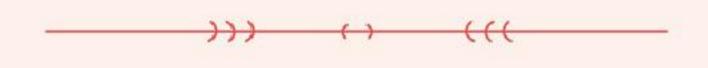
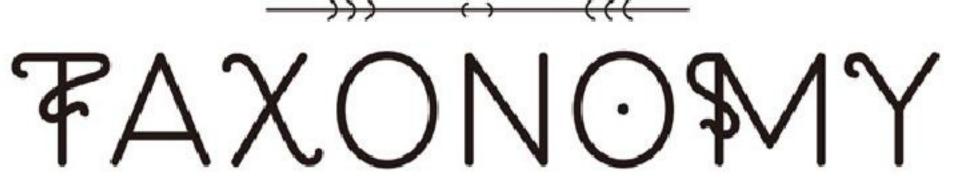


Appealing or revolting, insects undeniably remain the masters of the world, whatever people think. 80% of living beings are insects. Considered by some as parasites, pests or dirty, they are useful, organised and abound in colours and shapes. Small kings of contradiction, they could not pass by unnoticed. In this third issue, insects were tasted, smelled, observed and even touched! A selection of viewpoints and practises that sway, crawl or fly over the upcoming pages. Lovingly collected, carefully observed or furiously exhibited for some, insects reveal themselves as temporal markers, work base, art material and solution for the future for others. Insects wreak havoc.



