

Koen Vanmechelen



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Galleries:

Berengo Fine Arts (Venice)
Conner Contemporary Art
(Washington)
Deweert Art Gallery (Otegem)

CV

Honors and Awards

Doctor Honoris Causa UHasselt, 2010
Honorary citizenship Sint-Truiden, Belgium, 2005

Exhibitions

Solo- exhibitions (selection)

2010

- "14th Generation: Mechelse Silky", Himalayas Center, Pudong Shanghai (CN)
- "Cosmopolitan Chicken – Diversity", Espace Européen pour la Sculpture, Parc Tournay-Solvay, Brussel

2009

- "Cosmopolitan Chicken Project (DC)", Conner Contemporary Art, Washington (US)
- "The Cosmopolitan Chicken Project", Muziekgebouw aan 't IJ, Amsterdam (NL)
- "The Cosmopolitan Chicken Project - Orloff", Deweer Gallery, Otegem
- "Unicorn", 53rd Venice Biennale 2009, Venice (IT)
- "Connection", St. Lucas Gallery, Brussel

2008

- "Breaking the Cage – The art of Koen Vanmechelen", Victoria and Albert Museum, Arts & Business, curator Mike Phillips, London (GB)
- "The Chicken's Appeal", Museum Valkenhof, curator Frank Van der Schoor, Nijmegen (NL)
- "CCP Ten Generations", Galerie k4, München (DE)

2007

- "CCP Ten Generations", Deweer Gallery, Otegem
- "CCP Au Salon", Marijke Schreurs Gallery, Brussel
- "The Accident", Cornice, Venice Project, Venice (IT)

2006

- "The Accident", curator Agnes Husslein, Palm Court, Miami Beach (US)

2005

- "Cosmopolitan Chicken Project - Virtual Mechelse Fighters", Deweer Gallery, Otegem
- "Red Jungle Fowl - Genus XY", CRAC Alsace, curator Hilde Teerlinck, Altkirch (FR)

2004

- "Red Jungle Fowl - Genus XY", Z33, curator Jan Boelen, Hasselt
- "Cosmopolitan Chicken Project", Bourbourg (FR)
- "Mechelse Dresdner", Galerie k4, München (DE)

2003

- “The Cosmopolitan Chicken Project”, Musée Départemental de l’Abbaye de St. Riquier (FR)
- “Cosmopolitan Chicken Project – Desire”, De Brakke Grond, Amsterdam (NL)
- “Cosmopolitan Chicken Project – Mechelse Owlbeard”, GEM Den Haag / KunstRAI, curator Wim Van Krimpen, Amsterdam (NL)
- “Cosmopolitan Chicken Project – Second Generation: Mechelse Bresse – Sex & Mortality”, Deweer Gallery, Otegem
- “Visible / Invisible”, Galerie Tapper, Malmö (SE)

2002

- “Artificial Cross-breeding”, Berengo Fine Arts, Miami Art Fair (US)
- “Who’s Calling”, Berengo Fine Arts, Mi Art, Milaan (IT)
- “Smak, smak, The Mechelse Bresse”, S.M.A.K., curator Jan Hoet Junior, Gent

2001

- “The Cosmopolitan Chicken”, Deweer Art Gallery, Otegem

2000

- Performance “Blood & Colours”, Filmfestival, Venezia (IT)

Group exhibitions (selection)

