

PETER MARTENSEN

Born in 1953 in Odense, Denmark
Lives and works in Copenhagen and Northern Sealand



Peter Martensen sets in the manner of a scenographer who juxtaposes accessories and human figures in a space that is both familiar and unknown to us. His works become the conveyor of poignant observations, deep anxieties, yet also a meeting place with dreams. In a multiverse world, Peter Martensen brings the most diverse registers and “realities” together, that form our perceptive frame in all its complex scope. He speaks of a “mental reality”.

Drawing occupies a very important place in Peter Martensen’s work: charcoal offers modelling in the most subtle tones, watercolor or ink a fluidity, which quick pencil and pen strokes define and delineate.

EDUCATION

1971 – 1977

The Funen Academy of Art Odense

1982 – 1984

The Royal Danish Academy of Art in Copenhagen

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2022

The Rabbit & The Crow, Galerie MøllerWitt, Copenhagen, Denmark

2020

Nye Værker, Galleri Aveny, Göteborg

MENTAL PLACES, Galerie MøllerWitt, Copenhagen, Denmark

2018

Call from Inside, Galerie Maria Lund, Paris

PLANET X, Galerie MøllerWitt, Aarhus DK

2017

Portraits, The National History Museum, Hillerød, Denmark

RAVAGE, MAMC+ (Musée d’Art Contemporain de Saint-Etienne), France

RAVAGE, Maison du Danemark, Paris, France

2016

Undone Sketches, Galerie Maria Lund, France

2015

Examinations, Galerie MøllerWitt, Aarhus, Denmark
Nye Værker, Galleri Aveny, Gothenborg, Sweden
Nicolai Bergmann, Tokyo, Japan

2014

From Grid To Romance, Brandts 13, Odense, Denmark
The Power Of Silence, BDG Gallery, New York

2013

Feelings, Galerie Maria Lund, Paris
Recovery, Galleri MøllerWitt, Aarhus, Denmark

2012

The Specialist, Galerie MøllerWitt, Aarhus, Denmark

2011

Museum, Galerie Maria Lund, Paris

2010

Galleri Aveny, Gothenburg, Sweden
The Wonder Of Absence, Galerie MøllerWitt, Aarhus, Denmark

2009

Galerie Leger, Malmö, Sweden

2008

Monument, Galerie Møllerwitt, Aarhus, Denmark
Testing Freedom, Galerie Maria Lund, Mois De La Photo, Paris

2007

Galleri Aveny, Gothenburg, Sweden
The Test, Galerie Maria Lund, Paris

2006

Sophienholm, Lyngby, Denmark
Brænderigården, Viborg, Denmark

2005

Opera, Opera, Galerie Leger Malmö, Sweden
Blueview, Galerie Møllerwitt, Aarhus, Denmark

2004

Strange Days, Galerie Maria Lund, Paris
Dahl Gallery of Contemporary Art, Luzern, Switzerland
Galleri Carsten Frøkjær, Copenhagen

2003

Galerie Provence, Aalborg, Denmark
Galleri Aveny, Gothenburg, Sweden
Galleri Branteberg, Rørvig, Denmark

2002

Civilisation, Galleri Møllerwitt, Aarhus, Denmark
Civilisation, Galerie Maria Lund, Paris

2001

Galleri Carsten Frøkjær, Copenhagen

2000

Galleri Møllerwitt, Aarhus, Denmark
Clone Club Paintings, Galerie Maria Lund, Paris

1999

Homesites, Galleri Møllerwitt, Aarhus, Denmark

1998

Glas, Galerie Gerly, Copenhagen
Galerie Aveny, Gothenburg, Sweden
Galleri Møllerwitt, Aarhus, Denmark

1997

For Bier, Traneudstilling Gentofte Kunstbibliotek, Hellerup, Denmark
Galerie Provence, Aalborg, Denmark

