

Lenz Geerk

Biography

Lenz Geerk was born in 1988 in Basel, Switzerland; He lives and works in Düsseldorf, Germany.

Lenz Geerk creates psychologically charged paintings that are removed from any specific time or place. With a style well-rooted in the history of art, Geerk showcases a unique technique that is recognisably his own. The characters in his paintings are plucked from his meandering dreams, and they are emphasised in such a way as to reveal the hidden emotions of the human psyche.

Geerk, in his paintings, uses postures and gestures to express a fragile moment, not derived from any specific model or photograph but instead expressed through the atmosphere and body language. His nearly monochromatic palettes, with occasional warming hues, enhance further the aura of emotional tension in his works.

The artist's focus on isolation sets his creatures apart from the ordinary and tired visual language of our time. Instead, he invites the viewer to experience moments of humour and tenderness through his imagination. Geerk does not protest, nor does he let go, but instead, he calls for intimacy, introversion, and pensiveness. In his paintings, Geerk captures the essence of our condition, exploring the depths of the psyche and the complexities of human emotion.

Solo exhibitions

2025

2025 - Forthcoming, MASSIMODECARLO, London, UK

2024

2024 - Sleep!, Kunsthal KAdE, Amersfoort, NL

2024 - Forthcoming, Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, USA

2022

2022 - Moonpaintings, MASSIMODECARLO, Milano, IT

2022 - Arrival, Roberts Projects, Los angeles, CA

2020

2020 - Sleepless, Mammoth, London, UK

2020 - Wuthering Heights, Roberts Projects (Online exhibition), Los Angeles, USA

2019

2019 - Mixed Blessings, Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, USA

2018

2018 - Wywh, The Cabin, Los Angeles, CA

2018 - The Table Portraits, Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, USA

2018 - Pears & Pearls, Galleria Acappella, Napoli, I

2017

2017 - Nudo, Galeria Mascota, Mexico City, MEX
2017 - Crying, Spitting, Sweating, Galerie Valentin, Paris, F

2016

2016 - Lotion, Gerhard Hofland Gallery, Amsterdam, NL

2015

2015 - The O, Mark Christopher Gallery, Toronto, CDN
2015 - Jäger, dst Galerie, Munster, D
2015 - Closer, Stadtische Galerie Stapflehus, Kunstverein Weil am Rhein, D

2014

2014 - Omen with Jurgen Malcherek, Anna Klinkhammer Galerie, Dusseldorf, D

2012

2012 - Teenage Angst, Anna Klinkhammer Galerie, Dusseldorf, D

2011

2011 - Fruhlings Erwachen, Anna Klinkhammer Galerie, Dusseldorf, D

Group exhibitions

2024

2024 - Intimacy rarely makes sense of things, Shanghai Pond Society, Shanghai, PRC

2023

2023 - ORIZZONTI, curated by Cloe Perrone, Daniele Fenaroli, Casa Masaccio | Centro per l'Arte Contemporanea, San Giovanni Valdarno, I

2022

2022 - Highlights of the Collection, The Kunsthaus Zürich, Zürich, CH
2022 - In Bloom, MASSIMODECARLO Pièce Unique, Paris, F
2022 - My Reflection of You, The Perimeter, London, UK
2022 - The Drawing Centre Show, Le Consortium, Dijon, F
2022 - Uncanny Interiors, Nicola Vassel Gallery, New York, USA
2022 - Art Basel Hong Kong, Hong Kong Convention Center, Hong Kong, PRC
2022 - Art Paris, Grand Palais Ephemere, Paris, F

2021

2021 - Portraiture One Century Apart, MASSIMODECARLO, Milano, I
2021 - Poisonous Kiss. Lovely Venom, Tick Tack, Antwerp, BE
2021 - Breakfast Under the Tree, curated by Russell Tovey, Carl Freedman Gallery, Margate, UK
2021 - Lenz Geerk, Rute Merk, Alexis Ralaivao, Hussenot Galerie, Paris, F
2021 - Salon de Peinture, Almine Rech, New York, USA
2021 - Go Figure!?, Spruth Magers OVR,
2021 - Sleep, Haverkamp Galerie, Berlin, D
2021 - Life in Flowers, Luce Gallery, Torino, I
2021 - Equal Affections, GRIMM, Amsterdam, NL
2021 - Portraiture One Century Apart, MASSIMODECARLO Pièce Unique, Paris, F
2021 - New Now, Xiao Foundation, Rizhao, PRC

2020

2020 - Good Pictures, Jeffrey Deitch Gallery, New York, USA
2020 - Wish You Were Here, Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, USA
2020 - Synchronicity, Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, USA
2020 - Wuthering Heights, Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, CA
2020 - The Edge of Blue, Gallery Platform Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA

2019

2019 - Behind Face, Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, CA
2019 - Role Play, Maximillian William, London, UK

