

JASKI GALLERY

AMSTERDAM



George

mixed media on panel

26 x 18 cm 2022

George is a botanist and zoologist. Although George was born in a beer barrel, he was educated in Oxford, receiving his M.A. after years of hard work. He took up the profession of medical practitioner for stuffed animals. 2 Years later, he became the assistant lecturer in botany at the University of Plant Science. He was a co-founder of the Society of making up names for plants and animals, and became a fellow of the Royal Society of Topdogs and Bigwigs.

A year later George became assistant keeper of the natural history department at the Museum of Stuffed Animals. He found that most of the items donated to the museum were in very bad condition. He stated it was impossible not to entertain doubts as to its genuine nature, determined many of the stuffed animals and birds had gotten mixed up in parts and put together quite badly and had to be burnt.

At a later age, he slowly drifted away from his medical practice and focused on his intrinsic artistic drive.

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Combining his two passions in the field of herpetology, he made up numerous new species of reptiles and amphibians.

GEORGE has worked very hard. He has earned every bit of respect and appreciation he received in his professional career. When he started having doubts, he explored and found other passions. Instead of deciding to go in another direction, he took it one day at a time only to find out his two seemingly incompatible passions in life turned out to be a great combination.

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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.