



**BOOK II**

This book contains photos of some of the many unique Mdvanii artworks

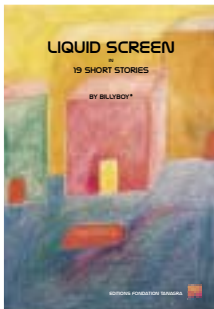
Mdvanii was invented by BillyBoy\* in 1988 in Paris and never ceased to evolve ever since. Creation of two complementary artists, she is a work of osmosis and evolution. "Beware! This is not a doll!" would one feel like précising. Mdvanii, sculpture with a lifestyle, which is a doll only in appearance, is before all a medium, an invitation to meditation. Sometimes, in her porcelain head, forever, for never, is sealed a poem.

Neither heroin nor icon, neither Venus nor Sappho, she has all the charming airs (meaning enchanting expressions) that make a woman's beauty, according to Charles Baudelaire:

- The blasé air*
- The annoyed air*
- The evaporated air*
- The shameless air*
- The cold air*
- The air of looking inside*
- The domination air*
- The volunteer air*
- The mean air, the sick air*
- The cat air*
- Childishness, nonchalance and wittiness altogether.*

This book presents Mdvanii and her family and friends history, from her debut in 1988 with a special accent on the 1998-2005 period with her new futuristic orientation and the various museum exhibitions in which she was featured, pieces from important private collections are shown. This book notably shows the recent *Cyber Sexual Mdvanii 2005* with BillyBoy\*'s paintings and a collaboration with Swiss painter Mikee Chanfreut. Included also are portraits of the artists. A definitely thrilling book about the mythical Mdvanii.

Limited-edition boxed giftset with DVD - order info: [info@fondationtanagra.com](mailto:info@fondationtanagra.com)  
 (Also available separately): **Cyber Sexual Mdvanii 2005 - Temples of Fusion**



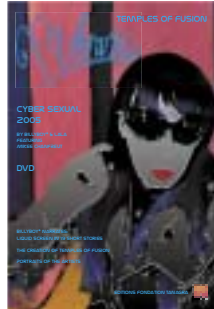
BOOK I



BOOK III



BOOK IV



DVD

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Cover illustration : *Tribal Musk Mdvanii* by BillyBoy\* & Lala, 1999



**CYBER SEXUAL 2005**

BY BILLYBOY\* & LALA  
 FEATURING  
 MIKEE CHANFREUT

**BOOK II  
 MDVANII HISTORY  
 1999 - 2005**

**CREATION OF THE  
 TEMPLES OF FUSION**

**PORTRAITS OF THE  
 ARTISTS**

BOOK II MDVANII HISTORY 1999 - 2005 & TEMPLES OF FUSION



EDITIONS FONDATION TANAGRA

# Contents Book II

Mdvanii history 1999 - 2005

## Cyber Sexual Mdvanii 2005 - Temples of Fusion

Editions Fondation Tanagra  
Mdvanii by BillyBoy\* & Lala  
Drawings & Paintings by BillyBoy\* 2001  
Burn Paintings by Mikee Chanfreut 2005



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Graphic design by Mikee Chanfreut & Lala

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Mikee Chanfreut's work is represented in the permanent collection of the  
Fondation Tanagra and by BillyBoy\*

The Cyber Sexual Mdvanii by BillyBoy\* & Lala project is represented by  
Sumiko Watanabe, SW JAPAN

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■ Permanent Collection Fondation Tanagra

● Private Collection, Japan

★ Private Collection, USA



Mdvanii, resin, *Hommage à Schiaparelli*, 1992 ■

## Mdvanii

### A Sculpture with a Lifestyle

by Jean-Pierre Lestrade

**B**illyBoy\* decided one day to create a doll. "I am going to make my own doll," he said, simply. Inventing and creating jewellery had lost some of its charm for him; he decided to turn his back on this successful activity, which had contributed to his fame. By his side, Lala, his receptive alter ego, listened to him, thought about the idea for about one minute and approved. It was in Paris, in the middle of 1988.

The most aristocratic of all dolls could not find a better time to step into the world. What was she going to be like? She certainly had the option of being a successful commercial object for collectors, but this would have been in deep contradiction with the worried nature and personality of her creator, devoted to beauty and terribly demanding. Himself a discerning collector from the age 15, often referred to as the spiritual son of Elsa Schiaparelli (of whom he is an acknowledged expert), BillyBoy\* created *Surreal Couture* in New York at barely 17 years old, with the patronage of fashion luminaries Diana Vreeland in New York and Yvonne Deslandres in Paris. He could not betray his vision. No, he wanted to create "Her", which in fact meant..."Him". A whole very elaborate deal... a projection of him!

