

Contemporary surreal drawings from Rotterdam

Collection of the Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen

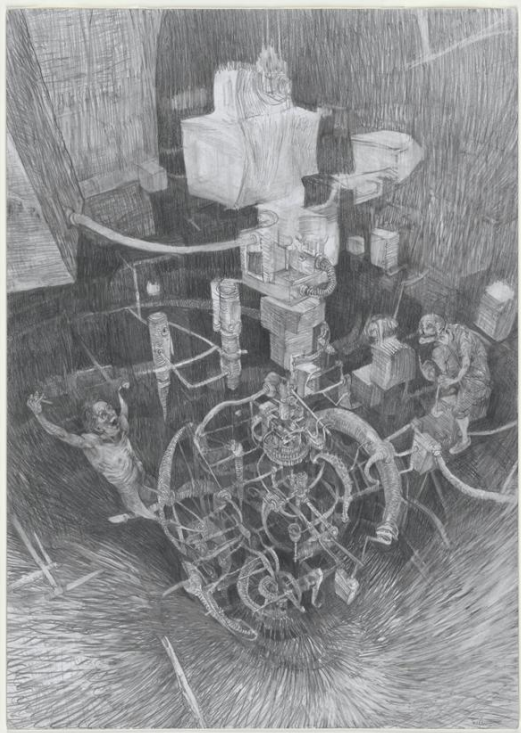
1 March – 13 May 2012



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Beuningen**

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Boijmans Van Beuningen has over 70,000 sheets, which makes it one of the richest collections of prints and drawings in Europe. These include prominent subsets of work by Italian, German, Dutch and French masters.



© Peter Feiler (Halle an der Saale 1981),
ImSchredder, 2003. Graphite on paper

In recent decades the museum has focused on contemporary drawings, with the accent on work with a surrealist mentality. All these drawings are rooted in some form of automatic imagination. They feature an almost outsider-like concentration, and strive to create their

own world view. These contemporary drawings form a bridge to the museums' modest but impressive surreal core collection, which includes well-known works by Dali and Magritte, as well as members of André Breton's Paris circle. The museum did not shrink from acquiring a representative block of work by a particular artist, or collecting drawings which are exceptional for their size. And often they looked beyond their own borders. The present exhibition includes some seventy works by such born artists as Oscar de Las Flores (Mexico), Peter Feiler (Germany), Ewoud van Rijn (Holland), Charles Avery (England), Krijn de Koning (Holland), Charlie Roberts (USA), Ronald Cornelissen (Holland), Elmar Trenkwalder (Austria), Paul van der Eerden (Holland), Trenton Doyle Hancock (USA), Chris Hipkiss (England), Kinke Kooi (Holland), Robert McNally (England), Paul Noble (England), ManfreDuSchu (Austria), Hans de Wit (Holland), Jason Fox (USA). This collection demonstrates that the art of drawing is a lively, contemporary, and appealing discipline.

Curator :

Sjarel Ex, director of Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen.

Portrait:

Sjarel Ex, director of Boijmans Van Beuningen

Curator of the exhibition Dessins Contemporains - Surréalistes de Rotterdam

Sjarel Ex (Terwinselen, 1957) studied art history in Utrecht (1976-1982), specializing in the early Dutch avant-garde and the artists' movement that centred around the magazine De Stijl.



From 1984 to 1987 he was associated with the Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam, where he carried out research on the art of Vilmos Huszár, Piet Zwart and Theo van Doesburg. He also published work on Huszár and the influence of van Doesburg on the De Stijl movement. His most recent publications are devoted to the Hungarian-Dutch artist Lajos Ébner, who settled in Holland in 1923, and to Kurt Schwitters and the Dutch Avant-Garde. Since 1980 Ex has published numerous columns, reviews, and opinion pieces.

From 1982 to 1987 Sjarel Ex organized exhibitions on a freelance basis, focusing mainly on modern and contemporary art. In 1988 he was appointed artistic and business director of the Centraal Museum Utrecht. In June 2004 Ex took over as

director of Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen in Rotterdam, and since then he has also been responsible for its artistic and business policies. He privatised the museum on December 31, 2005. The museum mounts around 25 exhibitions a year, attracting some 250,000 visitors (2010: 300,415).

Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen

A visit to Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen is a journey through the history of art. The museum owns over 140,000 objects. The semi-permanent exhibition, entitled The Collection Enriched, consists of several hundred works belonging to the museum. Dutch and European gems provide an overview of the period from the early middle ages to the 21st century: from Bosch, Rembrandt and Van Gogh to Dalí and Christo. The Online Collection provides information on selected Works drawn from some 600 masterpieces housed in the museum.

Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen is one of the oldest museums in the Netherlands. In 1849 the jurist Boijmans left his art collection to the city of Rotterdam. When the Van Beuningen collection was acquired in 1958, the name of the museum was extended. It also boasts a unique collection of paintings, sculptures and utensils, while the collection of prints and drawings is among the most prestigious in the world.

Prints and drawings in the collection of Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen

Alongside a wealth of old, modern and contemporary art and a collection consisting of applied art and design, the museum also possesses a major selection of drawings and an extensive collection of graphic art. These works trace art historical developments from the Middle Ages to the present. There are Works by such masters as Albrecht Dürer, Rembrandt van Rijn, Antonio Pisanello, Jean Antoine Watteau and Paul Cézanne. For decades the museum has also been collecting contemporary prints and drawings by internationally known artists.

Because prints and drawings are often quite fragile, most of these works are not on display in the permanent collections. However, the museum regularly mounts temporary exhibitions, so that visitors can admire them. On request, prints and drawings can also be viewed in the Print Gallery.

Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen: a historic building in Rotterdam



© Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen et jardin du musée.
Studio Hans Wilschut

The present museum building opened in 1935. The monumental edifice designed by city architect Van der Steur was built around the collection.

This stately building, clad in red brick, features both intimate galleries and large salons where the Works can be examined by daylight. The building survived the bombardment in 1940, and over the years it has undergone several extensions. To this day, the tower of the building serves as a beacon within the city.

For further information about Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, please see: www.boijmans.nl

PRATICAL INFORMATION

Exhibition dates

1 March – 13 May 2012

Press Opening

Wednesday, 29 February 12pm 14 pm

Public Opening

Wednesday 29 February 6pm 8.30 pm

Opening hours

Everyday from 1 pm to 7 pm

Adress

Institut Néerlandais,
121 rue de Lille 75007 Paris
Tél : 01 53 59 12 40
info@institutneerlandais.com
www.institutneerlandais.com

Admission

Adults : 4 € / Discount : 2 €

Tickets with exhibition

Un univers intime

Adults 6 € / Discount 4 €

Access

Métro 12 Assemblée Nationale

Métro 8/13 Invalides

RER C Musée d'Orsay

Bus : 63, 83, 84, 94, 73

Press Office

E-mail: catherine.dufayet@wanadoo.fr

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PRESS IMAGES



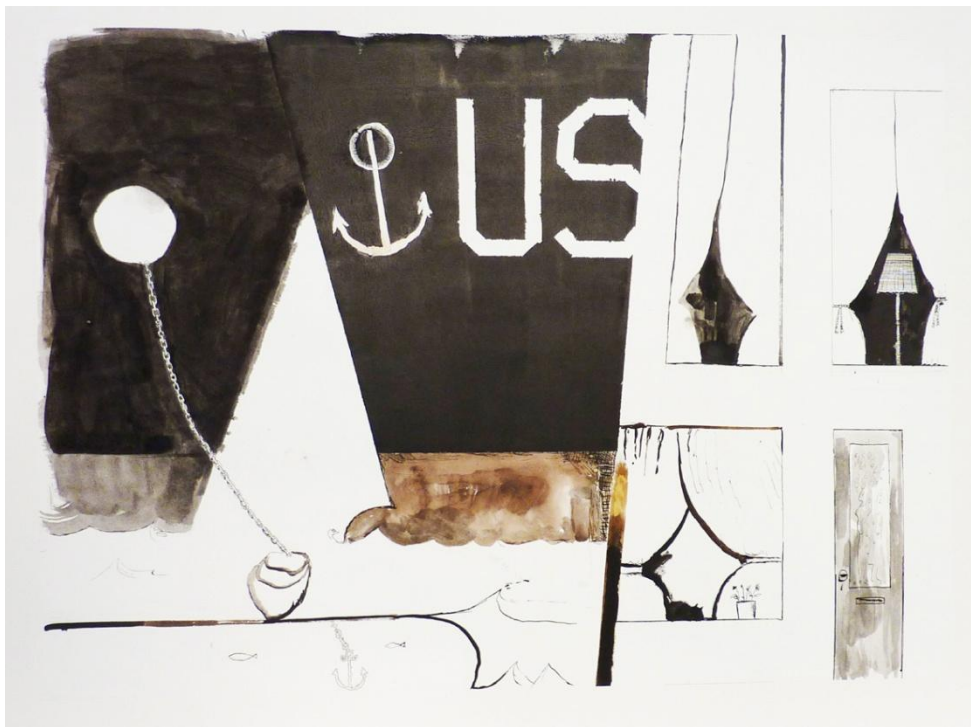
© Ewoud van Rijn (Den Haag 1967), *In Hell*, 2008. Acrylic on paper