1996

Galerie Møllerwitt, Sønderborg, Denmark

1995

Galerie Provence, Aalborg, Denmark

1993

Galerie Gerly, Copenhagen

1992

Jens Nielsen & Olivia Holm-Møller, Museet Holstebro, Denmark

1990

Galerie Gerly, Copenhagen
Esbjerg Kunstmuseum (graphic works), Denmark

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2021

BLA BLA BLEU, with Morten Søndergaard, Galerie Maria Lund, Paris, France

2019

Disturbing Narratives, Parkview Museum, Singapore

2018

Intriguing Uncertainties, Parkview Museum, Singapore, Beijing

2016

Intrigantes incertitudes, Musée d'art moderne de Saint Etienne Métropole, France

2015

Obscurities-Uncertainties, Francesca Antonini Arte Contemporanea, Rome
Ikke Til Salg, Trapholt Museum of Modern Art, Kolding, Denmark

2014

Samling & Samtid, Skagens Museum, Skagen, Denmark

2013

Spring Collective, BDG Gallery, NYC
Fra et andet sted, Skive Kunstmuseum, Skive, Denmark
12 x 12, Galerie Maria Lund, Paris
Malmö Nordic, Galerie Leger, Malmö, Suède

2012

Undertoner, Galerie Egelund, Copenhagen
Sådan Set, Romantik i Dansk Nutidskunst Rønnebæksholm, Næstved, Denmark
Det Mørke Rummet, Edsviks Konsthall, Stockholm

2011

Landscape II, Galerie MøllerWitt, Aarhus, Denmark
Portræt Nu!, The National History Museum Frederiksborg Castle, Hillerød, Denmark
The Artist Group JYLLAND, Aarhus Kunstbygning, Aarhus, Denmark

2010

Nuancer Af Sort, Ordrupgaard Collection Copenhagen and Vejle Art Museum, Vejle, Denmark

2003

The Artist Group JYLLAND, Aarhus Kunstbygning, Aarhus, Denmark

2002

The Artist Group JYLLAND, Torshavn, The Faroe Islands
Corner, Charlottenborg, Copenhagen

2001

Holliday Inc., Pakhuset, Nykøbing Sj. Denmark
The Artist Group JYLLAND, Aarhus Kunstbygning, Aarhus, Denmark
Den Gyldne, Charlottenborg, Copenhagen

2000

Am Ort, Berlin

1999

Den Foruroligende Stilhed, Vejle Art Museum, Denmark

1998

About Painting, Guinness Hopstore, Dublin

1996

Licence To Paint, with Preben Fjederholt Overgaden, Copenhagen
Blind Date, Galleri Leger, Malmö, Sweden
Danish Portraits, Brandts Klædefabrik, Odense, Denmark
West Sealand Art Museum, Sorø, Denmark
Øregaard Museum, Hellerup, Denmark

1995

Blind Date, Sophienholm, Lyngby, Denmark

1993

Pathos, Den Frie, Copenhagen

1992

Spejlbilleder, Frederiksborg Castle, Hillerød, Denmark

1989

Jeune Peinture, Grand Palais, Paris

COLLECTIONS

Musée de Saint-Etienne, France
 The National Museum of Art (Statens Museum for Kunst), Copenhagen
 The Danish Arts Foundation, Denmark
 The Kastrupgaard Collection, Copenhagen
 Frederikshavn Art museum, Denmark
 The Storstrøm Art Museum, Maribo, Denmark
 The Funen Art Museum, Odense, Denmark
 Southern Jutland Art museum, Tønder, Denmark
 Vejle Art museum, Vejle, Denmark
 Frederiksborg Museum, Hillerød, Denmark
 Christiansborg Portrait Collecton, Copenhagen
 Kunsthalle Rostock, Germany
 Victoria & Albert Museum, London
 Gothenburg Art Museum, Sweden

GRANTS

3 Year scholarship Danish Arts Foundation
 New Carlsberg Foundation
 Niels Wessel Bagges Arts Foundation
 The Danish Arts Foundation
 Åge & Yelva Nimbs Foundation
 I.W. Larsens Grant
 Henry Heerups Grant
 Gerhard Hennings Grant
 Theodor Irgens-Bergs Artists Grant
 Queen Ingrid's Roman Foundation
 Tuborg Foundation
 Ernst Goldschmidts Grant
 Poul Pedersens Letter Grant