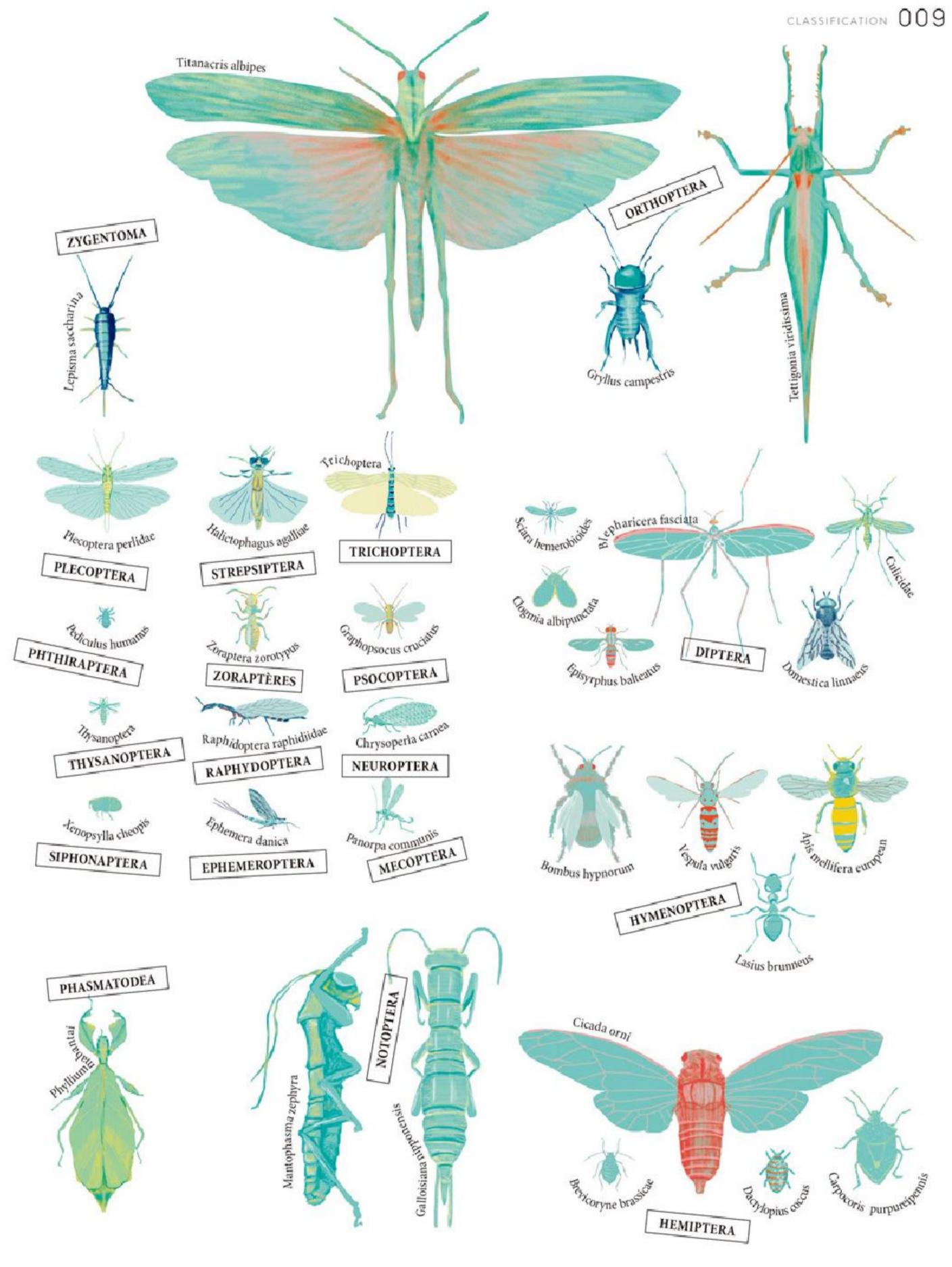
CERCLE MAGAZINE



# A classification of the main

A classification of the main insect species, drawn by hand.

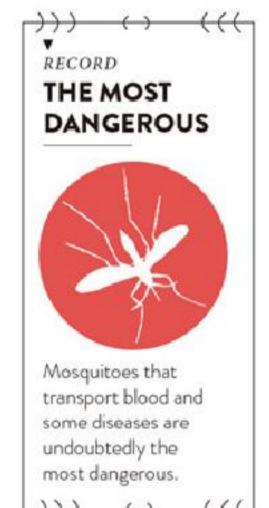
SOURCE INRA ILLUSTRATIONS MARLENE ASTRIÉ Soma sycophanic The Post rectinguis Somella septempunctula Rosalia alpina Lucanus cervus. COLEOPTERA Genicera cuprea Acherontia accessor Æshna cyanea ODONATOPTERA Aporia cratge Coenagrion puella Blatella Sermanica Saturnia pavonia LEPIDOPTERA 0 Mantis religiosa DERMAPTERA Tenticula auriculation Permitidae DICTYOPTERA

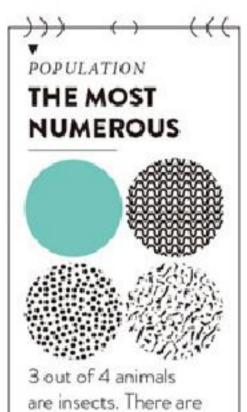


DATA

# **NUMBERS, AND MAKE THEM SNAPPY!**

Compilation of diverse data collected by the Office Pour les Insectes et leur Environnement (OPIE). More info www.insectes.org

