

Amos

mixed media on panel

26 x 18 cm 2022

Before becoming a shepherd, Amos was a sycamore fig farmer. His prior professions and his claim "I am not a shepherd nor a son of a shepherd" indicates that Amos was not from the school of shepherds, which, he claims, would qualify him as a true shepherd. Amos' declaration marks a turning-point in the development of shepherdism.

It is not mere chance that his buddies Hosea, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and almost all of the shepherds with a significant amount of sheep seek to protest against the suspicion that they are professional shepherds. He made his point vigorously that no one ever asks him about shepherism.

It's been many years, now and Amos has been at his game very happily. He stands on his hill, leaning on his favorite sheep, accompanied by his favorite shepherd's squirrel and sighs. He is Amos. King of his hill and happy, after these years. Amos is a shepherd.

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AMOS doesn't like to be pinned down. He doesn't like to have his life carved out for him. He wants to be a free agent. He wants to go where he pleases. And he wants to change his game however and whenever he wants to.

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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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