

NILS STÆRK



OLAF BREUNING

SAD AND WORRIED ANIMALS

SOLO PRESENTATION AT B117

CONTACT

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Olaf Breuning

Bear, 2020

Cantera pinion stone, glass eyes

80 x 65 x 56 cm (31,5 x 25,59 x 22,05 in) Sculpture

30,5 x 63,5 x 63,5 cm (12 x 25 x 25 in) Pedestal

370 kg

Edition #1/1

Certificate

(Inv# OBr 20 004.1)

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OLAF BREUNING

SAD AND WORRIED ANIMALS

Artist statement :

Evolution took hundreds of millions of years to create life and all living creatures on our planet. While we as humans are a rather recent addition to it all, actually we had no relevance to nature or other living organisms for several hundreds of thousands of years. It's only been about 10.000 years since we started to change the environment around us. We created infrastructures for communities but without influencing the surrounding nature. But when the industrialization came – it all changed! We changed the global environment, burned stuff and dug deep into the ground. Without being aware of the negative consequences it would one day have. Now the day has come! We are at a point, where we have to be worried about our future and not only worried, but also in the need to take action. We suddenly became our own biggest threat! With our incredible knowledge and advanced technology, we are slowly destroying our planet and the living creatures around us.

The thought of our profound influence on our planet and living creatures became my motivation to create this body of work. What if animals had an awareness about what is happening to their surroundings? What if they could understand the consequences? I believe they would be very sad and worried about our human stupidity. With this in mind I created a series of animals, carved in stone at Ceramica Suro in Guadalajara with large colorful glass eyes that look up to us with a sad mouth, waiting for bad things to happen.

There was time, where we respected nature and living creature's natural habitats. This changed when humans began cultivating the land and dominating the planet with our innovative innovations and we developed another relationship to animals. We either eat them, place them in a zoo for our amusement or treat them as pets. We are the dominating species on the planet, or on *our* planet as we tend to call it. We will eventually decide the fate of all the others and the animals will become the victims of the human race.

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Olaf Breuning

Dolphin, 2020

White cantera tinajero, glass eyes

80 x 13 x 60 cm (31,5 x 5,12 x 23,62 in) Sculpture

40,6 x 38,7 x 30,5 cm (16 x 15,25 x 12 in) Pedestal

87 kg

Edition #1/1

Certificate

(Inv# OBr 20 001.1)

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OLAF BREUNING

SAD AND WORRIED ANIMALS

About the artist :

At first sight, Swiss artist Olaf Breuning's humoristic self-irony may appear simplified and accessible. But when we enter into his imagery, we discover that it is rather more complex. This new series of stone sculptures *Sad and Worried Animals* is no exception. In collaboration with Ceramica Suro in Guadalajara in Mexico, Breuning has given wild animals a sad worried expression as if they were aware of how we as humans are destroying the planet. With a fascination in peruvian soapstone animals and their ability to emit a calming energy, stimulating one to release old habits for new loving environments, Breuning has created a series of animals in a naïve expression in varies types of stones and with colorful staring glass eyes.

In combination with the simple style of the works it reminds us that art contains the freedom to interact, combine and create out of everything available to the imagination. Breuning's works are full of invitations to freely interact with the stories initiated by the works, which balance between being the product of a carefree childlike attitude and that of a cynical dark humor.

Olaf Breuning (b.1970) is educated from Zürich University of the Arts and lives and works in New York, USA. Since the beginning of his career Breuning has worked with a wide range of media from drawings to photography, film production and sculptures in media from ceramic, to steel, marble, wood and stone. Most recent institutional exhibitions include: Cass Sculpture Foundation, NRW-Forum, Düsseldorf, Kunsthall Stavanger, Haifa Museum of Art, Zentrum Paul Klee, Palais de Tokyo and Kunstmuseum Luzern. His works are represented in public collections such as the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Kunsthall Hamburg, Musée d'Art Moderne et Contemporaine among others.

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Olaf Breuning

Bull, 2020

Cantera coffee, glass eyes

80 x 44 x 103 cm (31,5 x 17,32 x 40,55 in) Sculpture

53,3 x 78,7 x 50,8 cm (21 x 31 x 20 in) Pedestal

306 kg

Edition #1/1

Certificate

(Inv# OBr 20 002.1)

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Olaf Breuning

Goat, 2020

Lava stone, glass eyes

80 x 35 x 65 cm (31,5 x 13,78 x 25,59 in) Sculpture

59,1 x 50,8 x 43,2 cm (23,25 x 20 x 17 in) Pedestal

134 kg

Edition #1/1

Certificate

(Inv# OBr 20 006.1)

NILS STÆRK



Olaf Breuning

Owl, 2020

American black stone, glass eyes

80 x 35 x 35 cm (31,5 x 13,78 x 13,78 in) Sculpture

61 x 45,7 x 48,3 cm (24 x 18 x 19 in) Pedestal

122 kg

Edition #1/1

Certificate

(Inv# OBr 20 008.1)