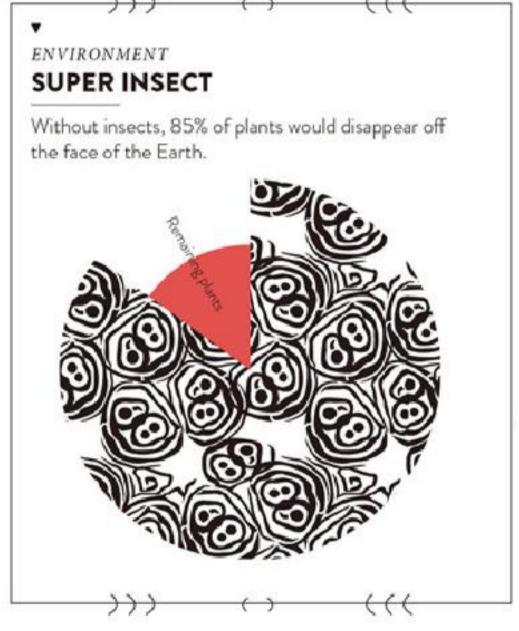


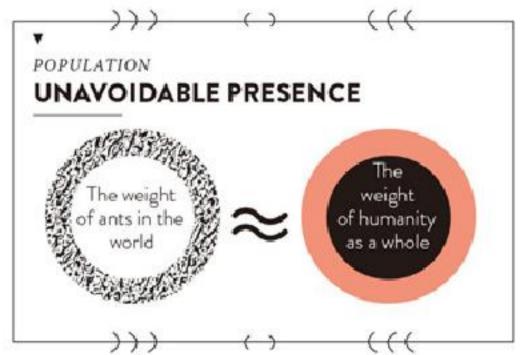


up to 100,000,000

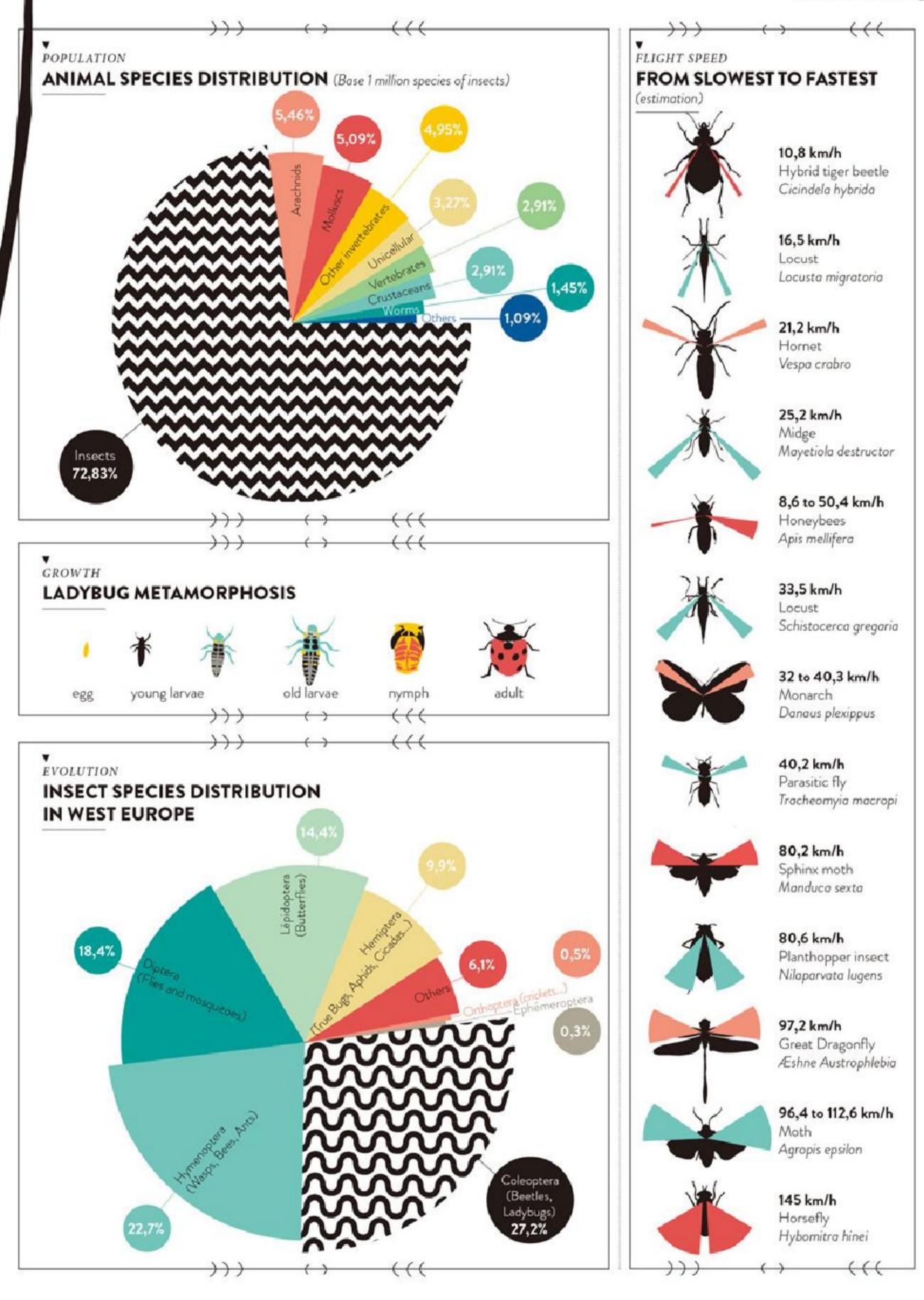
estimated species of

insects.













