

English summary

I am who I am; Mariëlle Lenaerts; In studio Arzeno in the Dutch city of Tilburg, Mariëlle Lenaerts (1976) creates paintings of (nature) photos in an unparalleled manner. She divides the photo and the canvas into quarters and begins to copy every detail in an upper corner. Her textures are astonishingly good. A step-by-step plan provides Lenaerts, who has a form of autism, with the necessary clarity and structure. p.p. 11-14 www.artzeno.nl



Endless desire; Frans Bartelse Frans Bartelse (1935) collects contemporary art, including works by Cobra and Outsider Art. As an avid collector, he strives to come into contact with the artist wherever possible. This has made him a walking encyclopaedia. He has also been meticulous in creating an archive with documents concerning the 217 objects he has collected to date from as many as 64 different artists. p.p. 18-21

Visited and viewed; LaM, Villeneuve d'Ascq The extensive and recently reopened LaM art museum is a European asset. Modern, contemporary art mixed with Art Brut masterpieces in a new wing, designed as a hand, complete with five fingers. p.p. 26 www.musee-lam.fr



The place to be; Collection de l'Art Brut Since 1976, art lovers visit the Collection de l'Art Brut in the Swiss city of Lausanne. The original Art Brut collection, built up by the collector and visual artist Jean Dubuffet



(1901-1985), has been substantially expanded over time. Because the permanent collection is changed every six months and temporary exhibitions are organised, repeat visits continue to be alluring. p.p. 32-35 www.artbrut.ch

Three-dimensional art

Sculptural Vehicles for Meaning Colin Rhodes, Professor of Art History and Theory and Dean of Sydney College of the Arts wrote an introduction on the theme. Outsider sculpture, although often made of poor materials, is always content-rich. Inevitably it either tells a story, or embodies a position, which might be political, religious, or philosophical. It is never merely formalistic, self-referential or absurdist. The work is often a kind of alibi for the real purpose. The works embody and contain ideological or conceptual content as indissoluble parts of the coming-to-be of objects in the creative process. The result is a highly and immensely rich sculptural territory. p.p. 4-10



Hans-Jörg Georgi and Stefan Häfner; visions for a better world In Atelier Goldstein in the German city of Frankfurt am Main, two artists want to improve the world with their creations. Hans-Jörg Georgi (1950) recreates existing airplanes using cardboard and makes solar-powered flying megacities. Stefan Häfner (1959) builds 'residential contraptions' on buttresses, full of atmospheric

lighting, located on earth all right but... without inhabitants. p.p. 15-16 www.atelier-goldstein.de

The images of Ed Janssen; "creating art is part of who I am"

Ed Janssen (1964) draws and sculpts in the Dutch city of The Hague. His drawings inspire him to sculpt and vice versa. "Creating art is part of who I am. I respond to things that happen. I like to exaggerate, love humour and have plenty of imagination". p.p. 17 www.taktiekkeramiek.nl and www.atelierdehaagseschool.nl

Veijo Rönkkönen's bizarre sculpture garden

Last spring, one of Finland's most appreciated folk artists Veijo Rönkkönen (1944-2010) died. For forty years, he created his own sculpture garden in Perikkala. Here you are completely encircled by exotic plants and human figures in concrete. According to Rönkkönen, an artistic calling can be a way to survive. His moss-covered sculptures can only be seen in Perikkala, because: "I asked the sculptures if they would like to travel, but they wanted to stay here". p.p. 22-25



Kenneth Rasmussen; physical creations

Kenneth Rasmussen (1972) from Denmark's Bifrost Art School makes large-scale knits and linocuts. The huge scale of his objects calls for an emphatic physical association with the material. The creation process looks like a performance. His long linos feature fantasy figures, symbols and texts. He knits his monumental works with thick knitting needles. p.p. 27-29 www.bifrost-art.dk

Wim Devos; elves and women in clay

Wim Devos (1967) from Belgium makes mysterious two- and three-dimensional works of art. In De Beelderij, a studio he co-founded, he

creates clay sculptures which reflect his fascination with kneeling or seated women. They represent the women he actually knows. The elves symbolise the women he dreams about. He likes to finish his work with a striking light glaze. p.p. 30-31 www.artotheek.be and www.tordale.be



Ovartaci; "the maddest of the mad"

'Ovartaci' is Danish for 'the maddest of the mad', the nickname of Louis Marcussen (1894-1985). He was hospitalised in a psychiatric institution in Aarhus where for 56 years, he lived in the isolation, where he created curious machines and mysterious creatures. From the moment in 1954 when he deprived himself of his masculinity, he went on living as a woman. Jean Dubuffet and Asgar Jorn admired his work. p.p. 36-37 www.ovartaci.dk

Wonderful machinery of Pierre Avezard

It is a wonder that Pierre Avezard's (1909-1992) carousel was saved in its entirety. Since 1989, all the hundreds of tiny figures on which he worked for forty years have been arranged in the alluring sculpture garden of the Fabuloserie, Musée hors-les-normes in France. Avezard, "unfinished" at birth, had skilful hands and an exceptional technical talent. The public are still enjoying his cheerfully painted, water-spouting, revolving, cycling and circling figures, made of metal and other found objects. p.p. 38-41 www.fabuloserie.com