2010

- Mediations Biennale “Beyond Mediations”, “Tower of Babel”, Poznan (PL)
- “Schone Schijn”, Beeldende kunstmanifestatie Heemskerk (NL)
- “INGewikkeld”, De Mijlpaal, Clarissenklooster, Hasselt
- “The Cosmopolitan Chicken Project - Feed the world”, “Wijheizijweihij”, Vredeseilanden, Eliksem
- “The Cosmopolitan Chicken Project - Innovations and adaptation”, Dak’Art Biennale, Dakar (SN)
- “The Cosmopolitan Chicken – Frozen Culture Balance”, “Mediations”, National Museum Warsaw, Warschau (PL)
- Art Amsterdam, Amsterdam (NL)
- Art Paris, Parijs (FR)
- Arco Madrid, Madrid (ES)
- The Armory Show, New York City (US)
- “Parallelepiped”, Museum “M”, Leuven
- “Figure it out?!” , “China China”, Ceramics, De Mijlpaal, Heusden-Zolder
- FADA Los Angeles Art Show 2010, Los Angeles (US)
- “(Ant)arcticmatters”, “Frozen Culture Balance”, Verbeke Foundation, Kemzeke

2009

- Lineart art fair 2009, Blikvanger: “Unicorn”, Showcase; “Figure it out”, Ceramics; “China, China”, Flanders Expo, Gent
- PULSE Miami 2009, “The Cosmopolitan Chicken”, Pulse

- Contemporary Art Fair, The Ice Palace, Miami (US)
- “Becoming Intense, Becoming Animal, Becoming ...”, Völkermuseum von Portheim-Stiftung, Heidelberg (DE)
- “In Bed Together”, “Breaking the Cage”, Royal/T, curator Jane Glassman, Culver City (US)
- The Toronto International Art Fair 2009, Toronto (CA)
- “Against Exclusions”, “The Cosmopolitan Chicken Project, Mechelse Orloff”, 3rd Moscow Biennale of contemporary art, curator Jean-Hubert Martin, Moskou (RU)
- “Boer zoekt stijl”, Designhuis, Eindhoven (NL)
- “Glasstress”, 53ste Biennale van Venetië, Venetië (IT)
- VOLTA Basel 2009, Bazel (CH)
- CIGE 2009, China International Gallery Exposition, Beijing (CN)
- 101 Tokyo Contemporary Art Fair 2009, Tokyo (JP)
- “Superstories”, 2de Triënnale Hasselt, curator Koos Flinterman, Hasselt

2008

- “Kort is de tijd en onherroepelijk”, Landgoed Groot Vijverburg, Tytsjerk (NL)
- “Dat de verte nabijer dan ooit was”, Salvator Globe, curator Giacinto di Pietrantonio, St. Bavokerk Watou
- “Genesis: CCP 10 Generation”, Zentrum Paul Klee, curator Fabienne Eggelhöfer, Bern (CH)
- “The Salvator Globe”, Art Brussels, Brussel
- “The Cathedral – Ectoplasma – CCP”, Congress Centre, Davos (CH)
- “Doing it my way”, MKM Museum Küppersmühle für Moderne Kunst, curator Lorenzo Benedetti, Duisburg (DE)
- “Zerbrechliche Schönheit”, The Accident, museum Kunst Palest, curator Thijs Visser, Düsseldorf (DE)
- “Ad Absurdum, Mechelse Bresse”, MARTA, curator Jan Hoet, Herford (DE)
- “Die Hände der Kunst”, “Koen Vanmechelen x Mechelse Koekoek”, MARTA, curator Jan Hoet, Herford (DE)
- “Ephemeral Fringes”, CCP Mechelse Cubalaya, curator Filip Luyckx, Art Brussels, Brussel
- “The Cosmopolitan Chicken: 10 Generations”, Mediations Biennale, curators Yu Yeon Kim, Lorand Heg Yi, Gu Zhenqing, Poznan (PL)
- “Betrekkelijk rustig”, Lab, Kasteel Rekem, curator Annemie Van Laethem, Rekem (B)
- “Somewhere in the Middle of Nowhere”, CCP, curator Arno Vroonen, München (DE)
- “Superstories”, 2de Triënnale Hasselt, curator Koos Flinterman, Hasselt

2007

- “Troubleyn /Laboratorium”, Ab Ovo, Antwerpen
- “Genesis - The Cosmopolitan Chicken”, Centraal Museum Utrecht, curator Emilie Gomart, Utrecht (NL)
- “Totemisimi”, Medusa, National Gallery London (GB)
- “De Kunstkas”, Bio, Verbeke Foundation, Kemzeke
- “Some make – Some take”, Art Köln, Keulen (DE)

