MASSIMODECARLO

Lenz Geerk
Biography

Lenz Geerk was born in 1988 in Basel, Switzerland. He lives and works in Düsseldorf, Germany.

Geerk's paintings feel like revelations - intimate, emotionally charged scenes that seem to float outside of time. While his approach is steeped in art history, there's something unmistakably personal in the way he paints. The figures that inhabit his canvases often come from dreams or daydreams, their gestures and poses shaped more by feeling than by any real-life model.

He builds his compositions around subtle shifts in body language - a slouched shoulder, a glance held too long - small details that carry the weight of something unspoken. His palette is typically restrained, washed in pastel tones, occasionally punctuated by warmer accents. The atmosphere is thick, sometimes tense, but never loud.

Geerk's focus is solitude, not loneliness, but a kind of introspective pause. His figures sit with themselves, and in doing so, invite the viewer to do the same. There's often a flicker of humour or tenderness too, as if the painting knows something it's not quite saying. In his paintings, Geerk captures the essence of our condition, exploring the depths of the psyche and the complexities of human emotion.

Solo exhibitions

2026

2026 - Theatre of the mind , Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin, I

2025

2025 - Schwarzweiß, Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, USA
2025 - lautlos, Domushaus, Basel, CH
2025 - Forthcoming, MASSIMODECARLO, London, UK

2024

2024 - Sleep!, Kunsthal KAdE, Amersfoort, NL

2022

2022 - Moonpaintings, MASSIMODECARLO, Milano, IT
2022 - Arrival, Roberts Projects, Los angeles, CA

2020

2020 - Sleepless, Mamoth, London, UK
2020 - Wuthering Heights, Roberts Projects (Online exhibition), Los Angeles, USA

2019

2019 - Mixed Blessings, Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, USA

2018

2018 - Wywh, The Cabin, Los Angeles, CA

2018 - Pears & Pearls, Galleria Acappella, Napoli, I
2018 - The Table Portraits, Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, USA

2017

2017 - Nudo, Galeria Mascota, Mexico City, MEX
2017 - Crying, Spitting, Sweating, Galerie Valentin, Paris, F

2016

2016 - Lotion, Gerhard Hofland Gallery, Amsterdam, NL

2015

2015 - Closer, Stadtische Galerie Stapflehus, Kunstverein Weil am Rhein, D
2015 - Jäger, dst Galerie, Munster, D
2015 - The O, Mark Christopher Gallery, Toronto, CDN

2014

2014 - Omen with Jurgen Malcherek, Anna Klinkhammer Galerie, Dusseldorf, D

2012

2012 - Teenage Angst, Anna Klinkhammer Galerie, Dusseldorf, D

2011

2011 - Fruhlings Erwachen, Anna Klinkhammer Galerie, Dusseldorf, D

Group exhibitions

2025

2025 - Portraits Revealed | Featuring Otis Kwame Kye Quaicoe and Lenz Geerk, Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, USA
2025 - Back To the Earth, Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, USA
2025 - Mystical Me, The Corridor Foundation, Shenzhen, PRC
2025 - and yet:, Tel Aviv Museum of Art, Tel Aviv, IL
2025 - STORIES OF YOUR LIVES, Galerie Max Hetzler, Berlin, D
2025 - Seven Heavenly Senses, Ai Thani Collection, Paris, F

2024

2024 - On Alchemy, Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, USA
2024 - Studiolo, Adler Beatty, New York, USA
2024 - The Hollow and the Receptive, ADZ, Lisbon, P
2024 - STREETSPACE BANGER, Kunsthalle Recklinghausen, Recklinghausen, D
2024 - Sleep! , Kunsthal KAdE, Amersfoort, NL
2024 - Intimacy rarely makes sense of things, Shanghai Pond Society, Shanghai, PRC

2023

2023 - ORIZZONTI, curated by Cloe Perrone, Daniele Fenaroli, Casa Masaccio | Centro per l'Arte Contemporanea, San Giovanni Valdarno, I

2022

2022 - My Reflection of You, The Perimeter, London, UK
2022 - In Bloom, MASSIMODECARLO Pièce Unique, Paris, F
2022 - Highlights of the Collection, The Kunsthaus Zürich, Zürich, CH
2022 - Uncanny Interiors, Nicola Vassel Gallery, New York, USA
2022 - The Drawing Centre Show, Le Consortium, Dijon, F
2022 - Art Basel Hong Kong, Hong Kong Convention Center, Hong Kong, PRC
2022 - Art Paris, Grand Palais Ephemere, Paris, F

2021

2021 - New Now, Xiao Foundation, Rizhao, PRC
2021 - Poisonous Kiss. Lovely Venom, Tick Tack, Antwerp, BE
2021 - Portraiture One Century Apart, MASSIMODECARLO Pièce Unique, Paris, F
2021 - Portraiture One Century Apart, MASSIMODECARLO, Milano, I

2021 - Salon de Peinture, Almine Rech, New York, USA
2021 - Go Figure!?, Spruth Magers OVR,
2021 - Lenz Geerk, Rute Merk, Alexis Ralaivao, Hussenot Galerie, Paris, F
2021 - Breakfast Under the Tree, curated by Russell Tovey, Carl Freedman Gallery, Margate, UK
2021 - Sleep, Haverkampf Galerie, Berlin, D
2021 - Equal Affections, GRIMM, Amsterdam, NL

2020

2020 - Wish You Were Here, Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, USA
2020 - Synchronicity, Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, USA
2020 - The Edge of Blue, Gallery Platform Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA
2020 - Wuthering Heights, Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, CA
2020 - Good Pictures, Jeffrey Deitch Gallery, New York, USA

