

Bénédicte's Shadow

Four ways of visiting an exhibition (excerpt)
By J.-F Barbier-Bouvet

The ant goes methodically past every picture wall, careful not to miss anything. Its approach is docile, submitting to the indications or logistics of the exhibition, with an obvious desire to learn.

The butterfly zigzags around the show, flitting from one picture wall to another. Like the ant, the butterfly follows the order of the exhibition, but asserts its will by sampling where its fancy takes it.

The grasshopper advances by leaps. When it sees something of interest far away, it heads straight for it. Its movements are totally free. Indifferent to the logic of the exhibition, it reacts only to the points that strike a chord.

The fish slides along. It can slow down or speed up, but it almost never stops. The fish keeps its distance, contenting itself with grasping the spirit of the exhibition.

FROM: Calle, Sophie. *M'AS-TU VUE*. Munich: Prestel Verlag, 2003.