

CLOVIS PETIT  
PORTFOLIO





## CLOVIS PETIT

est née en 1984 à Paris (France), il vit et travaille à Paris  
was born in 1984 in Paris (France), he lives and works in Paris.

Clovis Petit a 38 ans, il est né le 25 Octobre 1984 à Paris où il vit encore actuellement dans le 13<sup>ème</sup> arrondissement .

Après des études de théâtre au Cours Florent, il obtient le DNSAP des Beaux-Arts de Paris en 2013, participe à deux expositions collectives à la galerie Geraldine Banier en 2014 (Aphrodisia) et 2015 (Etre Vénus) auxquelles il présente des travaux de collages et poésie.

Les années suivantes le verront s'essayer à la langue des signes, jouer dans un clip pour un groupe qui n'existe plus, faire de la musique dans diverses formations et travailler pour sa professeur d'atelier aux beaux-arts, Anne Rochette.

Parallèlement à tout cela, c'est fin 2017 qu'il se re-consacre enfin à sa primordiale et profonde passion, les jouets, les personnages, les figurines, les jeux.

Tout en explorant la fabrication de parcours de billes et de kalimbas, en écumant les fablabs pour découvrir la découpe laser, en apprenant illustrator grâce à un ami brésilien, il développe donc un premier modèle de figurine: un robot en bois à monter soi-même et qui s'appelle KIT.

A partir de ce modèle, Clovis crée des personnages uniques et bigarrés qui convoquent l'enfant en nous, l'envie de jouer, d'oublier le monde des adultes, d'utiliser ces figurines pour une évidente catharsis.

Réunis en équipes, ils constituent l'installation présentée actuellement à la galerie.

## BIOGRAPHIE

Formation :

Cours Florent  
Diplômé en 2013, DNSAP, Ecole des Beaux de Paris

Expositions :

2015 : Etre Vénus, Galerie Géraldine Banier  
2014 : Aphrodisia, Galerie Géraldine Banier  
Curatrice : Sinziani Ravini

Clovis Petit is 38 years old, he was born on October 25, 1984 in Paris where he still lives in the 13th district.

After studying theater at the Cours Florent, he obtained the DNSAP of the Beaux-Arts de Paris in 2013, participated in two group exhibitions at the gallery Geraldine Banier in 2014 (Aphrodisia) and 2015 (Etre Vénus) in which he presented works of collage and poetry.

The following years will see him try his hand at sign language, play in a video clip for a band that no longer exists, play music in various formations and work for his art school teacher, Anne Rochette. Alongside all of this, it was in late 2017 that he finally rededicated himself to his primordial and deep passion, toys, characters, figurines, games.

While exploring the manufacture of marble runners and kalimbas, scouring fablabs to discover laser cutting, learning illustrator thanks to a Brazilian friend, he thus develops a first model of figurine: a wooden robot to assemble yourself and which is called KIT.

From this model, Clovis creates unique and colorful characters that summon the child in us, the desire to play, to forget the adult world, to use these figurines for an obvious catharsis. Gathered in teams, they constitute the installation currently presented at the gallery.

## IT'S PLAY TIME !

Group Show

25.11.22 - 15.01.23

**Curator : Jungmin Choi**

### The Magic of Football

Dmitri Shostakovich was one of the greatest Russian composers of the 20th century. After his teacher Alexander Glazunov, he is the second musician to have written a symphony as a teenager when he was only 19. A work of maturity, grandeur and scope that does not suggest his young age.

Despite his brilliant genius and fabulous beginnings, his life and musicality were not motivated by splendor and recognition but by the fear of death. He lived under the Stalinist regime where people were captured and killed without a word. The Great Purge definitely cast a shadow over his music, his life, his time and even his features.

Curiously, while his life was frightening and dark, the portraits that represent him show a man with a childlike smile.

He was a great soccer fan. He even had a referee's license and was always telling stories about soccer in the letters he exchanged with his friends to forget a tragic life in which the slightest incursion of the secret police could mean a death sentence. This is «the magic of soccer».