The city of insects
Karine Hamel-Cam and Lucile Vidal
page 020

Collective intelligence
Guy Theraulaz

page 026

The one who painted mutants

Cornelia Hesse-Honegger

page 032

to their way of life. Flying ones generally have bigger, compound eyes and thus a more panoramic vision than insects who live underground or in galleries. Those use their antennae to move about and get their bearings. We do not know everything about insects' vision, research is still underway. They have many sensory receptors: vision, antennae, smell, but also sensory captors for air movements. They developed more than just eyesight to get their bearings.

### How do they communicate? Through smells?

L. V.: Through smells mostly. Social insects live in colonies and need to pass on information. For ants and bees, it's mainly through smells, pheromones, but also touch. Let's take the example of ants that use several types of smells such as warning pheromones, or trails for food, etc. According to the smell, the ant receives the information through its antennae and can determine what to do. If it's a trail smell, she will know that at the end of the trail there is food. If it's a warning smell, she will take up a defence position to get ready for an attack. It's the same for bees, those who are outside must tell those inside where the food is: to do so, they have a dance that the others understand by the smells they produce, but also through touch. Solitary insects also use smells to attract females for reproduction. That's how they can get together.

### Are there interactions between different species of insects? It is possible for example to find other insects in anthills. What is their role?

L. V.: In anthills, you can find woodlice for example, and also blue butterflies. Those are butterflies whose caterpillars pass themselves off as ants by secreting a substance identical to ants' pheromones. Deceived, they feed the usurper as if she was one of their own. Then the caterpillar goes back to the surface to go into chrysalis and become a butterfly. Obviously there are also interactions between plants and ants. Myrmecophilous plants provide food and shelter to ants and in exchange the ants defend the plant from harmful insects.

### You could wonder which one needs the other most.

L. V.: Evolution between plants and insects is interesting. They are narrowly connected. Insects have adapted to their environment, but plants also adapted according to insects.

K. H-C: Carnivorous plants for instance developed in arid areas and found other feeding systems to survive. They also developed interesting ways of catching their prey, such as in their mouths, or drowning, glue, etc. They secrete a strong smell to attract the insect and some plants have a long tube in which the



"INSECTS ARE NOT FO BE THOUGHT SOLELY AS HARMFUL"



-FIG D-

Cetonia aurata larvae, golden rose chafer whose larval development lasts several years.

-FIG €-

Hierodula membranacea, giante mantis from India.

-FIGF-

Heteropteryx dilatata, dilated giant stick insect. Female from Malaysia. One of the largest species of stick insect.



insect drowns or is covered in sticky substances and later digested.

### Insect constructions are also fascinating to look at.

L. V.: Yes, particularly for termites. We could suppose they practically invented air conditioning.

K. H-C: The interest in these insects is that they live in societies; they are building insects who make nests to protect their brood. These societies are hierarchical. Have you ever touched a termite's nest? It's incredibly solid.

### Can you tell us about the relationship between men and insects?

L. V.: It exists mostly between social insects and man. What's noteworthy with bees or bumblebees is pollination. Bumblebees are used by market gardeners and for greenhouse crops. For example, tomatoes need to be pollinated by bumblebees, so there are companies who breed bumblebees for that purpose. They use bumblebees and not bees, because their nests are smaller - between 200 and 500 individuals



-FIG P-

- which are easier to handle than a nest with | to do with cultural habits. Obviously, research 80,000 bees. Bumblebees are also very efficient. In a biological objective, insects are also used by man as a culture helper - they are useful to fight against other so-called harmful insects. Those are very present in garden centres, like ladybirds, some stink bugs or cochineal insects who will counter a particular type of aphid.

### There is also more and more talk of insects as food for man.

K. H-C: There are no insects on the menu in our restaurant here at Micropolis. Legally, this topic is in a grey area. Insects are not considered as food in France, so they aren't really allowed, but aren't forbidden either. But we could get into trouble. Some restaurants that sold insects were shut down by veterinary services. They are studying a law at a European level for 2016 that could consider insects as food.

### But why? Are they worried about their nutritive value or is it a question of species protection?

L. V.: Neither, I think it's simply because they aren't considered as food and it also has is being led to establish whether there aren't any counter-indications for health. But it's so expensive to produce insects. When you look at the price of a packet, it's far more expensive than meat and since it isn't produced on a large scale, costs go up.

K. H-C: There is more and more talk about eating insects but in Europe, it will start in an indirect way: farm animals will be fed flour beetles.

### Do you think people are more aware of insects today? There are more and more insect hotels in parks and gardens for instance.

