

JASKI GALLERY

AMSTERDAM



Susu & Watari

mixed media on panel

12 x 12 cm 2020

Susu and Watari are Japanese dust bunnies. They roll around in your house, they sleep under your bed, snuggle up in corners and nooks. They appreciate and even applaud sloppiness. They feel too much dusting, vacuum cleaning, cleansing and wiping is a sin and a waste of time and energy.

SUSU and WATARI are the guardians of time, life and love. Their greatest reward is to watch you grow, evolve and live your life. They feel dust, scratches, scars, wrinkles, baldness and general decay, flaws and defects are the trophies of life. They are proof and witness of the most valuable thing we are given, time.

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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.