Barely imagined, he knew how to name her: "Midvani" Why? Too long to explain... Of this Russian-sounding name, evoking the shadows

of Misia Sert and the Paris of the "roaring twenties", he chose to withdraw the "i" from the first syllable to put it in the third one, keeping nevertheless the initial pronunciation: *Mid-vah-nee* for Mdvanii. Complicated? Not really... We do not exist without a name, and a name is almost everything. Don't we say "to make a name for one's self" when one becomes famous? And isn't the "unnameable" a synonym of horror? The dice were thrown: to meet Mdvanii, it would be imperative from now on to pronounce her name correctly (needless to say, write it correctly): the first step towards initiation.



BillyBoy\* *Surreal Couture* invitation card for his Haute Couture Showing Summer/Fall '82 Collection



Mdvanii *Space Geisha*, porcelain, granite and "sexual pebbles", 2000 ● Photo by Hiroshi Noguchi Flowers

## Mdvanii, *Souvenirs de la terre*

The works of BillyBoy\* et Lala  
Sculptures - Paintings - Drawings - Photography-Jewellery

Mdvanii was invented in 1988 in Paris and never ceased to evolve ever since. Creation of two complementary artists, she is a work of osmosis and continuity.

«Beware! This is not a doll!» would one feel like précising. Mdvanii, sculpture with a lifestyle, which is a doll only in appearance is before all a medium, an invitation to meditation. Sometimes, in her porcelain head, forever, for never, is sealed a poem.

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*The volunteer air*  
*The mean air, the sick air*  
*The cat air*  
*Childishness, nonchalance and wittiness*  
*altogether.*

Unique, certainly, but nevertheless she is not alone. With the other female and male members of her multi-racial tribe, she takes us along in a faraway world where the past

and the future are like the two sides of a spy mirror. Strangely, humans and aliens who live there look alike. But the future, when is it, and for whom?

Mdvanii, in her organic suit is looking far away and remembers. She remembers earth, a long time ago...



This text by Lala was written on the invitation poster of the *Mdvanii, Memories From Earth* exhibition Mdvanii *Boite noire*, porcelain, glass and wood, 2001 ■



Mdvanii *Organic Suit with Hologram Escort*, resin, 2001 ■

## Mdvanii, a meta-fiction

by Patrick Gyger

Mdvanii at the *Maison d'Ailleurs* was a new turn in the career of BillyBoy\* and Lala. Named *Mdvanii*. *Memories from Earth*, it emphasizes the aesthetic message specific to the artists' universe, and projects Mdvanii and her peers far into the future. When exactly? The visitor is free to decide... Above all, BillyBoy\* and Lala say that they choose difference and individuality rather than standardisation and "global thinking", and express the fusion of the worlds – until now clearly different – of dolls, art, and science fiction. Surrealism, futurism and science fiction always had a great impact on BillyBoy\*'s career. For example, in the middle of the seventies, he invented *Mister Modern*, which appeared in numerous video-clips, in the underground press and during "happenings" with the constant support of Andy Warhol. Ironic, announcing great social changes for the future, Mr. Modern is the fantastical counterpart of his creator: he's surfing on trends to anticipate them, manipulating the media and laughing at the people trying to imitate him... Also, BillyBoy\* was the first to conceive astronaut clothes for Barbie!

The exhibition actually expressed the will of the *Maison d'Ailleurs* to show that the horizon of science fiction is wider than the imagery, which is often associated to it by

the general public. Of course, numerous literary and cinema masterworks have been produced through that traditional form. But science fiction contains many forms of expression, and the *Maison d'Ailleurs* has the great pleasure to show here – once more – how varying and surprising that field can be....

Dolls – maybe strangely – aren't absent of science fiction, mainly as artificial counter facts of the human being, like androids and



Zhrick *They are Everywhere*, porcelain with 1920s celluloid artifact, 2001 ■



## Mdvanii's Family and Friends

Chronology of creation

**R**esin Dolls (about 10,5 inches)

**1988**

First resin and painted resin prototypes, numerous variations of face and body

**1988 -1989**

\* Mdvanii  
(and Afro-European and Indian versions of Mdvanii - never sold to the public)

**1990**

\* Dheeli, Afro-European, best-friend of Mdvanii  
\* Soraya, Indo-European, best-friend of Mdvanii and Dheeli



Top: Mdvanii *La Lune et le Soleil*, porcelain, 1998 ● Bottom left: Dheeli *2 Blue 2 Be True*, porcelain, 1998 ● Bottom right: Mdvanii and Dheeli *Tout mon coeur*, resin, 1990, photographed by Studio Hartcourt, Paris ■ 53



Cyber Sexual Mdvani Kiss My Butt...On! n°1 ●

## Cyber Sexual Mdvanii 2005 Temples of Fusion Featuring Mikee Chanfreut

A new Mdvanii, under development since 1999, named *Cyber Sexual Mdvanii* was born and presented in Japan in 2005. The Mdvanii sculpture herself was sculpted and in prototype form since 1994-1995. Never the term sculpture has been more technically justified for this entirely hand-moulded, sanded, sculpted and painted Mdvanii.

