

Michaël Aerts

Planetarium

15.02. - 18.04.2020



Michaël Aerts PLANETARIUM

The Belgian artist Michaël Aerts (born 1979 in Dendermonde) deals in his works with the cultural history of Europe in reflection on its development and relevance for our time. Insights from philosophy, science, art and architecture of past centuries are reflected intellectually and formally in his works. In his approach Michaël Aerts recalls the humanistic spirit of the Renaissance.

In his latest series of works he leads us into a universe of thought. The center of the exhibition are different planets, which Aerts symbolizes by floating sculptures in space. Each planet consists of two halves of heads and suggested portraits of famous thinkers coming from philosophy, physics, politics and art. They represent the knowledge of our world, the foundation of our thinking.

Michaël Aerts draws parallels to the universe here; all planets of the universe influence each other. They influence the positions and determine the states and condition on the surrounding planets. And just as the universe is constantly evolving, as it mutually reshapes itself, as new constellations arise, man has not yet reached the end of his evolution.

There is a series of planets in black pigments entitled Astronomy & Archeology. In the universe we see black holes where time stands still, or a black mass that we can not yet explain another series of planets the artist forms in white and red wax. Wax has always been used as a material for preservation - literary but also visual, as can be seen for example in wax museums. A third planetary series consists of earth from fields where otherwise grain grows. Earth here stands for the material of our planet, which makes our life possible through fertility.

The exhibition begins with two maps of the sky from the 17th century. For Aerts, they are symbolic of the fact that at no time do we have complete knowledge of the universe. At all times man develops techniques and sciences to understand the world in the last. The totality of the universe exceeds our imagination and our knowledge. There is still much that is unknown to us, just as also our brain in all its modes of operation is not yet to be explained completely.

And so every visitor of the exhibition is part of the concept, to contribute with his own thoughts and insights to the continuity and further development of the world.

Michaël Aerts

Born in Dendermonde, Belgium, in 1979. Lives and works in Ghent, Belgium.
Graduated at Sint-Lucas Institute, Ghent, Belgium.

Solo shows

- 2018 The Whitehouse Gallery, Lovenjoel, Belgium
Inauguration monument Bobbejaan Schoepen, Lichtaart, Belgium
That's The Way (I like it), Clara Maria Sels Galerie, Dusseldorf, Germany
- 2017 Comme à Ostende, Salon Blanc, Ostend, Belgium
- 2016 Michaël Aerts - Something in the Way, Galerie Clara Maria Sels, Düsseldorf, Germany
- 2015 Michaël Aerts - Would Like to Use Your Current Location, Galerie Clara Maria Sels, Düsseldorf, Germany
- 2014 It was like so, but wasn't, Deweer Gallery, Otegem, Belgium
- 2013 Project Space, Deweer Gallery, ART13 London, UK
- 2012 Everything Will Burn Baby Burn, Galerie Clara Maria Sels, Düsseldorf, Germany
Club 7.5, Paris, France
New Positions, Deweer Gallery, Art Cologne, Cologne, Germany
- 2011 Buy it, use it, break it, fix it, trash it, change it, mail upgrade it, Deweer Gallery, Otegem, Belgium
- 2010 Signed, Sealed, Delivered I'm Yours!, Deutschlandpremierer 2010, Galerie Clara Maria Sels, Düsseldorf, Germany
An O'Neill Drama, A Whistler's Mama, Galerie Ron Mandos, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 2009 Please Please Me, De Brakke Grond, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Ridge Ecstasy - New drawings and paintings, Deweer Gallery, Otegem, Belgium

A Night at the Playboy Mansion, Federico Luger Gallery, Milano, Italy
- 2008 Solo Show, Art Brussels, Deweer Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
The Immaculate Collection, Deweer Art Gallery, Otegem, Belgium
- 2006 Onetwenty Gallery, Ghent, Belgium
- 2004 Galerie C. De Vos, Aalst, Belgium

Selected Group Shows

- 2018 Under the Parachute of Shapes and Colors, Artworks Advisory, New York, USA
Metaphora, Kunstroute maART, curated by Monia Warnez, Waregem, Belgium
- 2017 On the Go, Kunstroute maART, curated by Monia Warnez, Waregem, Belgium
- 2016 Coup de Ville, Triennale for Contemporary Art, curated by Stef Van Bellingen, Sint-Niklaas, Belgium

