

JOAS NEBE

ARTIST'S STATEMENT:

Gaming into Mindfulness

Interview with Joas Nebe by Rebecca Schoensee (excerpt)

"It's a never-ending game of disintegration. I challenge the viewer by not living up to his or her expectations. I am denying the satisfaction of solving the riddle, hidden within the depth of my artwork." By turning his filmic cabinet of curiosity into an intriguing jigsaw puzzle of hybrid geometric patterns, Joas Nebe teases the viewer into accessing his game. He believes: "Riddle games of this kind spark creativity and pass on the role of the artist to the viewer."

Taking the Reason Prisoner

To Nebe, "fantasy and creative intelligence are important survival skills today." So is chess, an analogy he keeps referring to: "Chess exemplifies my game with the viewer. In a world of shortening attention spans, it's an ideal concentration-practice. One always has to think a few steps in advance." By screening the insanity of our daily chase towards evolutionary bankruptcy, Nebe in a clever move takes the reason prisoner, only to appoint reason to be the king of his game of chess. He calls for a close review of the encyclopedia of our philosophical and cultural foundations. In his opinion reason has the potential to direct a path away from the horror vacui he is depicting: "The model of enlightenment has increasingly been discredited, wrongfully I believe. Today survival and coexistence are only possible if governed by the faculty of reason. Labeling and connoting intellectual categories help to bring new relations into sight and to gain unexpected terms of knowledge."

The interview essay "Gaming Into Mindfulness" has been published in Humanize Magazine, issue 11, p. 20-31.

<http://issuu.com/humanizemagazine/docs/humanize11>

ARTIST'S CV

Joas Nebe, who holds degrees in psychology and literature, is a self taught artist, born in Hamburg but now located in South Germany. After a few years in Berlin he decided three years ago to move south close to the French and Swiss border. Important exhibits include the artist's "Climate Change Cartoons" on display on exhibition "Letters from the Sky" which accompanied the Durban UN conference on Climate Change 2011 in South Africa and "Machine Fair"- a film about the mechanical site of a metropolis- shown at Museum of Modern Art, Moscow as part of "Now&After" screening in 2012. Other film works

has been shown at 25th Festival Les Instants Video (Biblioteca Alexandrina, Cairo), Videoformes Festival 2014 and 2015, Sustain Our Africa, Madatac 3, 4, 5, 6 Competitive Official International Selection (Madrid), Papy Gyros Nights 2016 Hong Kong/ ART_TECTURE, In 24hours: Future Visions (SHIFT:ibpcpa) 2020, just to name a few.

Solo shows are "Intrude Art and Life" at the Museum of Modern Art, Shanghai in 2008, where Santiago Capriccio, a short epilogue to the Philosophical Cartoon cycle was chosen to be one out of 100 non-Chinese artists to be displayed on public video screens in Shanghai for one day, 2016 "Encyclopedic", a one night solo show at The Greenhouse, Berlin, 2016, "You Did A Bad Thing For A Good Reason", solo show at Berlin's Cormac Weiss Gallery, curated by Marinus Jo Dimitrov IFEA (International Curatorial Award 2016) supported by Christopher Grape Fund; 2017 "On Nature" at 16:9 Gallery, UTCL, USA curated by Manzi Yang, 2020 The Palace Project, Online Fine Arts Museum, Argentine and 2021 "The Room Project: Feeling Good And Feeling Bad Rooms", Vista Arts Ltd., London. Just to name a few.

2017 Joas Nebe received a M 5 ARTS stipend for his video work "The Dictionary serial" (USA). 2017 he has been awarded with the Residency by Correspondence from The Arts Territory Exchange Program, 2018 with the Social Media Residency by Peripheral Forms, the Online Residency by Coldbench (all UK), the Social Media Residency by Open Call Artists by @boykeats/ Lu Gallagher (2020), ECUMENE Residence (2020), RUBB3R Collective Instagram Takeover Residency and Do It Your Way Instagram Takeover Residency (both 2021). 2021 he received the audience award from 1st International Conceptual Art Biennale in Latvia for his video work Hurricane Evacuation Route.

Joas Nebe's curatorial works have been shown in different European countries. He developed three projects to which international video artists contributed. "The Encyclopedic Cartoons Video Project" had its premiere in Berlin and has been shown since in many European countries. His second curatorial work "the Proverb Picture Project" again with participating artist from different continents and countries had its premiere on VisualContainer TV in 2014. 2017 Joas Nebe developed a project about democracy, scrabble and wordlists, called "The Democracy Scrabble Project", had its premiere again on VisualContainer TV and (.BOX) Video Project Room, Milan in 2018.

ARTICLES ABOUT ARTIST'S WORK (selection):

INTERVIEW with Joas Nebe on one of his big themes on how humans communicate and how communication shapes the experience of the world.

"One of my main interests today is communication and how communication between humans of the same/different gender/race/origin etc.. is shaped by ideologies around how communication is determined. In human evolution, language comes into being for making

the other understand one's own position. Later, humans developed habits of mind called ideologies, like the fascist's or communist's thought patterns. Even some religious sectarianism turns grammar and words into a killing tool by dividing humans into followers and enemies. Crucial to an ideologist's abuse of grammar is turning it's communication function into an order message system."

