



PARIS FLEA MARKET WEEKLY

4 décembre 2020
#12



ROXANE RODRIGUEZ

“The Flea Market are a wonderful reservoir of humanity”

SHOPPING

**Roxane Rodriguez's selection of dealers
at the Paris/Saint-Ouen Flea Market, pages 5 and 6.**

INTERVIEW

2



An adopted daughter of the Flea Market, decorator Roxane Rodriguez has no equal when it comes to unearthing treasures in the Flea Market she knows like the back of her hand.

«Born in a dresser drawer!»

This is what her father, a famous flea market dealer located in a former 19th century metallurgy factory on **rue Jules-Vallès**, likes to say about Roxane Rodriguez. Child of the Flea Market, decorator, art advisor, youngest at the Biennale des Antiquaires in 2004, she was among the first ones to exhibit the great creators of the Second Empire, with pieces by Edouard Lièvre, Ferdinand Duvinage or Guillaume Dhiel. Obviously, most of them came from the Flea Market, a place for which she has a real passion, going as far as considering the dealers as her family.

With her unmistakable silhouette easily identifiable in a crowd, following her through the miraculous maze of the Flea Market is akin to an initiatory path combined with the poetry of objects, whether humble or spectacular.

“When my eye wanders on the booths, I imagine the lives of the people behind these vases, lamps, ornaments and how they have stood the test of time. A form of absolute romanticism reigns in this place ... a sort of immense memento mori with objects that have been loved and are just waiting to be loved again.»

It is through the **Passage Lecuyer-Vallès** that Roxane Rodriguez starts her treasure hunt of the day, walking by the windows of **Chez Sarah**, the largest vintage wardrobe of the Flea Market.

Her footsteps take her to **Chez Elly**, a lady from the Netherlands who has arrived at the Flea Market a quarter of a century ago. Sheets, linens, curtains: between two embroideries and three days in Venice, she finds antique trousseaux for

"THE FLEA MARKET ARE A WONDERFUL RESERVOIR OF HUMANITY"

her clients. We come out on **Rue Lécuyer**, "the real unpacking of 'biffins'. I unearthed incredible objects in this place, such as, at **Catherine Parisot's**, these panels by Daniel Louradour!» The Rue Lécuyer is also home to the bookshop **La Librairie de l'Avenue**, a must-see where **Laurence Veyrier** opens secret doors that lead to stacked book-filled worlds, so iconic that film director Michel Gondry shot there in 2013 some scenes for his movie *Froth on the Daydream*.

Roxane Rodriguez is always working on the next decoration project. Houses in the sun of the South of France or Puglia. Her drawings guide the architects, and her treasure hunts furnish the spaces, as in the Ladurée boutiques around the world a few years ago.

At the **Jules-Vallès Market**, she often buys from the booths of **Christian Fontanille**. All the way down the market, the incredible shambles of the **Parent** family get to her on every visit. Good pick: this embroidered priestly ornament will end up on a cushion. As she was strolling, Roxane Rodriguez walked into **Sabri's** on **rue Paul Bert** where nothing is for sale until the boss is here.

Next mandatory stop, two strides further on at **La Bulle, Balthazar Topor-Predec's** workshop «from whom I order all my pedestals for collectibles, busts, marbles ...».

Next to it, she asks **Christian Hassler**, from whom she has acquired numerous naive paintings, if he has large batches of gilded wood frames. Not for the moment. But there are heaps of crucifixes coming from disaggregated congregations... «Always these romantic stories behind the objects but also behind each dealer. They all have a unique story that inspires tenderness and friendship. The Flea Market are a fabulous reservoir of humanity...».

A world that she gladly shares with her clients, whom she takes to explore the various markets in search of the piece of their dreams for their ongoing projects. «To make or decorate a place is, in a way, to make a portrait of its owner(s). At first glance, there is an almost carnal relationship with the object and depending on the requirement there may be an intellectual and sometimes historical relationship. When the three come together it is the nirvana.»

INTERVIEW



Compulsory stop at the small house of **François Casal** and his **Merveilles de Babellou**. In the garden, two dreamlike “rooted” basins in the purest naturalistic-hyperrealist style claim the red sticklers. Same at **Lila K's**, at the entrance to the **Paul Bert-Serpette Market** with a painting of flowers and an adorable little colonial lounge from the 1930s in carved wood.

Heading to the **Biron Market** where **Tora Tori**, a specialist in Asian art objects, exhibits two beautiful lacquer writing cases dating back to the turning point of the Edo and Meiji eras (1868).

Quick walk by the velvety trade of **Leyla Ahi** at **Marché Dauphine**, famous for its old and historic textiles, for a deal of golden pompoms.

We cross the **Rue des Rosiers**: a former bargain-hunter for Steinitz-father, **Léon Benaïm** is a figure of the Flea Market. Ferocious humor and erudition around unique objects steeped in history (as in photo above).

Then **Vernaison** nose to the wind: «*I love to stroll there. It floats a unique perfume of treasure hunting.*» For lunch, it will be at **Fabrice's, Le Roi du Café**, welcoming, hearty, jovial. «*Otherwise, I like the Relais des Brocs, quieter, and always very tasty as well.*»

When the Flea Market are slumbering during the week, **L'Usine** is full-time from Wednesday to Friday morning. «*It's only for the professionals, and it's a gold mine...*» Another well-kept secret of the Paris Flea Market.