L. V.: Yes, absolutely. Using insecticides is more and more limited. Houses are set up such as insect hotels or nest boxes.

K. H-C: People are now aware of the utility of insects and of the fact of finding different solutions, solutions with nature for nature. Insects are no longer viewed as harmful.

L. V.: We need to find a balance. There will always be species considered to be harmful, but we learn to live together.  $\infty$ 



- JEAN-HENRI FABRE -(1823-1915)

A scientific and literary man born in Saint-Léons in Aveyron, France, Jean-Henri Fabre devoted his life to his passion: entomology. His interest and curiosity about the world of insects resulted in numerous tales, poems and watercolours from his observations of different species in the wild. An autodidact, his approach is not scientific, but narrative and poetic. He does not describe, he tells. This school teacher was fascinated by nature and insects. He managed to translate the magic and complexity of nature into words. Acknowledged

by his peers as one of the greatest entomologists of his time, his work on insect behaviour studies was pioneering. This hugely talented scholar of nature and insects shared his passion in his work Souvenirs entomologiques which made him famous worldwide.



Twelve artists, photographers, illustrators or mixed media artists whose work draws a formal or conceptual inspiration from the universe of butterflies, stick insects beetles, flies, dragonflies and other insects.



Butterflies 2014, color pencils on paper, 25 x 25 cm



Butterfly moth 2013, color pencils on paper, 25 x 25 cm

## SAM DROEGE

USA

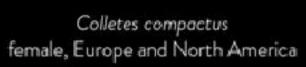


Augochlorella aurata female, North America











Agapostemon coloradinus female, North America





Megachile fortis, North America

# ZACHARI LOGAN Canada



Above: Metamorphosis 1, Blue pencil on Mylar resin 33 x 42 cm, 2013.

Left page: Swarm 2, from Wild Man serie. Blue pencil on Mylar resin, 38 x 40 cm, 2014.







- FIG F -

### > And how long did it take?

For example, one panel of the triptych The Belgian Blacks Know the Clack of the Whip 2,30 x 1,70m, was a tribute to Hieronymus Bosch in Congo. It was shown at the Galerie Templon in Paris. It is research about the cruelty of imagination and the imagination of cruelty in Flemish art. You see that in these paintings we have a lot of imagination in cruelty. And of course we crossed it with our history in Congo, because we were real bastards in Congo. It is research about historical painting but also about the way we acted in Belgian Congo. So this is a triptych. For one panel, I did all the drawings, and my assistants did all the backgrounds. It took me two months.

### Two months, from the first drawing to the final piece?

Yes, day and night, working 10 hours a day. To be honest, I have to tell you the entire story. I use shells now, but before that, I used entire scarabs with different colours for Meat Pieces, Angel or Monks. But, I had some problems a couple of times, which led me to funny situations. Once, there was this big exhibition in Palazzo Grassi, in Venice, curated by Jan Hoet and Rudi Fuchs, years ago. The queens of Belgium and Denmark came; my work was hanging there, and there were many cameras. Suddenly larvae started to fall out of one of the Monks sculptures, with the cameras, and the two queens next to me! What must have happened was that the team from the museum in Venice opened the crate outside, a fly probably flew in, laid some eggs, because it's organic material, and larvae developed inside. The same problem occurred at The Guggenheim museum in New York! And knowing that now,

"THE COLOURS NEVER GO RWAY. IT'S ALMOST LIKE PAINTING WIPH LIGHT".

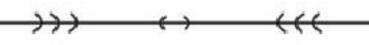
we always make deals with museums. For example at The Louvre, all the works went to a special place in Paris to be suffocated in order to destroy every living parasite. That's one of the reasons why I've stopped using whole scarabs.

We always restored the damaged pieces in the studio. To be on the safe side, I've started to work only with shells. Some works are also made to be damaged on purpose of course.

### We've seen that damaging process on the piece Vleesklomp.

Yes, it means Meat Piece, and I've used only carnivorous scarabs for it, because this work was a kind of research on the spiritual body. When you look into art history, there has been a lot of in-depth research on the physical body. From Ingres to all the performance artists, with the body of blood sweat and tears, or the erotic body. But nobody ever looked into the spiritual body. The body as an envelope,





- FIG F - G - H -

Heaven of Delight (2002)

Wing-cases of buprestids on the ceiling

Collection:
permanent work
Hall of mirrors,
Royal Palace,
Brussels
Belgium

the body as a skin, and the empty body. And that's why I made a lot of monks, angels, and meat pieces, and this meat piece, especially made with carnivorous scarabs. The idea is that they've eaten out the real meat, and only the shell remains.