© Charlie Roberts (Hutchinson, KA, USA, 1983), *Odd Future*, 2010. Watercolor on paper



© Ronald Cornelissen (Beverwijk 1960), *Black Oak*, 2006. Mixtes techniques



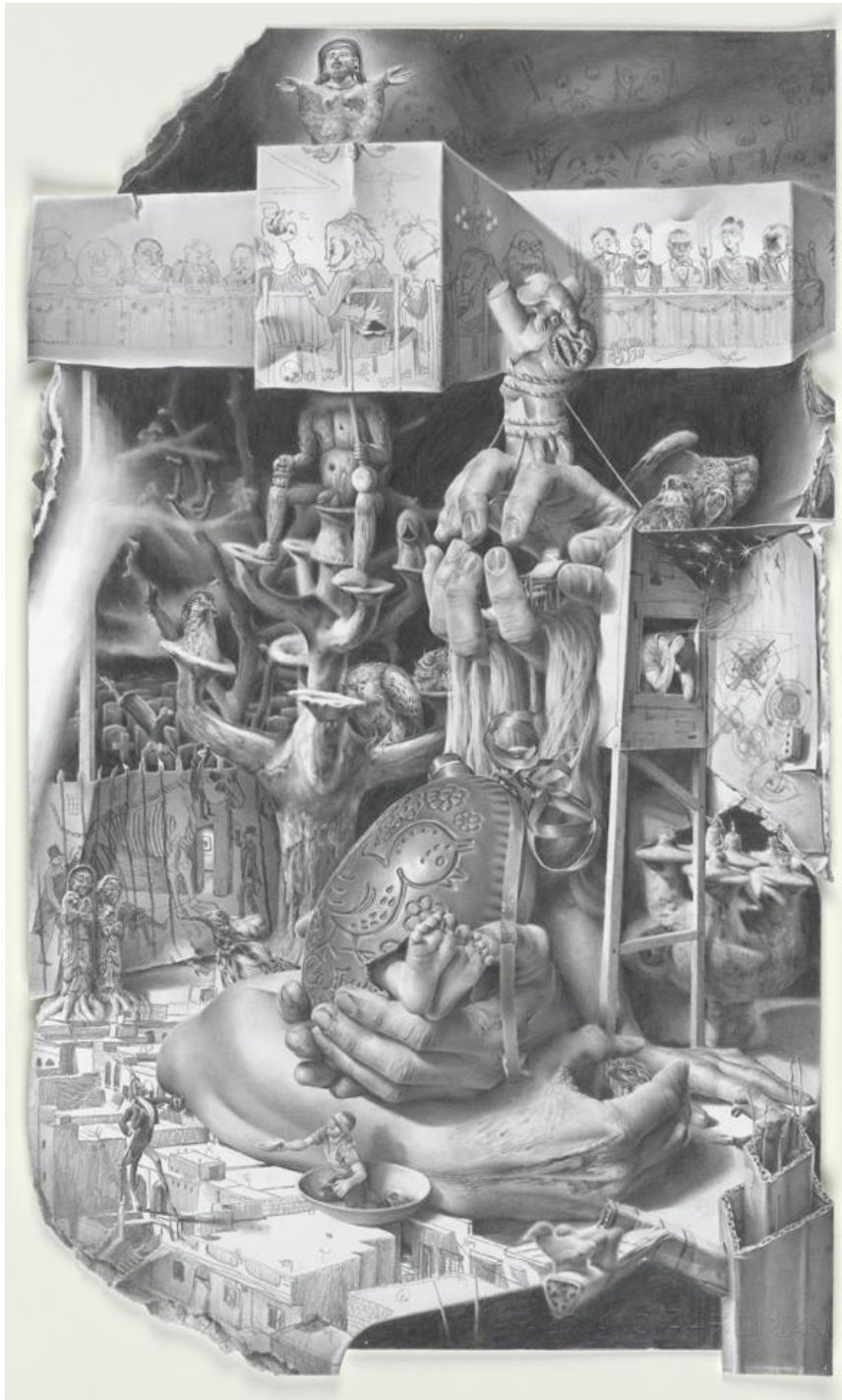
© Ronald Cornelissen (Beverwijk 1960), *Home Sweet Home*, 2004. Mixtes techniques



© Krijn de Koning (Amsterdam 1963), *The Hague 2005 - Amsterdam 2008*, 2005-2008. Digital print



© Krijn de Koning (Amsterdam 1963), *Antibes 2005 - Amsterdam 2008*, 2005 - 2008. Digital print



© Robert McNally (New Castle, 1982), Mariana Trench, 2011. Graphite on paper



© Charlie Roberts (Hutchinson, KA, USA, 1983), Karl Krapp, 2010. Gouache on paper