



# TINTSWALO

## AFRICAN COLORS

**Exhibition from October 6<sup>th</sup> 2020 > February 6<sup>th</sup> 2021**

Maximilianstraße 22, 80539 Munich

*Visit upon prior reservation*

*Bookings at +49 89 21022113*

**PRESS RELEASE**

AN ITINERANT EXHIBITION ORGANISED BY



*supports*

# Publicolor

Publicolor is a stay-in-school youth development program that engages high-risk students in their education 3 days a week for 4-6 years through a continuum of design-based programs that mentor them for success in college, career and life.

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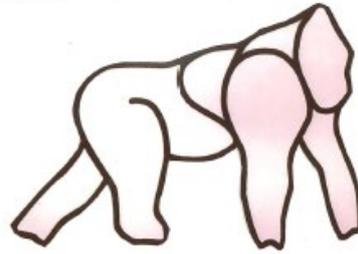
[www.fondationvalmont.com](http://www.fondationvalmont.com)

  
VALMONT

L'ÉLIXIR  
DES GLACIERS

STORIE  
VENEZIANE  
By VALMONT

A La rencontre du peuple  
TSONGA Ivo prend le nom de  
TINTSWALO et se fave de toutes  
les couleurs de l'Afrique pour un  
nouvel épisode baïoli de l'éléphant  
Symétric du Gorille.



DG. Cape Town Janvier 2019

“As he meets the Tsonga people, Ivo takes the name of Tintswalo and dresses up with all African colors, for a new colorful episode of The Elegant Symmetry of the Gorilla.”

Didier Guillon  
Cape Town  
January 2019

Ivo the cubist gorilla of the Berlin Zoo unveils its latest artistic expressions... which will bloom in Berlin, Munich, Chengdu and Hong-Kong throughout 2020.

The second narration of its emotions led by Didier Guillon, after their first encounter in the Berlin Zoo in 2017... when his youngest daughter Valentine, saddened by its sorrowful gaze, asked her father to open its cage and let the animal escape.



Ivo, gorilla of the Berlin Zoo



Didier Guillon and his daughter Valentine

Fed by his insatiable imagination, he gave multiple lives to the massive gorilla... hence giving birth to his first solo art exhibition, *The Elegant Symmetry of the Gorilla*.

As he traveled in South Africa in 2019, Didier Guillon was captured by the richness of local colors and patterns... which echoed in his mind with the angular silhouette of his gorilla. He hence conceived a second opus around his iconic animal figure, with over 20 artworks.

The Artist creates a spectacular array of metal, paper and glass executions featuring the gorilla, brought to life with vibrant textures, colors and patterns appended on its iconic cubist silhouette.

The name of the exhibition “Tintswalo” was chosen by Didier Guillon to embrace his tribute to Africa’s charisma... a word borrowed to the Xitsonga dialect, mostly spoken in South Africa. Translated as “mercy”, it expresses the intangible feeling of love, gratitude and peace one bestows upon one another - a meaningful and worthy gift.

## A vast array of artworks, gathered all together for the first time at La Maison Valmont Munich

Passionate as always, Didier conceived numerous interpretations of his cubist gorilla... across a variety of expressions, long-time cherished or initiated for the first time. Faithful to his past exhibitions *Hansel & Gretel-White Traces of Yourself* or *White Mirror*, he crowds the space with many works – providing the visitor with an unedited experience among a dense collection of art pieces... which also flag the urgency to care about our endangered gorillas.

The result is a collection of twenty-three works presented on walls, space and ground:

- Sketches and collages on various types of paper displaying a multitude of visions,
- Gorilla “puzzles”, 3D assemblies of dismantled pieces of the silhouette... either crafted in cardboard, metal, wood...
- A series of serigraphy featuring a rich variety of textiles,
- A shining attractive metal outline of the iconic figure,
- An intriguing “cascade” of gorillas built with honeycomb cardboard
- A mobile of captivating dimension.



This gorilla fantasy also features two short movies, of living gorillas in their natural element or 3D Tintswalo walking towards its arty destiny. Valentine Guillon, the inspiration behind these series of exhibitions, also signs a stop motion movie.

As all works imagined by Didier Guillon, *Tintswalo – African Colors* is only made out of sustainable materials, sourced locally for each exhibition. Works are produced for each exhibition, in quantities evaluated according to the venue.



## ***Tintswalo chooses to support Publicolor***

Who is Publicolor?

Initiated in New-York in 2019 for the *White Mirror* exhibition, the partnership between Fondation Valmont and Publicolor takes a new dimension, crossing the US borders and spreading out in Europe. Convinced by the efficacy of the different programs, the positive culture and fabulous use of colors conveyed by the charity, Fondation Valmont has decided to strengthen its support to this magnificent nonprofit organization.



**Publicolor**

**Tintswalo supports Publicolor, a New York City-based institution helping underprivileged populations.**

Ruth Lande Shuman, an industrial designer interested in the psychological effects of color, founded the Publicolor in 1996. Its mission is to improve educational equity by promoting an imaginative use of color and design in schools. The stay-in-school youth development program mentors students to achieve success in school, college, career and personal life.