It seems your work has a strong link with classical and romantic artists, Van Eyck, Bosch, Rembrandt, Rubens, Baudelaire and more recently with Felicien Rops, where did this interest come from?

Because we're dwarfs born in the country of giants. We're very small dwarfs. I mean, my papa took me to make drawings in the Rubens House when I was 8 years old.

I remember when I was 20, I moved to New York. I looked at Andy Warhol's work a couple of times. When I came back, my father took me to the Rubens House again and he said something like: "Rubens was Andy Warhol but



- FIG ++ -

3 centuries before". That's why Rubens was an artistic genius. He was an incredible painter, good writer, diplomat, he made processions in the city, he was an incredible guy. My father took me very young to see Bosch, Van Eyck, Van Dyck, Van der Goes, all the Flemish masters. For me, they are my greatest source of inspiration, still today. Look at a painting from Hieronymus Bosch, I mean, let's take a small painting like *Ship of fools*, for example, it's in The Louvre. It's so small, but when you analyse it, you'll find it full of imagination, subversiveness, political, social dimensions. I mean, a lot of contemporary artists don't do this.

These Flemish masters were very imaginative and thought about space. The Flemish painters were the first who used dimension based on the human kinds, and not on the divine essence of God. They were the first alchemists able to make light in the painting. So, in this country you always stay a small dwarf.

And also, when you compare to contemporary artists, the masters are sometimes much more subversive, they think about art and politics. A lot of contemporary artists aren't and become really cynical sometimes. So that's the reason why today, they are my biggest inspiration source.

# So your work is directly connected to these artists from the past?

I steal a lot from these guys too! I have this exhibition with Rops in Namur, curated by Joanna De Vos and with an intervention of Bernard-Henri Levy. Rops is a fantastic drawer. The topics that are in my work, the physicality, the eroticism, the sexuality are very much represented in that exhibition Facing time. Rops/Fabre. >



- FIG G -

By their shape, their organism or their functioning, insects have parasitized different fields of creation. Here is a glimpse of the invasion over seven scopes of application.

oks — page 122

neic nage 124

B\

Food - page

# Design

Bees are bio indicators of the chemical quality of the environment, flour beetles and crickets are envisioned as the future of food... Insects are at the heart of societal subjects.

What is their influence on the world of object design?





### **DEW BANK BOTTLE**

Pak Kitae

This dew water collector is directly inspired from the Namibian beetle's shell and its water collecting system. Once the water has been collected, the object is used as a water bottle. The aim of the project is to make access to water easier for populations living in desert areas.

blog.naver.com/dotcom2



SAILING AIRCRAFT

Yelken Octuri

Among Yelken Octuri's numerous prospective creations, the convertible Seaplane sailboat caught our attention. When it lands on water, the plane's wings turn to become sails and the craft then changes into a boat.

www.octuri.com







BUG BAG Craig Morrison

Bug Bag is a shell, or rather a bag emerging from Craig Morrison's spiky universe. This artist who comes from the drama scene developed many accessories with strong personalities. Some of his costumes can be seen in The Fifth Element. cmd.co.uk



### THE BEETLE CHAIR

Maximo Riera

In The Animal Chair collection, the designer's intention is to pay tribute to the animal world and its beauty. He plays with scales, but suggests pieces that render reality faithfully.

www.maximoriera.com

LAMPE MANTE RELIGIEUSE

Jean Rispal

Inspired by the artist Jean Arp's work and his organic shapes, the *Mante religieuse* lamp seems to stand upright and clearly evokes the posture of a tiny praying mantis.