2006

- “Facing 1200° - Glass from the Berengo Collection”, Museum Moderner Kunst Kärnten, Klagenfurt (AT)
- “DOTS”, curator Stef Vanbellingen, Sint-Niklaas
- “Handle with care”, Pushkin Museum, Moskou (RU)
- “Field Work” met Hans Op de Beeck en Ricardo Brey, curator Roel Arkesteijn, Kunstvereniging Diepenheim (NL)

2005

- “LAT”, Oda-Park, curator Marijke Cieraad, Venray (NL)
- “Super!” curator Edith Doove, Hasselt
- “Slow Art - Neue Akzente aus Flandern und den Niederlanden”, Museum Kunst Palast, curator Thijs Visser, Düsseldorf (DE)
- “Two Asias, Two Europes”, Duolun Museum of Modern Art, curator Gu Zhenqing, Shanghai (CN)

2004

- “Cultivando la Naturaleza”, Fundacion César Manrique, curator Bianca Visser, Lanzarote (ES)
- “ECLIPS / 25ste verjaardag Deweer Art Gallery”, curator Jo Coucke, Transfo Zwevegem

2003

- “ECLIPS / 25ste verjaardag Deweer Art Gallery”, curator Jo Coucke, Transfo Zwevegem
- “Le Coq”, Musée Départementale de l'Abbaye de Saint-Riquier (FR)
- “Beaufort 2003”, curator Willy Van den Bussche, Blankenberge
- “Cinecittà”, Berengo Fine Arts, Filmfestival, Venetië (IT)
- “The Walking Egg”, Shinchu Museum, Taipei (TW)

2002

- “3 FEB 02”, Museum Dhondt-Dhaenens, curator Edith Doove, Deurle
- “Attitude”, Château du Pauly (FR)
- “Cinecittà”, Berengo Fine Arts Filmfestival, Venetië

2001

- “3 FEB 02”, Museum Dhondt-Dhaenens, curator Edith Doove, Deurle
- “Secret Gardens”, curator Annemie Van Laethem, Rekem
- www.murano.be”, Venetiaanse Gaanderijen, Oostende
- “Wir sind die ander(en)”, curator Jan Hoet, Herford (DE)

2000

- “The Walking Egg”, Arco 2000, Madrid (ES)
- “Storm Centers”, curator Jan Hoet, Watou
- “A Shot in the Head”, curator Jill Silverman, Lisson Gallery, Londen

Permanent Works

- “The Cosmopolitan Chicken – Celestial body”, VOKA Kamer van Koophandel Limburg, 2010, Hasselt

- “The Cosmopolitan Chicken – Time Temperature”, BioVille, Campus UHasselt, Biomedical Research Institute (BIOMED), 2010, Diepenbeek
- “High-Breed”, The European Academy of Gynaecological Surgery, 2009, Leuven
- “Troubleyn /Laboratorium”, Ab Ovo, 2007, Antwerpen
- “The Walking Egg – Born”, Ziekenhuis Oost-Limburg, 2005, Genk

Lectures/debates (selection)

2010

- “The Chicken’s Appeal”, TedxFlanders, Antwerpen
- “The Cosmopolitan Chicken Project”, European Conference On Computational Biology, Gent
- “The Cosmopolitan Chicken Project”, Belgian pavilion World Expo, Shanghai (CN)
- “Arts meets Science”, Doctor Honoris Causa, Faculty of Medicine UHasselt, Hasselt
- “The Accident”, Debate with Professor J.-J. Cassiman, Dr. Mike Philips, Dr. Luc Vrielinck and Peter Adriaenssens, moderator: Indra Dewitte, Museum “M”, Leuven
- “The Cosmopolitan Chicken Project”, PULSE New York (US)

