

How did civilisation and nature become two different entities? Can they organise their future in separate ways? Can they survive without each other?

The reflection that inspires my late works is the retrieval of a sense of unity between these two actors.

Two aspects occupy this reflection.

One is a political commitment based on the belief that ecology is the challenge of the following millennium. Man has the responsibility to recreate that lost harmony, he is the key link between nature and urbanity as the child of the first and the creator of the second.

The other aspect is the formal quest that lies at the heart of sculpture. A quest to express, with raw materials, some of the mystery and poetry of life.

The rule that applies in the confection of these works is to combine one urban and one natural element. An urban material imitates a form or a process inspired by nature. A natural substance is forced into an urban composition. The result can either be absurd, kitsch or poetic. It doesn't matter, as long as the clash between the actors has delivered one solitary piece.

Vincent Du Bois, October 1999

photo: Stéfan Vos