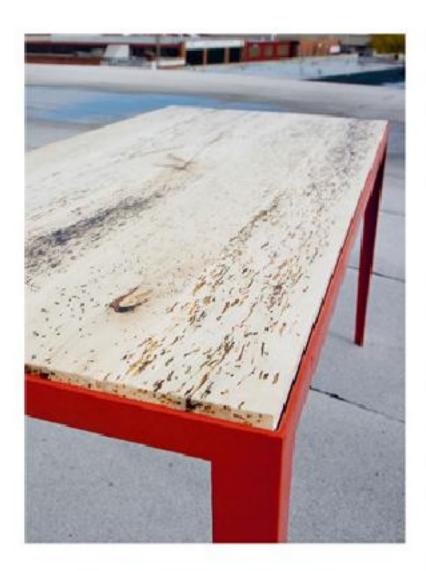
Crédits: The beetle chair © Maximo Riera Studio | Dew Bank Bottle © Ktae Pak | Saling Aircraft © Octuni Bug Bag © Craig Morrison | Praying Mantis lamp © Demosmobilia design Gallery, www.demosmobilia.ch | Beetle Infested Table © Hooker and Co Swarm © Jonas Lindstöm | Brike © piKs design | Lepsis © Mansour Ourasanah | Vulkan Beetrive © Snahetta

### SWARM

Jangir Maddadi Design Bureau

Like enlightened suspended beings, alone or in groups of three or five, Swarm lamps inhabit spaces. The body of these small beings is wooden, tailored into very natural shapes. The bulb, evoking the head, is in a glass ball. The long filaments of the source of light provide warm ambiance lighting.

jangirmaddadi.se



### **BEETLE INFESTED TABLE**

Jesse Hooker

Jesse Hooker's tables are unique pieces. The patterns that decorate them are made by insects that play an active part in their ornament, no longer their deterioration...

hookerandco.com



### **GAMME BRIKE**

piKs design

Inserted in the middle of classic brick buildings, the Brike range welcomes birds, bees and other insects. The project is an innovative suggestion to facilitate and preserve biodiversity in cities.

piksdesign.com





### LEPSIS

Mansour Ourasanah

This prospective project offers a solution to breed your own insects for food. This device could be in many kitchens, very soon...





### **VULKAN BEEHIVE**

Snøhetta

Vulkan Beehives bring bees back to cities, and serve as tools to raise awareness about biodiversity. The project creators want to remind us that a third of the world's food production depends on pollination, in which bees play an important role. snohetta.com

# Fashion

Insects as muses: in the hands of designers inspired by their shapes, colours or symbols, these small beings are invading stylistic creations. The creative boldness, unexpected aesthetics and modern silhouettes or accessories found in this selection can only be applauded.





### LYN

www.notjustalabel.com/designer/ lyn-jocelyn-picard

A crochet aficionado, Jocelyn Picard developed a unique technique. He founded his brand Lyn in 2012 and presents, for his first collection in Montreal, monochromatic tunics entirely crocheted by hand, inspired by insect cocoons and geometric shells. A distinctive and powerful minimal style.





### VALENTINO

www.valentino.com

Maria Grazia Chiuri and Pierpaolo Piccioli created an innocent, spontaneous and airy collection for Valentino. Metal butterflies evocative of flight assemble in light, peaceful camouflage patterns. The textures are ultra-light and almost impalpable.



### **GIVENCHY**

givenchy.com

For Givenchy, Riccardo Tisci focused on the sensual dimension of women. He reveals his own vision of wild elegance. The silhouettes are embellished with "butterfly wing" prints which tend towards abstraction and bind refined fluidity and structured lines.



### **RACHEL BOSTON**

www.rachelboston.co.uk

A 2011 graduate, Rachel Boston launched her jewellery brand in London. Her collection The Protector results from the fascination for collectors who expose insects in cabinets like hunting trophies. In turn, she created a series of jewel-trophies of beetle mandibles adorned with precious stones.



### TATIANA TZIMAS

www.notjustalabel.com/designer/tatiana-marie

Having finished her accessories stylist training in Paris, Tatiana Tzimas presents the Metamorphosis collection inspired from hybrid beings mixing man and insects. The accessory becomes either an extension, a shell or growth, all with a protective aura.

### ARUNIMA MAJHI

facebook.com/arunimamajhiofficial

Launched in October 2013 by Arunima Majhi, the eponymous Indian brand presents *Venus Fly Trap*: a collection with unique aesthetics and strong identity. The emphasis is laid on futuristic complex cuts and colourful prints inspired by entomology and botany.





