

Abel

mixed media on panel

18 x 13 cm 2020

He is the first to venture off his home island. Seeing two unknown vessels appear at the horizon, he was quick to realize things could only go South from here. With a little help from his domestic friends, he grabbed and obscured the moon, for him and his friends to successfully remain unseen in the dark of night.

The ships stopped for a moment and then moved on. After the moon was reinstalled, he saw his fellow islanders had planted a flag with his name on it. And so, Abel had saved the day and he and his diabolical plan were to be forever remembered.

ABEL is fun. He is smart, he is brave and considerate of your feelings. He fights for the greater good and as long as no other being is hurt, he's all in.

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Chris Berens

Chris Berens studied illustration at the Academy of Art & Design in 's-Hertogenbosch, graduating in 1999. He has developed a complex and time-consuming painting technique, mostly shown as mixed media on panel.

"I'm most comfortable using fine brushes and drawing inks and graphites, but I also regularly use water color paints, markers and acrylics", Berens says. "For some time now I've added digital image making to my line of techniques, meaning 3D sculpting, digital painting and image processing. I combine and mix them with my more traditional media."

After his first major solo show at Jaski Gallery in 2005, Chris Berens' fame spread quickly. The young artist has already exhibited all over the world, from Amsterdam to New York, from Tokyo to Los Angeles, Seattle and Singapore. He also designed the cover for Panic of Girls, an album which was released in 2011 by Blondie. Deborah Harry and Chris Stein, founders of the band, are admirers of his work.

Back home Chris has been the subject of a television documentary. Chris Berens, Master of his Magical Universe was made for Dutch broadcaster Avro's Close Up series in 2013 and has since been broadcast several times at home and abroad.

Chris Berens also featured prominently in the television documentary Krabbé searches for Van Gogh, in which actor/painter Jeroen Krabbé traced the path of Vincent van Gogh in co-operation with Dutch artists.

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