

Emma

mixed media on panel

18 x 13 cm 2020

Emma is a good and beautiful creature. She's a moon child. She is overly sensitive to bright light; she prefers the dark. She is the queen of her own little kingdom within the dark forest. She is young and small but make no mistake, she is fierce and a true warrior.

All animals are her friends, she sees the light in the dark, the beauty in the beast, and she will find treasures in the unlikeliest of places. She is a witch apprentice and enjoys making potions, charging crystals and casting spells. At times, she'll feel a little hollow inside but that is because she is all heart. A beautiful, fur lined, bunny shaped warm heart.

She feels. Everything. Deeply. This is not her weakness but is in fact her greatest power. She guides you through your pain, your fears and your doubts and she helps you to release them into the absorbing black. And then, as if by magic, you are free. As is she.

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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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