

HUBERTY
& BREYNE

Fanny MICHAËLIS

Et c'est ainsi que je suis née

24.01.2026
> 21.02.2026

PARIS | Chapon - 21

21 rue Chapon
Paris 3^e



(Détail) *Et c'est ainsi que je suis née* - 2025 - Plate 171 - Black pencil on paper - 28 x 19.2 cm

Comics creator, children's book and press illustrator, singer and musician, Fanny Michaëlis is a multi-media artist whose work dances back and forth between the real world and the world of the imagination, between poetry and news, images and words. Fanny Michaëlis treats comic strip as a language in itself and in *Et c'est ainsi que je suis née*, her most recent album (Éditions Casterman), the drawings spill beyond their borders, exploring the margins of what is depicted. Michaëlis writes in images and draws in words, turning the medium of comic strip into an opportunity for graphic and narrative experimentation. The Huberty & Breyné | Chapon 21 gallery is delighted to be showing a selection of original plates by Fanny Michaëlis from 24 January to 21 February 2026.

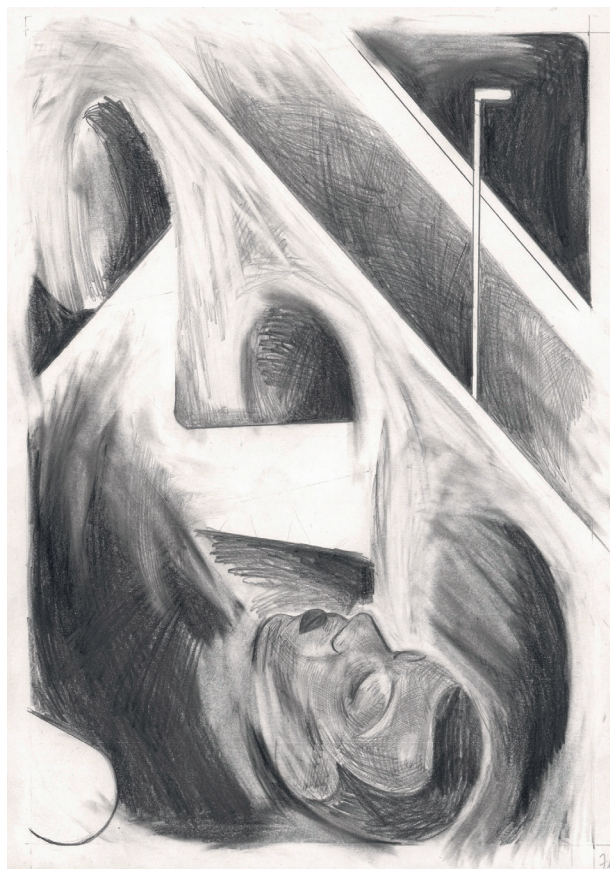


Et c'est ainsi que je suis née - 2025 - Plate 31 - Black pencil on paper - 10.9 x 7.3 cm



Et c'est ainsi que je suis née - 2025 - Plate 17 - Black pencil on paper - 27.7 x 19 cm

Fanny Michaëlis initially gravitated towards painting and the plastic arts before enrolling at the Institut Saint-Luc, in Brussels. There she was introduced to the graphic and narrative avant-garde of the *bande dessinée* world thanks to the likes of Eric Lambé and Thierry Van Hasselt and readily embraced the medium and its experimental potential. The publications *Géante* and *Le Lait noir* (Éditions Cornélius) saw the development of a distinctive drawing and prose style, the two subtly harmonised on the page. With *Et c'est ainsi que je suis née*, Michaëlis offers her readers something of a dark fairy story, part political fable, part social chronicle, the story of a woman who is born tucked inside herself and only gradually opens up to engage with the world. The book begins with a powerfully symbolic birth scene – a mute father figure hiding behind his beard, a screaming mother whose eyes have disappeared behind her wide-open mouth, from which a “curled up” baby girl emerges, head tucked inside her body. From the start, the body is exposed, constrained, trapped in a power relationship involving the gaze of another, involving shame, anguish and the desperate will to survive. The story – written and told in multiple voices – allows the author to engage with the intimate and the collective, the individual and society, while exploring the fragility of life and the forces that are brought to bear on it. The central character, whose facial features change as the story progresses, embodies the introspective process of a human being wresting him-/herself from a separate identity to become a part of “us”. And the individual journey mirrors a wider conflict, a violence that radiates out from the individual to incorporate the social body.