The new *Cyber Sexual Mdvanii* is made in a brand new type of composition and resin-ized *papier maché* and is taller than the resin and porcelain Mdvanii (11,5 to 13 inches). However, she is articulated and mounted just like the porcelain Mdvanii made in Sèvres, France. Each body component is individually varnished and buffed, resulting into a stunning new effect reminiscent of high-quality 1940s dolls. This effect was chosen to evoke the post-futuristic glamour of the *Kiss My Butt...On* and *Nuclear Fusion Phantasmagory Mdvanii* dolls.

The new *Cyber Sexual Mdvanii* is not only a bigger-sized doll than the original Mdvanii in resin and porcelain, but she also has a definitely achieved sculptural feeling which contributes in making each piece a truly individual work of art. For the first time also, traditional Japanese calligraphy stamps for BillyBoy\*, Lala and Alec Jiri Stefanek,

BillyBoy\*'s son, are placed on each doll's inner left thigh.

A first exposure of Mdvanii artworks, now called *Cyber Sexual Mdvanii* shown in Spring, 2005 in *Gallery 7C* in Tokyo, including seven in the new *Cyber Sexual* theme which featured the ever-inspiring Mdvanii doll, once defined as "a sculpture with a lifestyle" in her metaphysical journey through space and time. It was followed by a second exhibition of 10 *Cyber Sexual Mdvanii* artworks called *Temples of Fusion* at the *Gallery Le Déco* in Tokyo in September, 2005.

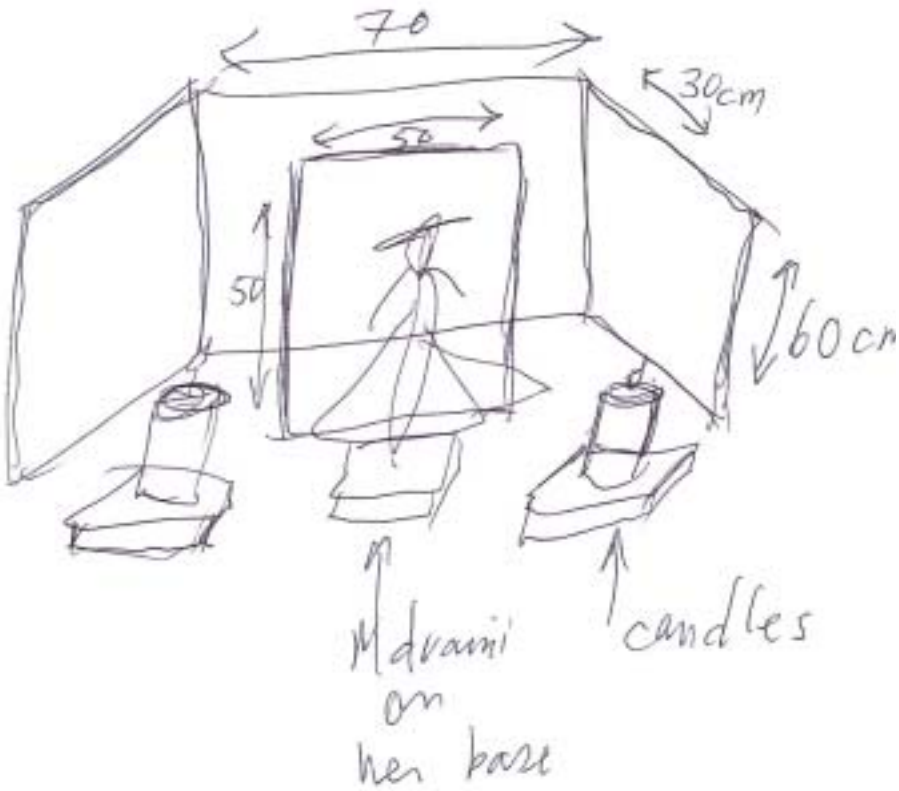


Cyber Sexual Mdvani Nuclear Fusion Phantasmagory n°5 ●

# Portrait of the Artists



BillyBoy\* & Lala  
Alec Jiri Stefanek  
Mikee Chanfreut



Temples of Fusion Sketch by BillyBoy\*