

OFER LELLOUCHE
22 May – 28 June 2025

Galerie La Forest Divonne, in collaboration with the Swiss gallery Ditesheim & Maffei, presents the first solo exhibition in Paris of Israeli artist Ofer Lellouche, from May 22 to June 28, 2025. Recognized early in his career by the renowned Swiss art dealer Jan Krugier, the artist was represented by the Krugier-Ditesheim gallery before joining the Ditesheim & Maffei gallery in 2014.

In 2023, the prestigious Albertina Museum in Vienna dedicated a major retrospective to Ofer Lellouche's work. His oeuvre has also been the subject of significant exhibitions at the Gulbenkian Museum in Lisbon, the Maeght Foundation, the Tel Aviv Museum of Art, the CAFA Museum in Beijing, and the Himalayas Museum in Shanghai. Pierre Restany devoted several texts to Ofer Lellouche's work, notably highlighting his ability to express a universal interiority through forms of great formal rigor.

Bringing together a selection of sculptures, paintings, and works on paper dating from 2001 to 2025, this first exhibition at Galerie La Forest Divonne in Paris highlights the artist's central theme: the figure.

Trained at the Beaux-Arts in Paris in the studio of César, Ofer Lellouche has established himself through his ability to explore the human condition in its most intimate vulnerability. His works, whether pictorial or sculptural, immerse the viewer in a world where body and soul merge. This is also why the artist is so drawn to working from live models. Yet from the beginning—constrained by limited means—he turned to self-portraiture, a subject that would permeate his entire body of work, in both painting and sculpture.

More than a constraint, this practice became a form of continuous self-reflection, blending internal and external perception. Reality and image adjust to one another in a state of constant tension, as the artist questions his own existence. In his 2001 text *Ofer Lellouche: The Hand that Thinks*, Pierre Restany develops this idea and adds:

“This narcissism is the privilege of all great contemporary artists who strive to capture in their work that fleeting and random, yet irrevocable, moment when it appears: the thrill of the encounter between reality and its model.”

Lellouche's sculptures, often frontal, reduce faces to their essence, even going so far as to eliminate the nose—an element he deems unnecessary in a frontal view. This directness imposes an immediate confrontation with the viewer, inviting a deep and silent introspection, heightened by the darkness of the subject. In his work, darkness does not obscure the form: it reveals it. Far from being a void, it is, for the artist, a force that unveils an inner clarity—a constant search for light through darkness.



This first solo exhibition of the artist at La Forest Divonne Gallery testifies to the consistency of Ofer Lellouche's formal exploration. It offers viewers the chance to encounter a rare body of work, to enter this fertile darkness, and to contemplate the face of the other as a reflection of oneself.



Opening

Thursday, June 22, 6-9pm

Events

Jeudi des Beaux-Arts Late Opening
Thursday, June 5, 6-9pm

Paris Gallery Weekend
May 23 - 24 - 25

Galerie La Forest Divonne – Paris

12, rue des Beaux-arts 75006 Paris
Tuesday-Saturday 11am - 7pm
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Press Contact

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Photo Credits

Ofer Lellouche, *Portrait of the Artist with the Bust of His Father*, 2025

Oil on canvas, 165 x 95cm

Photo : © Bertrand Michau

Courtesy Galerie La Forest Divonne

Ofer Lellouche, *Self-portrait*, 2013

Bronze, 60 x 50 x 20 cm

Photo : © Ariel Yanai

Courtesy Galerie La Forest Divonne