

JASKI GALLERY

AMSTERDAM



Isaak and Rebecca

mixed media on panel

26 x 18 cm 2022

Isaak and Rebecca have seemingly been in the same place for centuries. Facts and meaning have been subject of speculation since before their arrival. Spectators, passers-by, travelers and day trippers have in the past identified the couple as a Jewish father bestowing his blessings upon his daughter on her wedding day.

This interpretation is no longer accepted, and the identity of the couple is uncertain. The ambiguity is heightened by the lack of anecdotal context, leaving only the central universal theme, that of a couple joined in love. Speculative suggestions as to the couple's identity have ranged from an artist's son and his bride, to a poet and his wife as well as several couples from the Old Fairytale.

ISAAK AND REBECCA are the embodiment of love and respect. No matter the connection, no matter the background story, the power of expressions of the tender fusion of spiritual or physical love transcends culture,

NIEUWE SPIEGELSTRAAT 29 1017DB AMSTERDAM THE NETHERLANDS +31 20620393 INFO@JASKI.NL WWW.JASKI.NL
time and place.
KVK34221743

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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.