### BUCCELLATI

www.buccellati.com

Milanese jeweller
Gianmaria Buccellati
created this great bestiary
in 2003. This collection is
composed of 22 animal
shaped broaches with
extraordinary baroque
pearls. Every year it
grows, including many
insects such as butterflies,
scorpions or beetles.



### ADLINE

www.adline-adline.com

Launched in 2013 by Adline Ferret, the Adline brand places femininity at the heart of her work. The A/W 2014-2015 collection presents diamante embroidery mingling with real insects for a unique style. Enigmatic and complex, insects reveal the multifaceted character of femininity.



### LANVIN

www.lanvin.com

Alber Elbaz reveals a collection for Lanvin in which insects rule as masters: oversized broaches and necklaces of gold metal bees, flights of dragonflies made of crystal and embroidered pearls on a silk dress, green iridescent beetle prints invading a satin tunic-trouser suit.



### WANDA NYLON

www.wandanylon.fr

Based in Paris, this French brand offers innovative urban chic collections with avant-gardist accents. The search for pioneering fabrics, such as this parka's metallised material that give impressions of volume and a particular flow, is the driving force of her creative approach.

Selection by hailand Unique exts and tests by florianne Lorin

# Food

Edible insects are the food of the future. Thailand Unique will be a part of this revolution.

The company already offers a wide range of edible insects on its online shop thailandunique.com.

Let's stand up to cultural prejudice and taste some!





MIXED BUGS

Boiled, dehydrated, salted

Fancy a mixed salad?
The mole crickets are the crunchiest of the pack. Their taste is rather neutral but the aspect is appealing.



2 •0000 BLACK ANTS

Dehydrated

The smallest insects of the selection. Ants may not make a sound or taste anything, they have an acidic and spicy smell.



### BIG GRASSHOPPERS

Cooked, dehydrated, salted

Warning: eaten whole, you can really feel the animal, as you taste and chew it.
Eat it in small pieces if you aren't feeling bold.



# **₫** •○○○○ GRASSHOPPERS

Oven cooked, Bacon & cheese flavor

The "bacon & cheese" flavor is imperceptible. Unlike the other insects, these are unsalted.



# SMALL CRICKETS

Cooked with oil, Wasabi flavor

Small but potent. Champions of the "consistent" category! The taste is similar to Japanese crackers.







### Ø .... SAGO WORMS

Dehydrated, salted

Very pleasant surprise. Inviting smell and aspect, Sago worms look like small fries and smell of the sea. To the palate, they remind one of a salted version of the feuilletine. Our favourite.



Dehydrated, salted

Very similar to weevil larvae by their aspect, silk worms are smaller and drier. The uninviting smell is a drawback!



# **BAMBOO WORMS**

Fried, BBQ Flavor

The most charming when you open the tin! Beautiful brown hues. Less dry than silk worms and weevil larvae, a slight fresh sensation invades the palate. Nature is amazing!



Boiled, Dehydrated

The more you have, the more you want. What a shame there are only two small scorpions in this packet. Very pretty and very salty, they slide down easily. These are not insects but arachnids!



### ₩ •0000 **BLACK SCORPION**

Boiled, Dehydrated

Are you game or not? Taste a crunchy leg, then the claws... The taste is not striking, but watch your teeth! Finish with the abdomen, softer with a long muscular taste.



### 00000 QUEEN **WEAVER ANTS**

Boiled, Dehydrated

There's no accounting for taste? If insects are supposed to taste like hazelnuts, the queen weaver ant is the closest. Fat but crunchy.



### CRICKET FLOUR

Powder

The acerbic smell that comes out of the packet is discouraging. Add an egg, some sugar, butter and twenty minutes later, cakes come out of the oven. Not a bad taste in the end.



Dried, covered with chocolate

SILKWORMS

The sweet and sour mix won't fail to impress. A bit more chocolate to soothe the powerful smoky taste of the silk worm would have been welcomed, but apparently the tasting was about insects and not chocolate.



CRICKETS Dried, covered

with chocolate

Delicious! We nearly finished the box. The taste of the insect is well concealed, maybe a bit too much, but it crunches as it should under a very good quality chocolate.



### **(1)** SAUTERELLES CHOCOLATÉES

Dried, covered with chocolate

Chocolate covered grasshoppers should meet more amateurs than the plain grasshopper. Similar to the chocolate covered cricket, but with a bit more to eat.





### CERCLE MAGAZINE

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