### The historical event and the artists' view

The 2022 World Cup is being held in Qatar, for the first time in winter, to avoid the sweltering heat of the Middle East.

If more than 150 countries from all over the world participate in the Olympic Games, only 32 countries have been selected for this international sports competition after very strict selections. All the countries participated in the qualifications.

To play soccer you need a goalkeeper and ten players. Only the goalkeeper can touch the ball with his hand but not the players. A point is awarded if the ball is kicked into the opponent's goal with the feet, head or body. The team that scores the most points wins. Simple rules that keep the world excited for 90 minutes.

An accomplished sport that brings people together and overcomes divisions. Political parties and different religions become one under the national flag. All citizens become fans of their country's team and finally patriots. We cheer when our team scores and we are sad if we lose the game. How to interpret and explain this simple and surprising phenomenon?

The British historian Edward Hallett Carr defined historiography as 'The hard core of facts and the flesh of the controversial interpretation that surrounds it.' He describes the facts from his point of view. The fact that existed is the hard core and the historian's interpretation is what is around the core. This solid fact and the historical description that is added to it meet to form our 'story'.

The artist is not the historian. However, artists also express themselves on the «solid fact» with their «own creative perspective». The intervention of the artist for the event of the history is thus realized. Goya painted the horror of war and Picasso also spoke out against war in his work, Guernica. The artist adds «artistic flesh» to the hard core. In this exhibition seven artists explain, express, introduce, claim and accuse with their own language the solid fact of the World Cup.

The seven artists participating in this exhibition are both players and coaches. They play their games with their own style. Sometimes intensely, sometimes controversially, sometimes radically and calmly, they speak about this subject each with their own language. The subject is soccer and its environment. The artists talk about this World Cup but also about the world that promotes the World Cup. They tell the story of the shadows cast by the eight splendid World Cup stadiums from which the cheers of the crowd will rise.

**Clovis Petit** creates his own organization. He calls it 'kit'. His kit is unique, all the elements are sculpted by the artist's hand. The kit he produced starts from the anatomy of the human body. It refers to the era of robots. It shows the beauty of the human body and the precision of manufacturing.

Here his kit shows a player preparing for a soccer match. The artist has chosen the color of Ukraine and Russia. He gives his kit a political and sociological character by choosing the colors of two countries at war. Two countries confront each other but it is not like a soccer match. War is followed by death and innocent victims.

These two kits evoke the hope of a confrontation without horrors, without deaths, without destruction. A peaceful competition like soccer. Small cubes without expressions are assembled to form the legs, arms and bodies and give life to these kits. The artist tells the story of war through a game. While the world cheers for soccer, he reminds us that war continues.

