



THE NOMINEES FOR THE 2013 MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE

BY RICHARD LEYDIER

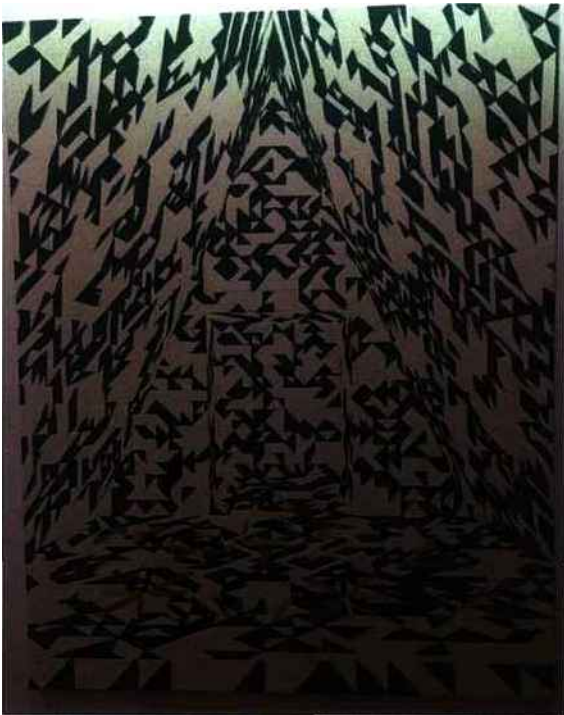
Farah Atassi

Born in 1981. Lives and works in Paris

Farah Atassi appeared on the art scene in the late 2000s with paintings depicting strange interiors: living rooms, bathrooms tiled “à la Jean-Pierre Raynaud”, rooms tenanted solely by upended furniture, objects abandoned as if in the wake of a debacle. As though there had been a war or a sudden epidemic. “*I speak of mankind through his traces,*” says the artist.

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through his traces**

Over time, her painting has become more abstract. Tiles evolve into mosaics, tesserae painted with the small square touches evoking *Broadway Boogie Woogie* by Piet Mondrian or Optical Art. Taking the form of stylised houses and chimneys of miniature factories, exteriors contaminate interiors in pictorially paradoxical compositions: skilful perspective hollowing out spaces absolutely devoid of depth.



Farah Atassi, *Tabou*, 2013, oil on canvas, 210 x 170 cm, private collection
Courtesy of the artist and gallery [Xippas](#) Photo Philippe Régnier