

JASKI GALLERY

AMSTERDAM



Genevieve

mixed media on panel

26 x 18 cm 2022

Genevieve is a heroine of medieval legend. The story concerns a virtuous red panda falsely accused of infidelity. She runs away and seeks refuge in an enchanted forest.

An enchanted forest is a forest under, or containing, enchantments. An enchantment is a formula triggering a magical effect on a living organism or object. Magic is the application of rituals or actions employed to cause and attract supernatural forces.

The supernatural involves phenomena that are not subject to the laws of nature.

An enchanted forest represents unknown places, and situations of liminality and transformation. The forest can serve as either a place of threatening danger, or one of refuge, or a chance at adventure.

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You are Genevieve. It's your story. You decide.

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GENEVIEVE is in control of her own destiny. She has learned that facts are as infinite as they are futile. Facts in itself are meaningless. It is the decision of what facts to focus on and what facts to ignore that makes your truth.

And truth is subjective. And never be afraid to change your truth to your needs.

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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.