



PETRA MRZYK AND JEAN-FRANÇOIS MORICEAU, "Moonraker" exhibition view at Air de Paris, Paris, 2004.

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### AIR DE PARIS

As in all of Petra Mrzyk and Jean-François Moriceau's other solo shows, the exhibition's title ("Moonraker") is taken from a James Bond film. Their art belongs to the children of the spectacle society, the sampling generation. Seated on the gallery floor, Mr. Frame seems drowsy. A jumble of drawings fall out of this anthropomorphic frame, spreading across the walls and ceiling. Liberated by Mr. Frame's dream, the drawings follow each other like in a game of consequences. Straight out of *Planet of the Apes*, a monkey-like couple disco dance while wearing "United We Stand" T-shirts, their genitals transformed into dribbling snails. Mrzyk & Moriceau's mischievous imagination plays with the grotesque, metamorphosis, and hybridization, which allow their world to manifest itself in an organic proliferation.

This is Mrzyk & Moriceau's special effect. Produced with an infernal rhythm, the drawings of this dynamic duo seem to emerge from the mixer of contemporary visual culture. Everything happens as if the totality of the images, logos, and characters produced by the massive industry of the pervading visual environment — cinema, TV, advertisements, comics, video games, and the reunited worlds of art, pop culture, and science fiction — were passed through memory's filter and burst forth liberated in a extravagant mental space, both recognizable and yet redrawn. This great remix crosses the gap between art and entertainment to affirm, in the information era, that the power of freedom still lies in the imagination.

**Pascal Beausse**

*(Translated from French by Rosemary McKisack)*