2018

2018 - 01, curated by Danny Lamb, PM/AM Gallery, London, UK
2018 - Unfollow Me, Nir Altman Galerie, Munich, D
2018 - PabloPabloPablo, Cabinet Printemps, Dusseldorf, D

2017

2017 - 75 Works on Paper, Beers, London, UK

2016

2016 - Es Gibt Hummer, Anna Klinkhammer Galerie, Dusseldorf, D
2016 - Closer, Thierry Goldberg Gallery, New York, USA

2015

2015 - Ein Zimmer Fur Alfred Flechtheim, Osthaus Museum, Hagen, D
2015 - One of Us Cannot Be Wrong, Anna Klinkhammer Galerie, Dusseldorf, D
2015 - Grenznah, Galerie Skolskà 28, Prague, CZ

2014

2014 - See what the boys in the backroom will have, Anna Klinkhammer Galerie, Dusseldorf, D
2014 - German Kleinformat, Kunstverein Koelnberg, Cologne, D
2014 - Zum Schwarzen Hund, gfk, gfk, Baden-Baden, D
2014 - Mac International, Belfast, IRL
2014 - Ce Que Je Suis Maintenant, Rompone Art Space, Cologne, D

2013

2013 - Grauomenta, Kunstlerhaus Dortmund, Dortmund, D
2013 - Goddamn! Here I am, Ausstellungsraum Klingental, Basel, CH
2013 - Members of the family, Kunstverein Emmerich, Emmerich, D
2013 - Darling Darling, Philara Sammlung zeitgenossischer Kunst, Dusseldorf, D
2013 - Rembrandt Ruft, Villa Goecke, Krefeled, D

2012

2012 - Prestige, Anna Klinkhammer Galerie, Dusseldorf, D

2010

2010 - All you can eat, Anna Klinkhammer Galerie, Dusseldorf, D
2010 - Und Immer Fehlt Mir Etwas Und Das Qualt, Kunstgruppe Kunstverein Cologne, Cologne, D

Bibliography

2022

"Elephant's Pick of June's Essential Artists", *Elephant*, June 2022.

"Lenz Geerk Presents a Deeply Psychological Exploration of the Complexity of Desire at Roberts Projects", *Widewalls*, June 2022.

Albertini, Rosanna. "Arrival: Lenz Geerk", *Albertini the Kite*, August 2022.

Dozier, Ayanna. "Lenz Geerk's Moody Paintings Make the Mundane Feel Cinematic", *Artsy*, July 2022.

2021

Helou Hernandez, Samanta. "Sculptures in Showers, Paintings Above Toilets: Moments From the Felix Art Fair", *Hyperallergic*, July 2021.

Lesser, Casey. "Inside My Collection: Pete Scantland", *Artsy*, April 2021.

Rea, Naomi. "What I Buy and Why: Millennial Art Advisor Lawrence Van Hagen on How He Collects the Artists of His Generation", *Artnet News*, June 2021.

Villa, Angelica. "Emerging Artists Reign Amid Absence of Mega-Galleries in Expo Chicago's Online Fair", *Artnews*, April 2021.

Villa, Angelica. "New Advisory Firm Sets Sights on Asia's Rising Class of Collectors", *ARTnews*, May 2021.

2020

Adam, Georgina. "Russell Tovey: 'Art has become a huge part of my life'", *Financial Times*, June 2020.

McHugh, Camila. "A Minibar Mascot and Other Berlin Gallery Weekend Highlights", *Mousse Magazine*, May 2020.

2019

Albertini, Rosanna. "Lenz Geerk: Magic Solitudes", *Albertini 2014 the Kite*, January 2019.

Berardini, Andrew. "Critics' Pick: Lenz Geerk", *Artforum*, September 2019.

Miranda, Carolina. "Art Openings, in LA This Week: Lenz Geerk at Roberts Projects", *L.A. Times*, 2019.

Osberg, Annabel. "Celeste Rapone; Lenz Geerk", *Artillery*, September 2019.

Wood, Eve. "Activating Absence in Lenz Geerk's Mixed Blessings", *Riot Material*, September 2019.

2018

Horst, Aaron. "Lenz Geerk at Roberts Projects", *Contemporary Art Review*, September 2018.

Wood, Eve. "Lenz Geerk: A Glance in Place of a Smile", *Artillery*, November 2018.

Public Collections

China

HEM Museum, Shunde
X Museum, Shanghai
XIAO Museum, Shandong

France

Fondation Louis Vuitton, Paris

Israel

Tel Aviv Museum of Art, Tel Aviv

Italy

Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin

Japan

Comico Art Museum, Oita

Norway

Kistefos Museum, Oslo

Puerto Rico

Up Next Art, Vega Baja

Switzerland

The Kunsthaus Zürich, Zürich

United Arab Emirates

The Arts Club Dubai, ICD Brookfield Place, DIFC, Dubai

United States of America

Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami, FL
The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA
Hirshhorn Museum, Washington D.C.