

JASKI GALLERY

AMSTERDAM



Auntie Tumnus and her Babies

mixed media on panel

19 x 13 cm 2022

Auntie Tumnus is a quaint lady. She likes rain. And wind. And cold. And darkness.

The dark is a welcome pendant of the light, she said. She teaches her babies to ride the storm instead of to seek shelter and wait for it to pass. As one thing is for certain, only in darkness can one see the light, and this too shall pass. What you do in the meantime, is up to you. She encourages her babies to look closer whenever they feel the urge to look away. Not to be afraid of the dark, but to acknowledge and appreciate the fact that it illuminates the noise and reveals the stars.

ANTIE TUMNUS is synchronized with the circle of life. She does not fear death or deterioration, she sees the beauty in the breakdown, and she finds her magic in nature.

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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.