

Ginger

mixed media on panel

26 x 18 cm 2022

There once was a fox named Ginger who wanted to go to the moon more than anything in this world. He tried persuading his friends to come with him. No, they said, the moon is so far, too far. No it's not, the fox replied. It's right there.

The fox looked at the moon all night and dreamt about it all day. His friends just rolled their eyes and laughed behind his back as well as in his face. The fox didn't care. He didn't even hear them. He didn't even see them. All he saw was the moon. All he heard was the moon. His friends expected him to either come to his senses soon and return into their midst, tail between his legs, or somehow make his way to the moon, never to be seen or heard of. But the fox stayed put, in the middle of an open field, eyes closed, eyes fixed at the moon, all the while his smile growing broader each night every day.

After a while, his friends decided it had gone on too long and walked toward him. So, they said, are you done? Do you

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give up? Give up? The fox replied, ever smiling. I'm there. It's here. Look up. Can't you see it smiling at me? And they did. And they could.

GINGER has goals. She decides where she wants to go and she will not rest until she succeeds. She knows that both success and failure are in the eye of the beholder. And to measure your own success through the eyes of anyone but yourself, is just silly.

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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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