

JASKI GALLERY

AMSTERDAM



Wendi

mixed media on panel

18 x 13 cm 2020

WENDI is a wendigo. The first one, and if it's up to her, the only one.

Wendi is over 15 feet tall, red eyes and mouth and matted with fur. She was once human but was transformed into a kind monster centuries ago because she resorted to some bad chicken while lost out in the remote forests. She still has the ability to take on human form in order not to scare her guests and invite them to her dinner table.

Wendi roams the desolate places away from civilization. She waits for exhausted travelers to pass by who will generally hear Wendi's voice calling their names faintly in the wind. A warm breeze reminiscent of home then leads them into a warm and cozy cave, where Wendi will serve a crispy roasted chicken and some veggies while there's a fruit cobbler in the oven.

WENDI looks out for you when you're lost in the woods. She will take you in, take care of you and comfort you and

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make sure you'll recuperate and revitalize so you can get you back on your feet and out into the storm again.

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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.