NICOLAS SCHNEIDER

Riff Art Projects Gallery is pleased to present “Goodriver”, an exhibition by the French artist Nicolas Schneider, on the first floor of the Gallery. Nicolas Schneider and the Gallery have al- ready worked together for a first and personal exhibition in Paris in 2011. The current exhibition is the occasion to introduce the diverse and singular work of this artist to the Turkish audience.

Water is to Nicolas Schneider’s work what the Bosphorus is to Istanbul. Foreign pigments are deposited before evaporating, leaving behind new shapes.

Enigmatic shapes, humoristic and subtle personages, clear and blurred outlines both simple and complex: such cohabitation brings out and cre- ates magic; the same magic that eludes us and plunges us into a work of art.

His drawings might seem extremely spontaneous to us. They are, however, the result of a long development, a lengthy process Nicolas Schneider went through. They were born in small sketchbooks to be later transformed, hybridized by the art- ist who, on paper stretched over a worktable, enlarges and brings them to life.

In his watercolours, whose theme appears at once supple and blurry, Nicolas Schneider manages to create tension and matter similar to the shape of flesh, born from the hands of a sculptor. No wonder since, being an ex-art foundry man, he understands the meaning of sculpture, an art he might go back to one day.

Starting and starting anew, Nicolas Schneider demands a lot from water which he tries to master. He is just as demanding towards himself, never stopping at a first and unsatisfying sketch. He never chooses the easy solution of using a form he already masters and never stops looking for new routes. It is undoubtedly this exploratory work with form and matter that led us to support his work and give it the visibility it deserves.