Extract of the text by **Jungmin Choi**

Curator

PHD Visual arts, Université Paris I, Sorbonne

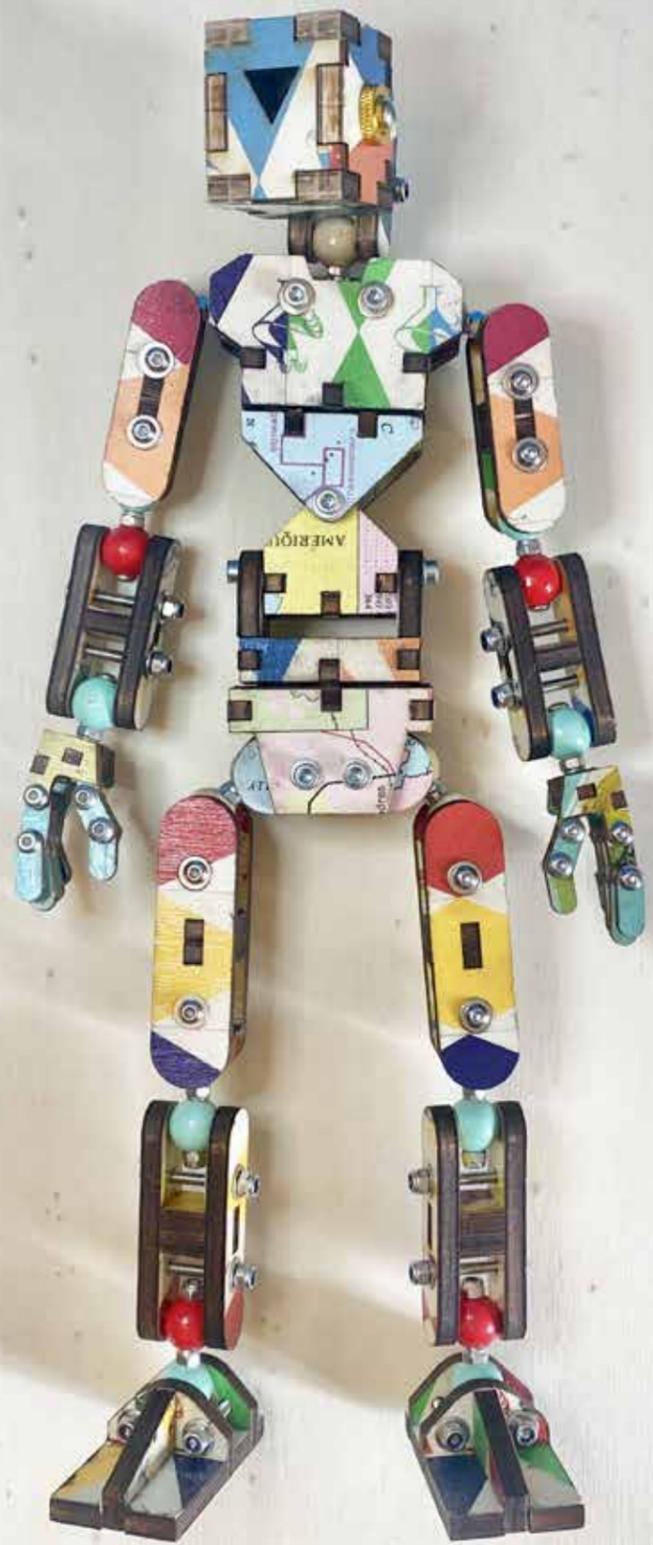




-KIT collages DIY motifs  
Bois (cp peuplier), boulons écrous et rondelles en acier et inox, perles, scotchs, vernis-colle,  
mains en PMMA, colle vinylique, peinture acrylique.



-KIT 2 coqs d'or  
Bois (cp okoumé), boulons écrous et rondelles en inox, colle vinylique, papier, vernis-colle, perles,  
mains et 5 faces interchangeables en PMMA.



-KIT 2 coqs d'or et cartes  
Bois (cp okoumé), boulons écrous et rondelles en inox et acier, colle vinylique, papier, vernis-colle, perles, 5 faces interchangeables en MDF.



-KIT 2 coqs d'or 2  
Bois (cp okoumé), boulons écrous et rondelles en inox et acier, colle vinylique, papier, vernis-colle, perles, 5 faces interchangeables.



-KIT Mappemonde

Bois (cp okoumé), boulons écrous et rondelles en inox et acier, colle vinylique, papier, vernis-colle, perles, 4 faces interchangeables, tête ronde en polystyrène.

