

Hevelius

mixed media on panel

26 x 18 cm 2022

Hevelius has built an observatory, widely known by the name Sterrenburcht (Star Castle), on his back, equipping it with splendid instruments, ultimately including a device with wood, glass and wire tubes he constructed himself. This to the curiosity and presumptuous concern of his fellow moon bears (or moonies) as all others had been using state-of-the-art tubeless aerial telescopes.

The other moonies tried to persuade Hevelius to use telescopes for his measurements, yet Hevelius was keen on demonstrating that he could do well with his apparatus. He is thus considered the last astronomer to do major work without the use of a telescope, but, as far as anyone knows, the first one to have come to learn so much about the moon. For example, her name is Annie, short for Anaxagoras. She has no dark side. No man ever really set foot on her. There are no moon phases, those are her siblings, and she is the only one who can talk to werewolves.

HEVELIUS walks his own path. He doesn't let anyone tell him what he should do or how he should behave. He knows

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that the general conception of today is tomorrow's object of ridicule.

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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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