- 2015 @yourservice, Egmontpaleis, Brussel, Belgium
 The Drawing Room II, Deweer Gallery, Otegem, Belgium
 Sweet 18, Kasteel d'Ursel, Hingene, Belgium
 Deweer Gallery - Het Portret van een familie, de Directeurswoning, Roeselare, Belgium
- 2014 Another Dream, Another Sense, Another Mind, Bibliotheek Faculteit Rechtsgeleerdheid, KU Leuven, Belgium
 Capita Selecta, Broelmuseum, Kortrijk, Belgium
 Collector's Room #5 - Pleasure, Deweer Gallery, Otegem, Belgium
- 2013 Middle Gate Geel '13, De Halle, Geel / Gasthuismuseum Geel / Kunsthuis Yellow Art / St.-Dimpnakerk, Belgium
 Kunst uit privé-bezit, Stadsmuseum 't Schippershof, Menen, Belgium
- Cultural Freedom in Europe (curator Filip Luyckx), Europe (to the power of) - Goethe-Institut Brussels, Belgium
- 2012 Save European Home (curator Marina Martiæ), Belgrade Cultural Centre Art Gallery, Serbia
 West of East - An Exhibition on Europe in 6 chapters, Gallery for Contemporary Art « Y », Minsk, White Russia
 België - Take Over 01, Galerie J.J. Heckenhauer, Brussels, Belgium
 Szenarien über Europa (III) (curator Filip Luyckx), Galerie für Zeitgenössische Kunst, Leipzig, Germany
- 2011 Tender Buttons - Becoming Gertrude Stein (curator Guy Bovyn), University Ghent, Belgium
 Kunst moet rollen (curator Elias Tieleman), Centrum Beeldende Kunst, Utrecht, Netherlands
 RAW (curator Chris Driessen), Lustwarande 2011, Tilburg, The Netherlands
 When the fairy tale never ends (curator Lara Pan), Ford Project, NY, USA
- 2010 FAKE!, zomerproject Beeldende Kunst Stad Aalst, Belgium
- Young Collectors # 2 (curators Johan Delcour & Monia Warnez), Sign - Tentoonstellingsruimte voor jonge kunst, Groningen, The Netherlands
 Atmospheres (curator Lara Pan), Galerie Pangée, Montréal, Canada
 No Contemplation, Federico Luger Gallery, Milano, Italy
 30 Years Deweer Gallery, Otegem, Belgium
- 2009 Arrivals and Departures Europe, (curators Andrea Bruciati & Walter Gasperoni), Mole Vanvitelliana, Ancona, Italy
 Pandora's Sound Box (curator Lara Pan), Performa 09, New York, USA
- 2008 UPDATE, Deweer Art Gallery, Otegem, Belgium
- Cuesta (curator Frederik Van Laere), Tielt, Belgium
 Amusez-vous (curators Johan Delcour & Monia Warnez), Galerie Koal, Berlin, Germany
 Ephemeral Fringes (curator Filip Luyckx), Art Brussels, Brussels, Belgium

- 2007 Versus4 (curators Christophe De Jaeger, Olivier Deprez & Bjorn Scherlippens),
Site Pamele-Maagdendale, Oudenaarde, Belgium
Nighthawks (curator Christophe De Jaeger), Acec Dok Noord 4 hal 20, Ghent,
Belgium
Carte blanche à l'Atelier 340 Muzeum, Comptoir asbl, Liège, Belgium
- 2006 Ephemerality (curator Christophe De Jaeger), Menen, Belgium
Filiaal van de Hemel, Lokeren, Belgium
- 2005 Talentbeurs, Atelier 340 Muzeum, Jette, Brussels, Belgium
Missies (curator Stef van Bellingen), De Brakke Grond, Amsterdam, The
Netherlands
- 2004 Mo(nu)ment@bornem, Bornem, Belgium
Vierkantwortel van het geheugen (curator Filip Luyckx), Huis Van Winckel,
Dendermonde, Belgium
- 2003 Fame Happening, Festival van Vlaanderen (S-L Platel), Ghent, Belgium
Collectie, Museum van Deinze en de Leiestreek, Deinze, Belgium
- 2002 M/V, Kunst-Zicht, Ghent, Belgium
The Pizza Project (curator Yasmine Nessah), Thermische Centrale, Ghent,
Belgium
- 2001 Coming People, S.M.A.K., Ghent, Belgium