

English summary

I am who I am; Arthur Prins

A serious game

Arthur Prins has a “little door to the universe”. Many of his shaded and coloured-in drawings have an alienating effect. His compulsion to draw was triggered by a spiritual revelation. “Something inside me told me to do it.” Between 1998 and 2009, Prins created a book of illustrations filled with prayers, the ‘Arthurp Prayer Book’. He tries to draw from his subconscious and merges separate drawings. His spiritual teachers are Buddha and Jesus.

p.p. 10-14



Fascinating encounters; Spinvis

Something out of nothing

This year, the Dutch musician and poet Spinvis (Erik de Jong), who was appointed temporary Cultural Professor at Delft University of Technology organised a project for students, based on his radio play about Ferdinand Cheval's Palais Idéal, dedicated to the theme of ‘something out of nothing’. By accepting a lot of coincidence and “clearing your head and jamming together” everything came about intuitively and playfully, as it did with Cheval.

p.p. 21-25 www.spinvis.nl

The place to be; Museum im Lagerhaus, St. Gallen, Switzerland

Art and people meet

In 1988, three couples combined their art collection to establish the ‘foundation for Swiss naive art and Art Brut’. Their pioneering spirit ultimately led to the Museum im Lagerhaus in St. Gallen, Switzerland, which is now a key player in this artistic field. This small but active museum continues to focus on the quality of the art as much as the background of the artists. The museum wins people's loyalty by creating a personal atmosphere that revolves around the person as a creator of art. A must-see for artists and art lovers alike.

p.p. 34-36 www.museumimlagerhaus.ch

Art and autism

Art and autism in Facts and Figures

Volker Elsen is the initiator and chairman of akku e.V. (autism, art and culture). This German organisation provides a platform for artists with autism, including by organising exhibitions. The artists don't market themselves, but in a sense they do exhibit themselves through their work. In this way, the exhibitions become an experiment in the discourse on Outsider Art at the crossroads of contemporary art and art marketing. Elsen wants us to transcend stereotypes, to let the facts speak for themselves, and to showcase the tremendous diversity of this art, as will be evident at the ‘Facts and Figures’ exhibition at Museum Dr. Guislain in Ghent, Belgium, which is scheduled to take place in 2014.

p.p. 4-9 www.aku-ev.org



Photos by David Pronk

A great eye for detail

Modern architecture is David Pronk's “true love”. “Lines and shapes are important to me because they give me a sense of balance and tranquillity. I have a great eye for detail and, for me, photography allows me to be drawn into a different world. Through the camera, I can redefine my surroundings and at the same time share my photographic perspective on the city with the viewer.”

p.p. 15-17 www.davidpronkfotografie.nl



Coen Ringeling

Drawing fantasy worlds

Coen Ringeling creates fantasy stories and his own islands that he gives special names to or plays optical jokes

with. His intense way of drawing focuses his restless mind, allowing him to work on his fantasy worlds without losing his concentration.

p.p. 18-19 www.herenplaats.nl



Andrew Hall

Artist statement

As a child, Andrew Hall “started mucking around with materials”. With his “overactive mind” and “two creative hemispheres between the ears”, school was difficult but he “won quite a few awards for art and poetry”. Later, he says, “living quite close to (New Zealand artist) Peter Saurbier (the grand master of assemblage), we used to swap bits and pieces and he gave me a lot of tips on fusing metals and joining other materials. His “works have a real comedy horror edge. It's a form of monkey humour that appears to work”.

p.p. 26-28 www.veralimmerartist.co.nz



Louis DeMarco

Words to live by

Louis DeMarco is a gifted visual artist, musician, computer whiz, and writer. He has cultivated so many intertwining modes of self-expression that his body of work is an immersive self-portrait. To address his fear of losing specific memories, Louis devised an imaginary ‘safe place’, a fortress called *Loudemar* (a contraction of his name). Text itself began to appear in Louis' drawings. There are now hundreds of images in the ‘Words to Live by’ series. The works are popular with collectors, who see the drawings as ironic commentary on the human condition, or as examples of conceptual art, or as loving homages to typography; not necessarily as an exercise to soothe the artist's fears.

p.p. 29-31 www.projectonward.org

Richard Harris

Characters and fantasy figures

Harris, who lives in New Zealand, has a wide number of interests. He gets “great satisfaction from drawing people, fantasy figures, and fantasy art and rock musicians. I am currently working on a series of drawings from films, fantasy figure art and music documentaries. I was inspired to draw scenes from ‘One Day’ and ‘Rachel Getting Married’. I will continue to draw people from films, fantasy figures and fantasy art and rock musicians as I aim to show a different side to people's personalities”.

p.p. 32-33 www.toiora.org.nz

George Zuniga

Artism

Although not everyone understood George's raw artwork, his work had a viable future beyond Gallery 37 in Chicago, where artists with autism could work until they became 18. In 2004, Mark Jackson and Rob Lentz founded Project Onward where adult artists with autism can keep on producing their art. The freedom and confidence of spending hours in the Project Onward studio had a great impact on Zuniga's vibrant drawings in pastel on huge sheets of paper. His most iconic work is *Windy City Pussy*, a triumph of cat portraiture in the artist's signature medium of pastel. It immediately became Project Onward's mascot.

p.p. 37-39 www.projectonward.org



Anthony Hanssens

Fairytale-like fantasies

Anthony Hanssens works on his paintings, comic strips, etchings, linographs and animations. He combines fantasy and reality. His intense interest in other times and cultures, combined with his fairytale-like fantasies, lends a fascinating depth to his work. He dreams to “become famous and work as an animator for a Disney studio so that everyone can enjoy my fantasies”.

p.p. 40-41 www.atelierdehaagseschool.nl