Artist Close Up, Artist Interviews, 29th september 2021,
Artistcloseup, platform interviews for artists

<https://www.artistcloseup.com/blog/interview-joas-nebe>

INTERVIEW with Joas Nebe on YALE UNIVERSITY RADIO WYBCX, hosted by
BRAINARD CAREY, 20th october 2015

In the interview the artist speaks about his OPERA film series.

Interviews from Yale University Radio WYBCX
Lives of the Most Excellent Artists, Curators, Architects, Critics
and more, like Vasari's book updated. The Art World Demystified,
Hosted by Brainard Carey.

WYBCX is one of the few NPR (National Public Radio) news/talk
stations on the US east coast, funded by Yale University. On WYBC
Brainard CAREY is hosting interviews with major figures in the arts,
e.g. artists, curators and writers.

<http://museumofnonvisibleart.com/interviews/joas-nebe/>

Josh Ryder and Barbara Scott in: ARTiculAction meets Joas Nebe

The artist interview is about how the artist's education and
interest in psychology, philosophy and drama influenced his work and
what are the cinematographic strategies behind his Opera serial that
help create a multi-layer experience for the viewer.

"ARTiculAction meets" is a format of the journal on contemporary
fine art which introduces artists to readers. The interview is
conducted by curator Josh Ryder and curator Barbara Scott.

ARTiculAction Contemporary Art Review, Anniversary Edition, special
issue, may 2016, pp.120 - 147

https://issuu.com/articulaction/docs/articulaction_art_review_-_speciais/120

"From the start i used to be fascinated by art works with hidden
messages. I always estimated art works that works like a puzzle or a
crosswords without showing a clear picture or meaning at the end."

The artist interview is about the cinematographic style and how the artist develops his ideas and realizes in a film series. The artist speaks about his PARADISE GARDENS + SPA series, it's making of, style and messages.

Since it's foundation, Stigmat10 has encouraged a conception of art based on a dynamic dialogue between artists and audience, reflecting the interactive nature of the creative act itself.

VideoFocus Stigmat10 Art Review, 12th Edition, march 2015, pp.98 – 109

http://issuu.com/stigmat10press/docs/stigmat_videofocus_special_edition_0d8a41038b1019/96

The artist interview is about the change of style in the artist's work and how his painting and building light sculptures experience shaped his cinematographic language.

Art Reveal Magazine is dedicated to promote and publish independent artists from all countries and all genres of visual art. Each issue of the magazine will present several contemporary artist portfolios and their artistic statements.

The interview has been published in Art Reveal Magazine, issue 4, p. 28–33

http://issuu.com/artrevealmagazine/docs/no_4

The essay "Crushing Shadows" by art historian Rebecca Schoensee has been published in HUMANIZE MAGAZINE, issue 8, pg. 44–61. The essay describes the video art series Philosophical Cartoons as an experience "driving full speed against the wall only to find out that you just crushed into a some kind of hyper nothingness".

Humanize Magazine is a completely bilingual publication (Spanish and English) that deals with indie and alternative culture in an innovative manner.

Humanize Magazine issue 8, october 2010

<http://issuu.com/humanizemagazine/docs/humanize08>

"I feel a burning desire to break the spell and to step out into the open to take a deep breath of the fresh salty fall air. As I feel the wind caressing my lungs, I hear Nebe's "Totems Toons" uttering a faint, sardonic chuckle."

The essay "Tunes of Trauma" by Rebecca Schoensee describes the intriguing visual play of the video series "Totem Toons" as interaction of trauma and female/ male role models.

"Tunes of Trauma" has been published in Humanize Magazine, issue 9, p. 26–35 Humanize Magazine issue 9, february 2011

<http://issuu.com/humanizemagazine/docs/humanize09>

"Some people have legs but no reason to dance. Others have none yet fields they waltz through are infinite. Legs are overrated most days."

The essay "Video Artists on Video Art, Joas Sebastian Nebe's Encyclopedic Cartoons" presents a choice of artist voices on one of Nebe's big video projects.

"Video Artists on Video Art" has been published in Humanize Magazine, issue 10, p. 16-27
Humanize Magazine issue 10, may 2011

<http://issuu.com/humanizemagazine/docs/humanize10>

"Nebe in a clever move takes the reason prisoner, only to appoint reason to be the king of his game of chess. He calls for a close review of the encyclopedia of our philosophical and cultural foundations. In his opinion reason has the potential to direct a path away from the horror vacui he is depicting."

The essay "Gaming Into Mindfulness" by Rebecca Schoensee analyses the interaction between pattern and words on the screen and viewer's expectation in Joas Sebastian Nebe's film "Machine Fair".

The essay "Gaming Into Mindfulness" has been published in Humanize Magazine, issue 11, p. 20-31.
Humanize Magazine issue 11, july 2011

<http://issuu.com/humanizemagazine/docs/humanize11>

MORE ARTICLES:

<http://www.jsnebe.de/articles.html>
<https://joasnebe.wordpress.com/2016/11/07/joas-nebe-works/>

ARTIST'S SITES:

<http://www.jsnebe.de/>
<https://joasnebe.wordpress.com/>

ARTIST ON TUMBLR:

<http://joasnebe.tumblr.com>

ARTIST ON TWITTER:

<http://www.twitter.com/JSNebe>

ARTIST ON INSTAGRAM:

<https://www.instagram.com/joas.nebe>