Pierre Léonforte

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ROXANE RODRIGUEZ



LIBRAIRIE DE L'AVENUE

Located on the first floor of the bookstore and only open to insiders, this papery corridor under an orange glass roof inspired film director Michel Gondry to the point of filming a few scenes from *Froth on the Daydream*.

31 rue Lécuyer, 93400 Saint-Ouen
contact@librairie-avenue.fr
librairie-avenue.fr

CHEZ ELLY

Stacks wrapped in old linen, between complete trousseaux and unique or orphan pieces: enough to embroider around the textile beauty of times gone by.

Le Passage,
18 rue Jules Vallès / 27 Rue Lécuyer
93400 Saint-Ouen
elly.aroua@gmail.com



LES MERVEILLES DE BABELLOU

The outdoor space is full of treasures torn from terraces, parks and gardens. Miraculously spared by the ravages of time, all roots out, this pair of druidic planters evokes a duo of mutant ostriches on board on Noah's Ark.

10 rue Paul Bert, 93400 Saint-Ouen
contact@lesmerveillesdebabellou.com

FRÈRES PARENT

A family of flea market dealers inscribed with a smile in the legend of the trade, the Parents family watch over an incredible pile of treasures, a mess where the eye twists the find between two remains damaged by the century.

Marché Jules Vallès, stand 55 et suivants



GALERIE LEYLA AHI

Her fabrics have theater decorators, movie costume designers, puppet makers, collectors, restorers of furniture running. Even religious congregations concerned with liturgical adornments, one of her specialties, come to her booth.

Marché Dauphine, stands 53, 54, 62

leylaahi@hotmail.com

www.antictextiles.com



LILA K - LES JARDINS D'HIVER

An atmosphere of a Chekhovian veranda, an enlightened eclecticism: the “diverse” gardens of Lila K are conducive to intriguing love at first sight. The Sino-colonial spirit of this almost Art Deco wooden lounge as a manifesto.

Marché Paul Bert, allée 1 stand 7 et 8

lilasoni@hotmail.fr

www.instagram.com/lila_k_antiques



TORA TORI

The graphic and decorative composition of these Japanese writing boxes from the second half of the 19th century express in full lacquer set with mother-of-pearl or lead, the absolute sophistication of a craftsmanship at its peak.

Marché Biron, Allée 1, Stands 60 et 67

toratori@wanadoo.fr



LA BULLE

Wood, bronze, metal: the pedestals made by Balthazar Topor-Predec exalt art objects, amulets, fetishes and even quirky baby-nostalgic memories.

23 bis rue Paul Bert, 93400 Saint-Ouen

contact@labulle-paris.com

www.labulle-paris.com/



GUIDED TOUR OF THE EXHIBITION *THE INVISIBLES OF THE COLD WAR: KGB AND STASI*

This weekend, the representative of the KGB and Stasi spyware collector who generously lends the objects presented as part of the exhibition *The Invisibles of the Cold War: KGB and STASI* at the Dauphine Market will be present and will give guided tours.

He will reveal the secrets of many agents and of their equipment: microphones, cameras, transceivers, uniforms...

**Saturday 5 and Sunday 6 December from 10 am to 6 pm, free entrance.
Dauphine Market, Galerie Dauphine, 1st floor.**

Furthermore, the exhibition is extended until February 14, 2021.

www.marche-dauphine.com/news/les-invisibles-de-la-guerrefroide/

[événement Facebook](#)

INFORMATIONS

PARIS/SAINT-OUEN FLEA MARKET

OPENING TIMES:

FRIDAY: 8am to 5pm

SATURDAY: 9am to 6pm

SUNDAY: 10am to 6pm

MONDAY: 11am to 5pm

ADRESSES :

Rue des Rosiers - Rue Paul Bert - Rue Jules Vallès - Rue des bons enfants -
Rue Lécuyer in Saint-Ouen, France.

TOURIST INFORMATION CENTER:

124 rue des Rosiers - 93400 Saint-Ouen - +33 1 55 87 65 50

Open Friday to Monday 9:45am to 1pm and 2pm to 5:45pm.

PARKING LOTS:

110 rue des Rosiers 93400 Saint-Ouen

7 Rue Marie Curie, 93400 Saint-Ouen

142 rue des Rosiers 93400 Saint-Ouen

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION:

Subway: line 13 - Garibaldi station or line 4 - porte de Clignancourt station

(CAUTION : line 4 is closed on Sundays until 12pm, until 17 December 2020)

Bus : line 85 - Marché aux Puces ou Paul Bert Station.

Tramway : Line 3b - Porte de Clignancourt or Puces de Saint-Ouen station

GET IN TOUCH WITH THE PARIS/SAINT-OUEN FLEA MARKET:

Email : map.paris.saintouen@gmail.com

Phone number: +33 6 14 17 76 91

Website: www.pucesdeparissaintouen.com/fr

Instagram: [pucesdeparissaintouen](https://www.instagram.com/pucesdeparissaintouen)

Facebook: [pucesdeparissaintouen](https://www.facebook.com/pucesdeparissaintouen)

PARIS FLEA MARKET WEEKLY

Paris Flea Market Weekly, a Véronique Lopez Agency production for the Paris/Saint-Ouen flea market.

Editor: Véronique Lopez

Executive editor / Translation: Brice Detune

Editorial consultant: Eric Jansen

Creative Director: Zoé Viot

Photographs: all rights reserved et ©Déborah Lalaudière

Enquiries: lhebdodespences@agencelopez.com

Instagram : [hebdodespences](https://www.instagram.com/hebdodespences)