

Minerva

mixed media on panel

18 x 13 cm 2020

Minerva resides in the depth of the forests, in the midst of creatures, creepers and critters that crawl. She is the only one who oversees it all. She's wise, observant, calm and cool. She knows exactly what's going on, what it all means, what's right and what's not, what mistakes are made and what lessons can be learned. She will, however, only spread her wings with the falling of the dusk.

MINERVA is the teacher and the guide. She has all the knowledge and the answers but will not simply hand you the solution on a gold platter as she knows that will not help you in the long run. You are the captain and hold the reins and one day you will be able to oversee it all and strike a balance.

In the meantime, she will stand by you and look over your shoulder and perhaps give you a nudge now and then.

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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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