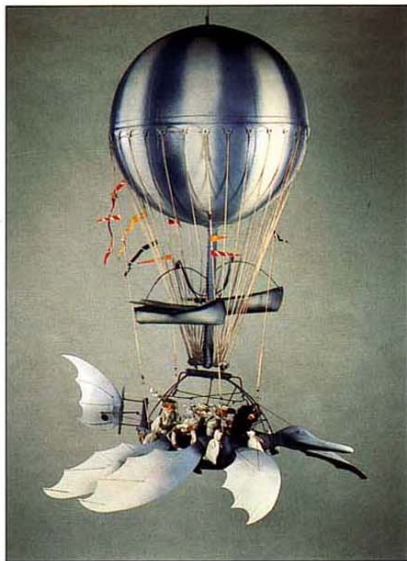


'Africa Queen', 1989, mixed media construction by Serge and Claude Reynaud, 120 x 60 x 40 cm

## FLYING OBJECTS

Reminiscent of Jules Verne's extraordinary travel tales, the constructions of Serge and Claude Reynaud recapture the 19th century infatuation with scientific discovery and exoticism.



**S**ERGE Reynaud is a romantic artist with a humorous streak. Born in Lyon, France in 1950, he went to school like everybody else and looked at the clouds behind the classroom window and so time went by ...

After a short sojourn at university he made a brief appearance as a teacher for the national department of education before deciding to take things seriously. On leaving the teaching profession, Reynaud founded a marionette atelier where he explored all classical themes from opera to theatre and fairytales.

In 1978 he met Claude Marchesin and, while dreaming together, they were reminded of the same clouds behind the classroom window. To reach that dream they decided to create flying machines like the early pioneers of aviation. What can be more beautiful than soaring in one's imagination across a tall blue sky in a self-created fantasy machine? The realism of the detail in the Reynaud constructions gives them great plausibility and an irresistible appeal to collectors the world over. All the flying machines have movable parts operated by strings attached to suspended bags or pieces of wood

Left: 'Aerosphere', mixed media, ht 100 x 60 x 40 cm



'The Large Umbrella Biplane'



'The Adventure', 70 x 60 x 35 cm



'Silver Swan', 120 x 70 x 40 cm



'Africa Queen II', 1989, commissioned for installation at the Braunsberger furniture store in Wels, Austria, length 11 m



'The Imaginaire', 70 x 80 x 60 cm

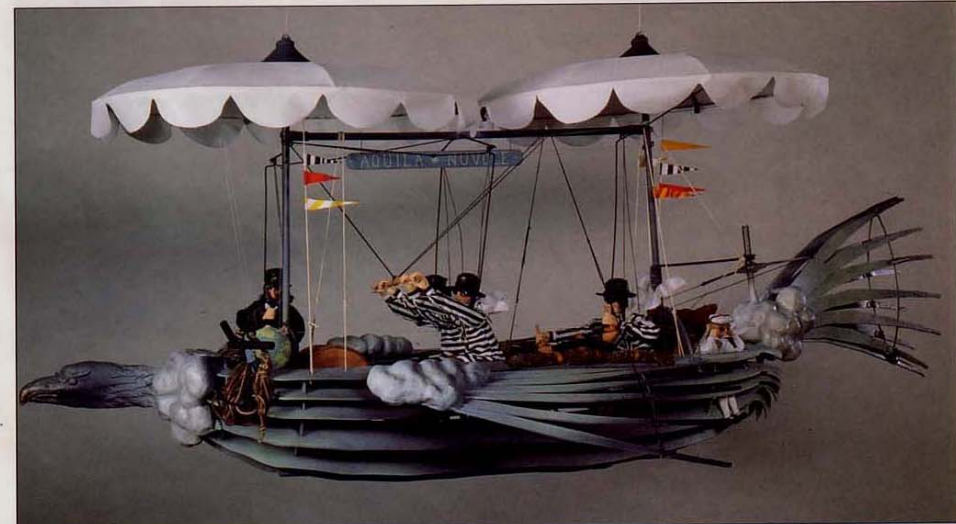
which, when pulled, cause the pilots to turn their head, wave their arms or row. Other models are animated like marionettes from below.

In 1986 the Reynaud's were commissioned to decorate the famous Bucherer jewellers in Switzerland with their flying objects. Then, as part of the Comic-book Festival in Angoulême, France, they displayed their work at the Art Objets Galerie. In 1988-89, the Dapy Gallery in New York exhibited 17 of their flying machines, and shortly afterwards the Braunsberger furniture store in Wels, Austria commissioned the construction of a huge flying machine, on the theme of *Africa Queen*, measuring 11 metres long.

Serge and Claude Reynaud create one-of-a-kind flying objects, as well as limited edition series. Despite the growing worldwide demand for their work, they can still be seen every year at international art and craft exhibitions such as the PAAS in Paris and the Messe Frankfurt.

**Trevor Woodward**

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'Aquila Nuvole', 150 x 70 x 70 cm