolve into night. Spaces, both vacant and alive, teem with silent scenes, visible and invisible. The colors Miroslav lays onto cardboard might suggest desolation, yet—as in his comics—they are infused with a quiet, everyday magic. They rescue from ruin, for it is through them that the narrative always escapes.

In a port or a café, among shop windows and streets of the German capital, what seeps through are traces of History and fragments of smaller stories. Each window holds a memory—heavy, tender, or melancholic. And the wandering eye suddenly feels the urge to draw aside the curtains of variegated hues and step into the intimacy of a space.



Miroslav Sekulic-Struja, *Bundestag Panorama*, 2025, acrylique sur carton, 120 x 80 cm ©Miroslav Sekulic-Struja / courtesy Galerie Martel