COMMISSIONS

NOKIA Head Office, Copenhagen
 Saxo Bank Head Office, Copenhagen
 Bendix Bank, Odense, Denmark
 MINDWORKING Computer programming, Aarhus, Denmark

COMMISSIONS PORTRAITS

selection

Premier ministre du Danemark (2011 – 2015), Mme. Helle Thorning-Schmidt
 Ancien Haut-Commissaire pour les réfugiés des Nations Unies, M. Poul Hartling
 Ancien recteur de l'Université d'Odense, M. Carl Th. Pedersen
 Ancien président du Parlement danois, M. Erling Olsen
 M. le maire de Høje Taastrup, Anders Bak
 M. le maire de Sønderborg, A.P. Hansen
 M. Niels Thorsen, entrepreneur
 Maître Ignaz Tullinius
 Capitaine M. Mogens P. Møller, Morsø Jernstøberi

PUBLICATIONS

RECOVERY textes : Torben Sangild, Jens Christian Grøndahl et Peter Martensen, Galleri MøllerWitt, 2013
THE MOMENT FROZEN IN TIME – Artists Portraits de Sten M. Rosenlund, 2012
NUANCER AF SORT, Meredith Sanderhoff, Ordrupgaard museum et Vejle kunstmuseum, 2010
WHY ART, Lisbeth Bonde et Maria Fabricius Hansen, Gyldenhal, 2007
BLACK PICTURES, Meredith Sanderhoff, Political Revy, 2007
PETER MARTENSEN SOLO textes : Lisbeth Bonde, Carsten Thau, Borgens Forlag, Copenhagen, 2006
PETER MARTENSEN Maleri grafik video, textes : Lisbeth Bonde Sophienholm – Brænderigården, 2006
SYNSVINKLER tidsskrift ved Nordiske Studier Syddansk Universitet, interview de Carsten Odgaard, 2003
PORTRÆTTØRER, de Piotr Topperzer, Frederiksborgmuseet, 2003
ATELIER de Lisbeth Bonde, Aschehougs Forlag, 2003
ØKSENS TID - Læsioner, nouvelles de Preben Major Sørensen, illustrations : Peter Martensen, Gyldendal, 2002
Weilbachs Kunstnerleksikon
Den Store Danske Encyclopædi
Fogtdals Kunstleksikon
Ny Dansk Kunsthistorie, Søren Fogtdals forlag
Dansk Kunst, 1984-2003
PETER MARTENSEN CLONE-CLUB PAINTINGS textes : Lisbeth Bonde & Itzhak Goldberg, catalogue, La Galerie Danoise, 2000
ABOUT PAINTING, texte : Lisbeth Bonde, catalogue, Guinness Hopstore, 1999
ODEM notationer, textes : Efi Beydin peintures : Peter Martensen, 1998
PETER MARTENSEN, texte : Efi Beydin, catalogue, Galleri MøllerWitt, 1990-1995
BLIND DATE, texte : Poul Erik Tøjner, catalogue, Sophienholm, 1995
PATHOS, texte : divers auteurs, catalogue, Den Frie, 1993
Vox Humana (dessins, notes), 1989
Spejlinger (dessins, notes), 1986
Studier (textes avec reproductions), 1981
Indbildninger (dessins, poèmes), 1978

GRANTS AND DISTINCTIONS

3 Years scholarship, The Danish Arts Foundation
New Carlsberg Foundation
Niels Wessel Bagges Arts Foundation
The Danish Arts Foundation
Åge & Yelva Nimbs Foundation
Bourse, I.W. Larsen
Bourse, Henry Heerup
Bourse, Gerhard Henning
Bourse, Theodor Irgens-Bergs
Queen Ingrid's Roman Foundation
Tuborg Foundation
Bourse, Ernst Goldschmidts
Bourse, Poul Pedersens Bogstavlegat