NILS STÆRK



Olaf Breuning

Pelican, 2020

Lemon white stone, glass eyes

80 x 53 x 31 cm (31,5 x 20,87 x 12,2 in) Sculpture

71,1 x 77,5 x 53,3 cm (28 x 30,5 x 21 in) Pedestal

88 kg

Edition #1/1

Certificate

(Inv# OBr 20 009.1)

OLAF BREUNING
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Olaf Breuning
Dog, 2020
Tobacco cantera, glass eyes
80 x 35 x 43 cm (16,93 x 13,78 x 31,5 in) Sculpture
30,5 x 61 x 43,2 cm (12 x 24 x 17 in) Pedestal
150 kg
Edition #1/1
Certificate
(Inv# OBr 20 005.1)

NILS STÆRK



Olaf Breuning

Lama, 2020

Orange cantera, glass eyes

80 x 32 x 58 cm (31,5 x 12,6 x 22,83 in) Sculpture

30,5 x 67,3 x 43,2 cm (12 x 26,5 x 17 in) Pedestal

126 kg

Edition #1/1

Certificate

(Inv# OBr 20 007.1)

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Olaf Breuning

Rabbit, 2020

Pink cantera, glass eyes

80 x 35 x 60 cm (31,5 x 13,78 x 23,62 in) Sculpture

55,2 x 61 x 43,2 cm (21,75 x 24 x 17 in) Pedestal

152 kg

Edition #1/1

Certificate

(Inv# OBr 20 010.1)

NILS STÆRK



Olaf Breuning

Rhino, 2020

Coffee cantera degollado, glass eyes

80 x 50 x 120 cm (31,5 x 19,69 x 47,24 in) Sculpture

53,3 x 78,7 x 50,8 cm (21 x 31 x 20 in) Pedestal

400 kg

Edition #1/1

Certificate

(Inv# OBr 20 003.1)



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OLAF BREUNING

Born 1970 in Schaffhausen, Switzerland
Lives and works New York, US

EDUCATION

1988 - 93 Professional education as a photographer, Zurich, CH
1993 - 96 Postgraduate studies in photography, HSWG Zurich, CH

SOLO EXHIBITIONS SINCE 2011

- 2018 *HEADS*, Smithson Plaza, The Former Economist Building, London, UK
Revolver Gallery, Buenos Aires, AR
CLOUD and *Scrap Faces*, CASS Sculpture Foundation, Goodwood, UK
- 2017 *Walk on Love*, Kodama Gallery, Tokyo, JP
Olaf Breuning – Retrospective, Downstairs Project, New York, US
Pig School, *Olaf Breuning*, Metro Pictures, New York, US
There is always something to complain about life, Tableau, Zurich, CH
Quiet Afternoon, Galerie Nicola von Senger, Zurich, CH
- 2016 *Cold Animals*, Nils Stærk, Copenhagen, DK
The Madness That We Call Reality, NRW-Forum Düsseldorf, Düsseldorf, DE
The Good Old Evolution, Carbon 12, Dubai, UAE
- 2015 *Home 1-3*, Kunsthall Stavanger, Stavanger, NO
The Life, Metro Pictures, New York, US
- 2014 *Clouds*, Public Art Fund, Doris C. Freedman Plaza, New York, US
Groups, Haifa Museum of Arte, Haifa, IL
Do Not, Art Cube, Artist Studios Jerusalem, IL
- 2013 *The Grid*, Zentrum Paul Klee, Bern, CH
Home Screening 3, The Modern Institute Oxford, Oxford, UK
Home Screening 3, ICA London, London, UK
Home 3, IMA Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane, Brisbane, AU
Home 1/2/3, Metro Pictures, New York, US
Camelops Femina, Carbon 12, Dubai, UAE
- 2012 *Home 2*, IMA Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane, AU
Home 3 Screening, Swiss Institute, New York, US
Human / Nature, Box, Pippy Houldsword Gallery, London, UK
- 2011 *Olaf Breuning*, Museum of Bat Yam, Jerusalem, IL
Olaf Breuning, Hermes Window, Tokyo, JP
Art Freaks, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, FR

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PUBLIC AND PRIVATE COLLECTIONS

AROS, Aarhus Art museum, Aarhus, DK
Bank Julius Bär & Co. AG, Zürich, CH
Collection Rignier, Zurich, CH
Collection Zellweger-Luwa, Uster, CH
Collection Schweizer Rück, Zürich, CH
Collezione La Gaia, Brusca, IT
Elipse Foundation, Lisabon, PT
FRAC Bourgogne, FR
FONDS NATIONAL D'ART CONTEMPORAIN, FR
Grafische Sammlung des Museums für Gestaltung, Zurich, CH
Kunsthalle Hamburg, DE
Kunsthaus Glarus, CH
Kunsthaus Zürich, Zürich, CH
Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Copenhagen, DK
Musée d'Art Moderne/ Centre de Création Industrielle, FR
Museum zu Allerheiligen, Schaffhausen, CH
Sammlung Falkenberg, Hamburg, DE
UBS Collection, CH
Sammlung Goetz, München, DE
Zürcher Kantonalbank, Zürich, CH
Saatchi Collection, London, UK
Société Générale, FR

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