



Photo : Matthieu Salvaing

Édouard Carmignac – Interview by Fabrice Bousteau

Excerpts from the book *Walk on the Wild Side – At the heart of the Collection Carmignac*

I am not keen on the idea of owning a collection. These artworks are more like scales of my skin deposited on the walls. Traces of my experiences, my thoughts, my emotions...

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I am — and have to be — constantly anticipating things, and art gives me a particular type of knowledge, even if it is intangible, one that has to do with aesthetics, feelings, thoughts and mostly the realm of the subconscious.

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Why display Lenin and Mao by Andy Warhol alongside a Gerhard Richter work in your office? Because Lenin and Mao came from nothing and they ended up changing the world! And even if I am in total disagreement with their actions, I am fascinated by them as revolutionaries (...). In this day and age, linear thinking is not an effective approach. One must know how to both surf and challenge one's own convictions at all times!

But, back to the Richter. The energy that emanates from is incredible: it changes constantly with the time of the day and the seasons, so it looks like a different painting at each glance. It radiates such power and vitality. Those who know Richter's work are aware that it is a sort of compression or vortex encompassing several stages of his creative process. The two Warhols are symbols, while the Richter represents the pure energy of art!