

Yizhi

mixed media on panel

26 x 18 cm 2022

There was an old sky-blue maned she-wolf named Asena. She wandered into a deserted village, where she heard a strange howling. She found a young wolf that looked nothing like her, did not speak her language, nor did it wear the same fur, did not even walk on four paws.

She took the youngling, put her on her back and ran back to her den. There they remained and they became a family. Years later, Asena gave birth to Yizhi. Yizhi was no ordinary wolf.

Yizhi possessed spiritual powers, and parts of his body retained specific powers that could be used for various needs. No one knows what specific parts. No one knows what specific powers. Except for Yizhi.

YIZHI is different. He doesn't resemble his father and he isn't anything like his mother. But instead of feeling lost and alone, Yizhi feels special and unique. But Yizhi also knows that we all are special, we all are unique. And we are all

different. And we can all feel lost and alone sometimes.

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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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