2019

2019 - Role Play, Maximillian William, London, UK
2019 - Behind Face, Roberts Projects, Los Angeles, CA

2018

2018 - 01, curated by Danny Lamb, PM/AM Gallery, London, UK
2018 - Unfollow Me, Nir Altman Galerie, Munich, D
2018 - PabloPabloPablo, Cabinet Printemps, Dusseldorf, D

2017

2017 - 75 Works on Paper, Beers, London, UK

2016

2016 - Es Gibt Hummer, Anna Klinkhammer Galerie, Dusseldorf, D
2016 - Closer, Thierry Goldberg Gallery, New York, USA

2015

2015 - Ein Zimmer Fur Alfred Flechtheim, Osthaus Museum, Hagen, D
2015 - Grenznah, Galerie Skolskà 28, Prague, CZ
2015 - One of Us Cannot Be Wrong, Anna Klinkhammer Galerie, Dusseldorf, D

2014

2014 - Zum Schwarzen Hund, gfjk, gfjk, Baden-Baden, D
2014 - See what the boys in the backroom will have, Anna Klinkhammer Galerie, Dusseldorf, D
2014 - Ce Que Je Suis Maintenant, Rompone Art Space, Cologne, D
2014 - Mac International, Belfast, IRL
2014 - German Kleinformat, Kunstverein Koelnberg, Cologne, D

2013

2013 - Members of the family, Kunstverein Emmerich, Emmerich, D
2013 - Goddamn! Here I am, Ausstellungsraum Klingental, Basel, CH
2013 - Grauomenta, Kunstlerhaus Dortmund, Dortmund, D
2013 - Darling Darling, Philara Sammlung zeitgenossischer Kunst, Dusseldorf, D
2013 - Rembrandt Ruft, Villa Goecke, Krefeled, D

2012

2012 - Prestige, Anna Klinkhammer Galerie, Dusseldorf, D

2010

2010 - Und Immer Fehlt Mir Etwas Und Das Qualt, Kunstgruppe Kunstverein Cologne, Cologne, D
2010 - All you can eat, Anna Klinkhammer Galerie, Dusseldorf, D

Bibliography

2022

"Elephant's Pick of June's Essential Artists", *Elephant*, June 2022.
"Lenz Geerk Presents a Deeply Psychological Exploration of the Complexity of Desire at Roberts Projects", *Widewalls*, June 2022.
Albertini, Rosanna. "Arrival: Lenz Geerk", *Albertini the Kite*, August 2022.
Dozier, Ayanna. "Lenz Geerk's Moody Paintings Make the Mundane Feel Cinematic", *Artsy*, July 2022.

2021

Helou Hernandez, Samanta. "Sculptures in Showers, Paintings Above Toilets: Moments From the Felix Art Fair", *Hyperallergic*, July 2021.
Lesser, Casey. "Inside My Collection: Pete Scantland", *Artsy*, April 2021.
Rea, Naomi. "What I Buy and Why: Millennial Art Advisor Lawrence Van Hagen on How He Collects the Artists of His Generation", *Artnet News*, June 2021.
Villa, Angelica. "Emerging Artists Reign Amid Absence of Mega-Galleries in Expo Chicago's Online Fair", *Artnews*, April 2021.
Villa, Angelica. "New Advisory Firm Sets Sights on Asia's Rising Class of Collectors", *ARTnews*, May 2021.

2020

Adam, Georgina. "Russell Tovey: 'Art has become a huge part of my life", *Financial Times*, June 2020.
McHugh, Camila. "A Minibar Mascot and Other Berlin Gallery Weekend Highlights", *Mousse Magazine*, May 2020.

2019

Albertini, Rosanna. "Lenz Geerk: Magic Solitudes", *Albertini 2014 the Kite*, January 2019.
Berardini, Andrew. "Critics' Pick: Lenz Geerk", *Artforum*, September 2019.
Miranda, Carolina. "Art Openings, in LA This Week: Lenz Geerk at Roberts Projects", *L.A. Times*, 2019.
Osberg, Annabel. "Celeste Rapone; Lenz Geerk", *Artillery*, September 2019.
Wood, Eve. "Activating Absence in Lenz Geerk's Mixed Blessings", *Riot Material*, September 2019.

2018

Horst, Aaron. "Lenz Geerk at Roberts Projects", *Contemporary Art Review*, September 2018.
Wood, Eve. "Lenz Geerk: A Glance in Place of a Smile", *Artillery*, November 2018.

Public Collections

Austria

Albertina Museum, Vienna

China

HEM Museum, Shunde
X Museum, Shanghai
XIAO Museum, Shandong
Longlati Fondation, Beijing
Corridor Foundation, Hong Kong
Cloud Art Foundation, Nanjing

France

Fondation Louis Vuitton, Paris

Israel

Tel Aviv Museum of Art, Tel Aviv

Italy

Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin
MART, Rovereto

Japan

Comico Art Museum, Oita

Norway

Kistefos Museum, Oslo

Puerto Rico

Up Next Art, Vega Baja

South Korea

Amorepacific Museum, Seoul

Switzerland

The Kunsthaus Zürich, Zürich

The Netherlands

Kunstmuseum, The Hague

United Arab Emirates

The Arts Club Dubai, ICD Brookfield Place, DIFC, Dubai

United States of America

Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami, FL
The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA
Hirshhorn Museum, Washington D.C.
Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara
Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami
High Museum of Art, Atlanta
Denver Art Museum, Denver
Walker Art Center, Minneapolis
Rubell Collection, Miami