They recruit low-income students who are at risk of dropping out of the most underperforming middle and high schools throughout New York City, inviting them to paint warm colors on the walls of their schools, transforming cold, institutional-looking interiors into warm and welcoming environments. Publicolor's multi-year continuum of design-based programs also includes weekly workshops on a variety of careers including design, and life skills, plus college prep and academic tutoring.

Students may have behavioral challenges, chronic absences, grade repetitions, learning disabilities, or fail core subjects such as math and English.

Since 1996, **Publicolor** has transformed **270 underperforming public schools, impacting over 900,000 students and teachers, and 241 community facilities** bringing dignity and respect to over 2.6 million residents of low-income neighborhoods.



The measurable impact Publicolor has on those students and their communities impresses and inspires *Fondation Valmont*. **The programs show significant improvement on students' attitudes, behaviors and life path... and are run respecting authentic values shared by *Fondation Valmont*:**

- **Art as an inspiration**
- **Youth as the only viable future, human race continuation**
- **Sincerity in every action**

***Artworks for sale... and other initiatives to the benefit of Publicolor***

In order to maximize the donations made to Publicolor, *Fondation Valmont* and *La Maison Valmont Berlin* have conceived multi-dimensional support programs:

- **Donations based on product sales**

From November 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, **10 euros will be granted on the sale** of a selection of *Valmont*, *l'Elixir des Glaciers* and *Storie Veneziane By Valmont* products.

- **Donations based on artwork sales**

Created by *Didier Guillon*, several original works displayed throughout the exhibition will also be available for sale... all sizes, all budgets, all tastes will be rewarded with these exclusive and enchanting designs.

**“My Little Tintswalo” (1 piece)**

Didier Guillon – 2019

65 x 50 cm

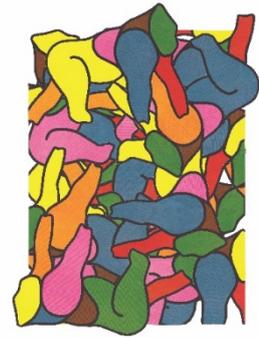
Limited Edition, signed by the Artist

Numbered from 1/50

Wove paper

Unframed

€150,00



**« My Big Tintswalo » (1 piece)**

Didier Guillon – 2019

80 x 120 cm

Limited Edition, signed by the Artist

Numbered from 1/50

Wove paper

Unframed

€250,00



**Tintswalo Puzzle (4 pieces)**

Didier Guillon – 2019

100 x 130 x 50 cm

Honeycomb cardboard

Numbered from 1/9

€650,00



**Gold Puzzle (4 pieces)**

Didier Guillon – 2019

100 x 130 x 50 cm

Honeycomb cardboard & gold acrylic painting

Numbered from 1/9

€650,00



### Tintswalo African Colors Prints (1 collection)

Didier Guillon – 2020

80 x 120 cm

10 different designs

Limited Edition, signed by the Artist

Numbered from 1/8

Vellum paper

€650,00



### Tintswalo Greeting Cards (6 different designs)

Didier Guillon & Publicolor  
children – 2020

15 x 15 cm

€5,00 per card



## *Fondation Valmont*

When art meets beauty

As a fundamental pillar of the Valmont Group, Art provides each Maison with a unique dimension. It plays a role in every initiative, complements the most spectacular launches and shines on its own through the *Fondation Valmont*, a passion shared by Sophie and Didier Guillon.

*When* Art  
*meets*  
Beauty



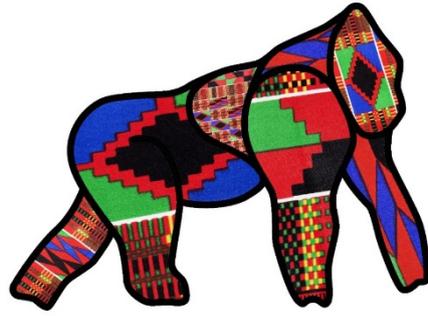
*Sophie and Didier Guillon at the Palazzo Bonvicini*

From the very beginnings of the Group, Didier refused to be quarantined within the borders of cosmetics, and thus worked to build bridges with the world of art. His choice was of course motivated by personal pleasure, but he also recognized that in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, no company can limit itself to its own microcosm.

He develops projects of sponsoring, arranged traveling exhibitions in unexpected venues including spas and department stores, organized auctions to benefit humanitarian activities and put together a unique collection of works by nine artists to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Valmont, among other artistic endeavors.

The tone was set: Didier the art lover had found the perfect medium of expression. To make an everyday product extraordinary for a limited edition or to sublimate a new launch through supremely refined packaging, in each Maison of the Valmont Group luxury goes hand in hand with art, instituting a perpetual dialogue between the art world and the universe of cosmetics.

Fondation Valmont distinguishes itself each and every year through its international exhibitions, its continued participation in the Venice Biennale, its projects that come to life in iconic locations (Hydra, Nyon, etc.) and other exhibitions organized with local teams in Group subsidiaries.



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