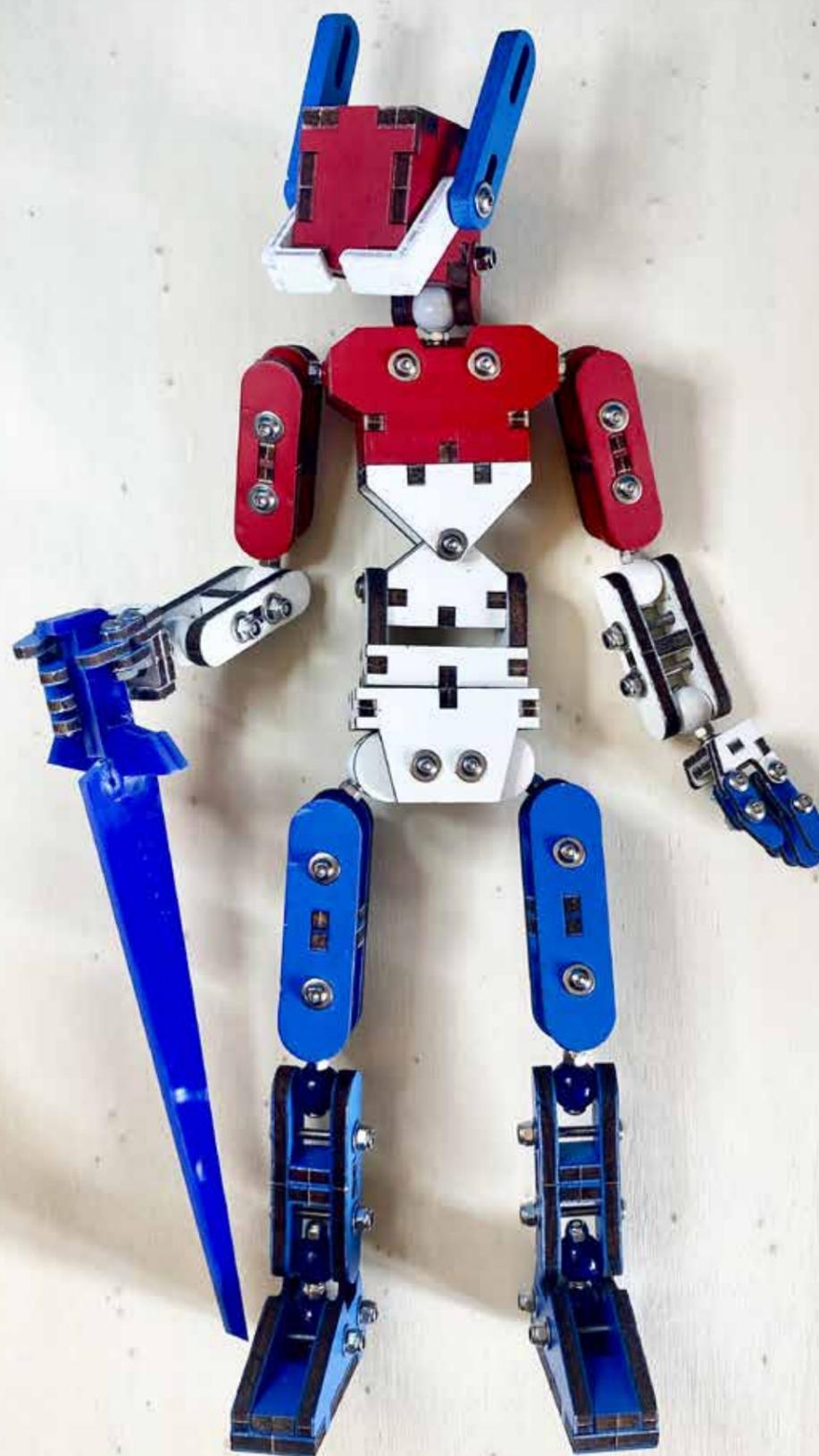


-KIT Rainbow

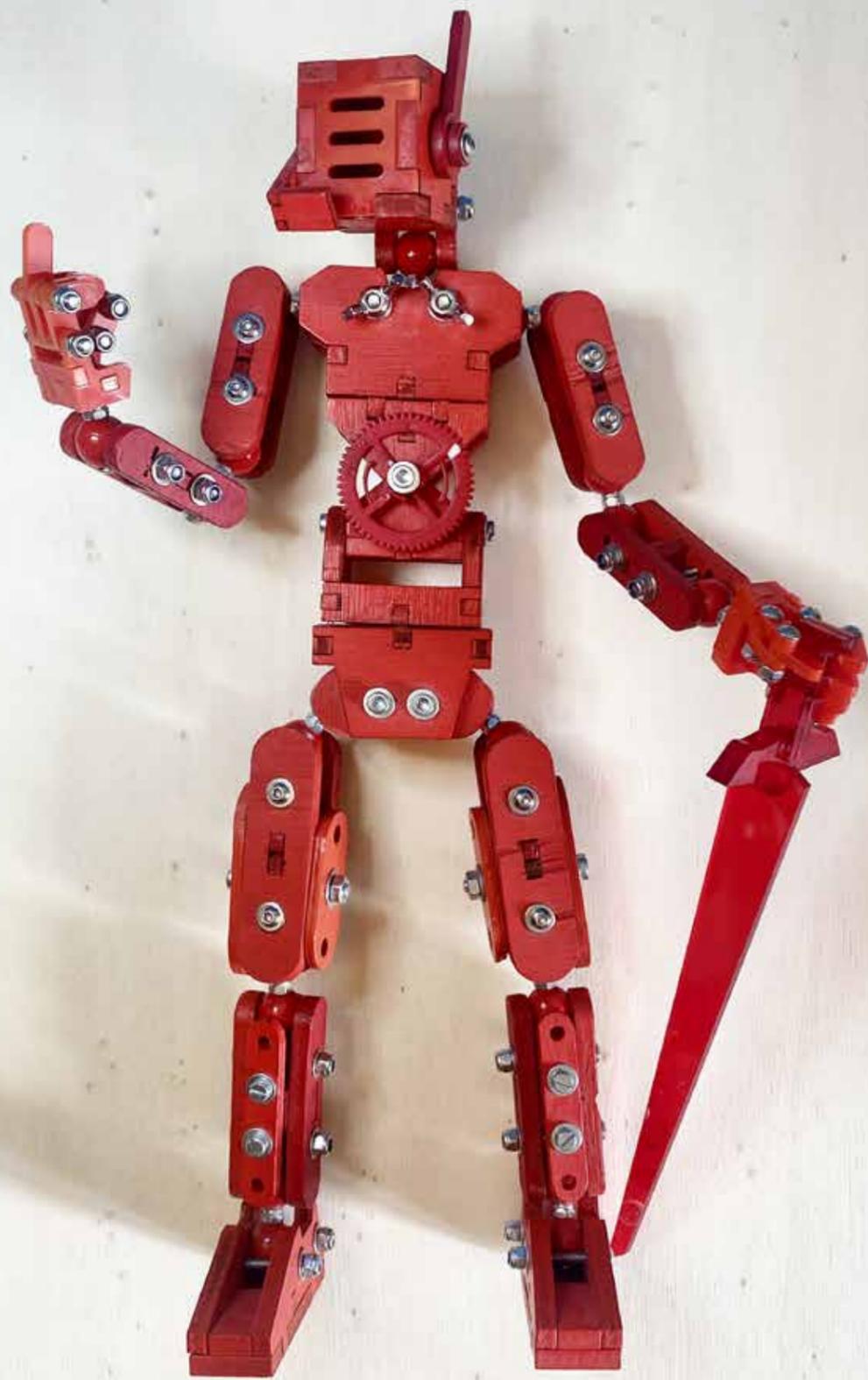
Bois (cp peuplier), boulons écrous et rondelles en inox, colle vinylique, perles, 8 faces interchangeables, peinture acrylique.



-KIT White Proto  
Bois (cp okoumé, MDF), boulons écrous et rondelles en acier, colle vinylique, papier, bristol, perles, 27 faces images interchangeables, peinture acrylique, mains en PMMA.



-KIT Tricolore Chauvin guerrier  
Bois (cp peuplier, MDF), boulons écrous et rondelles en inox, perles, colle vinylique, 6 faces interchangeables, peinture acrylique, épée en PMMA.



-KIT Guerrier Rouge  
Bois (cp okoumé), boulons écrous et rondelles en inox, colle vinylique, perles, 3 faces interchangeables, épée et mains en PMMA, peinture acrylique.



-KIT Silver Killer Magnet  
Bois (cp okoumé, MDF), boulons écrous et rondelles en inox et acier, colle vinylique, perles, 5 faces interchangeables, aimants néodyme peinture acrylique.