

PAN

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Bramblings

Inkjet print on Arches 100% cotton paper, 2023

"Bramblings" by wildlife photographer Vincent Munier (1976, Vosges, France) is a dazzling picture of thousands of birds migrating every year from Scandinavia and Russia. Created by Munier in the heart of the Vosges in 2023, it is almost a hundred years after Claude Monet finished his famous series *Water Lilies*. With *Bramblings* Munier shows us a more contemporary impressionistic take on French nature, this time from the animal world.

The impressions which birds present when flying as a flock at first appear chaotic – a seemingly unchoreographed dance. But this poetic impression, in fact, contrasts with the ability of birds to navigate landscapes with precision. Bramblings, for example, use magnetoreception to find their way between Arctic breeding grounds and warmer wintering areas such as the Vosges. There, autumn and winter bring awe-inspiring natural spectacles, where it is possible to observe thousands of birds seemingly dancing together, as in Munier's '*Bramblings*'.

Munier's images are proof of his ability to approach physically as well as mentally the animals in their own habitat. Speaking about his work, it is not so much recording nature but finding constructed compositions that include the atmosphere of the environment that these animals live in. These compositions consist of the tranquillity of their surroundings as well as the linear construction and sensibility of the force of nature.

Biography

As a winner of many international photography awards and nominees, - Munier won multiple times the acclaimed BBC Wildlife photographer of the year award - something particular is setting the works of Munier apart from other wildlife photography. Munier's work is being exhibited extensively since 2023 including exhibitions at New York Public Library, New York, 2024; Musée des Confluences, Lyon, 2024; Cité Musical Metz, galerie d'expositions, Metz, 2024; le Musée de la Photographie Charles Nègre, 2023; Jardin des Plantes, Paris, 2017 and National Museum of Natural History, Paris, 2011. He took six expeditions to capture the wolves in the Arctic and on Ellesmere Island. Since 2011 he looked for highly cryptic and elusive 'ghost' cat, the snow leopard, for which he traveled many years to the rugged terrain of mountainous regions of Tibet to encounter it for the first time in 2016. In 2021 Vincent Munier co-directed the film 'The Velvet Queen' with Marie Amiguet, about his search with writer Sylvian Tesson for the snow leopard (*Panthera uncia*). The documentary received the César Award for Best Documentary Film in 2021. Munier published many books, amongst them two photo-books about Tibet and the snow leopard. In 2023 his new monograph VINCENT MUNIER was released at Paris Photo with FLAT // LAND who showed his work at the main section of the Paris Photo as part of its new ethological direction of the gallery. In 2025 his new film LE CHANT DES FORÊTS is to be released on the species that inhabit the wild life in the north east of France.