Et c'est ainsi que je suis née - 2025 - Plate 76
Black pencil on paper - 28.5 x 19 cm

Fanny Michaëlis's drawing style changes constantly, veering between minimalism and luxuriance, realism and abstraction, expressionism and stylisation. From clean pencil strokes to blurred expanses of grey (achieved with the use of a rubber), curving forms to ruler-straight lines, what remains a constant in these drawings is poetry as a space of resistance. With Fanny Michaëlis, black creates white, and the energy of the material becomes the carrier of meaning. Bodies are transformed and heads get heavier, break apart, change scale and perspective, until they are sometimes no more than a sign within a visual choreography. Lines – lines of force and vanishing lines – extend across the page to create geometric shapes, then bend, warp, break, giving way to spillover effects, uncouplings, improvisatory and expressionist gestures. The pencil's velvety softness intensifies, becomes a sooty smoke in a stroke that screeches and grinds in a final riotous movement. As page follows page, form and content merge, phrases become an integral part of the composition of the image and words occupy a new and novel space. Letters are drawn, shapes write, and the text becomes movement, offering us an arrangement where words, gestures and drawing are all perfectly coordinated.



Et c'est ainsi que je suis née - 2025 - Plate 129
Black pencil on paper - 27.7 x 19.2 cm

This exhibition invites us to admire a work in movement, where each plate is a place of tension and metamorphosis, where drawing thinks, where text acts, and where the body becomes the battleground between force and freedom.

Fanny MICHAËLIS

Et c'est ainsi que je suis née

PRIVATE VIEW

Friday 23 January 2026
from 6:00 p.m.
in the presence of the artist

CONCERT

by Ludovic Debeurme and Fanny Michaëlis
followed by a **book signing** by Fanny Michaëlis
Saturday, January 24, starting at 6 p.m.

EXHIBITION

From Saturday 24 January
to Saturday 21 February 2026

PARIS | CHAPON - 21

21 rue Chapon, 75003 Paris
Wednesday > Friday 1:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Saturday 12 p.m. - 7 p.m.

CONTACT

Amélie PAYAN
T. +33 (0)1 71 32 51 98
amelie@hubertybreyne.com

HD visuals available on request
© 2026 - Fanny MICHAËLIS

HUBERTY & BREYNE

Huberty & Breyne est une galerie d'art contemporain spécialisée en bande dessinée fondée en 1989 et aujourd'hui dirigée par Alain Huberty et Marie-Caroline Bronzini.

Présente à Bruxelles et à Paris, elle défend des artistes confirmés ou émergents, liés ou inspirés par le 9^e art.

Ses expositions de planches originales, de toiles ou de sculptures soutiennent la création contemporaine dans sa diversité et le métissage des disciplines. Référence internationale dans le domaine du 9^e art, elle propose aux collectionneurs une sélection rigoureuse d'œuvres d'auteurs classiques ou prometteurs.

La galerie prend part aux grands événements du marché de l'art, en participant à des foires internationales telles que la Brafa, Art Paris et Drawing Now. Elle possède un espace de 1 000 m² à Bruxelles, place du Châtelain, et deux espaces à Paris, avenue Matignon et rue Chapon.

Parallèlement à l'activité de la galerie, Alain Huberty est expert en bande dessinée auprès de maisons de vente.

BRUXELLES | Châtelain

33 place du Châtelain
1050 Bruxelles
+32 (0)2 893 90 30

Mercredi > Samedi 11h–18h

PARIS | Matignon

36 avenue Matignon
75008 Paris
+33 (0)1 40 28 04 71

Mercredi > Samedi 11h–19h

PARIS | Chapon

19-21 rue Chapon
75003 Paris
+33 (0)1 71 32 51 98

Mercredi > Vendredi 13h30–19h
Samedi 12h–19h

contact@hubertybreyne.com
hubertybreyne.com