2009

- “The Chicken’s Appeal”, 3rd Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art, 2009, Moskou (RU)
- “The Cosmopolitan Chicken Project”, 53e Biennale di Venezia (IT)
- “The Cosmopolitan Chicken Project – Culture and Nature Balance” Climat Change Congress, 2009, Kopenhagen (DK)

2008

- “The Cosmopolitan Chicken”, Debate, World Economic Forum, Davos (CH)
- “Day of Hope”, Cosmogolem, Jeanne Devos Fonds, Mumbai (IN)
- “The Cosmopolitan Chicken Project”, Victoria and Albert Museum, Londen (UK)
- “The Cosmopolitan Chicken Project”, Creativity World Forum, Lotto Arena Antwerpen

2007

- “The Walking Egg”, Expert meeting “Fertility in Developing Countries”, Arusha (TA)

2005

- “CosmoGolem”, “Child abuse: Neglecting the Facts”, Leuven

2004

- “CosmoGolem en Cosmopolitan Chicken Project”, The Jacobs Foundation, Zurich (CH)

2002

- “The Cosmopolitan Chicken”, Natural History Museum, Londen (GB)

Publications

- “Facts, Views & Vision”, The Low Countries Journal of Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Reproductive Health. A scientific Journal of the Flemish Society of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, June 2009.
- “IVF in developing countries: an artist’s view”, Human Reproduction, An Oxford Journal, published by Oxford University Press, July 2008. Eshre Special Task Force on Developing Countries and Infertility.

Bibliography (selection)

- The Accident II, Chronicles of The Cosmopolitan Chicken, Hasselt 2010
- The Chicken’s Appeal, Museum Het Valkhof, Nijmegen 2008
- The Accident, Het Glazen Huis, Lommel 2007
- The Accident, Chronicles of The Cosmopolitan Chicken, Verbeke Foundation, Kemzeke 2007
- The Walking Egg/Born, P. Dupont, Fertility Hospital, Genk 2005
- The Cosmopolitan Chicken, Virtual Mechelse Fighter, Deweert Art Gallery, Otegem 2005
- Cosmopolitan Chicken Project, Barbara Simons & Wouter Keirse, Ludion Gent-Amsterdam, De Brakke Grond, Amsterdam 2003
- The Cosmopolitan Chicken, Sex & Mortality, Deweer Art Gallery, Otegem, 2003
- The Cosmopolitan Chicken, Between Natural breeding and genetic engineering, Deweer Art Gallery, Otegem 2001

Artistic-Scientific projects

- “CC@P”; this artistic, genetic project is an alliance between Professor Jean- Jacques Cassiman and artist Koen Vanmechelen. The objective is to investigate the genetics of the chicken and thus achieve a new angle in developing the Cosmopolitan Chicken Project.
- “The Walking Egg”; Art meets science, together with fertility specialist Willem Ombelet, Koen Vanmechelen plunges himself into the international science world. Accompanied by a team of scientists, journalists and thinkers. Welding his art into science and vice versa. This led to the birth of the quarterly magazine ‘The Walking Egg’ and to innovating art/science projects as for example ‘Born’ in the hospital ZOL in Genk (Belgium).
- “Frozen Culture”; as a result of the pandemic bird’s flue Koen Vanmechelen has decided to safeguard the genetic material of his Cosmopolitan Chicken Project. He therefore freezes in the sperm of his Cosmopolitan cocks, a highly technological operation that is made possible though befriended scientists.
- “The Golden Spur”; after having lost a spur in a battle a rooster was treated by a surgical team. The purpose of the treatment was to provide a bone-anchored support, on top of which a screw-retained golden spur was placed. The operation was carried out by Dr. Luc Vrielinck at Ziekenhuis Oud-Limburg in Genk, a regional hospital in Limburg, Belgium.

- “Lambo”; This crossing between Lama, Ovambo and Labo, is a recent project which attempts to cross in a new way and is still in an experimental fase. A first result is the installation “Connection”.

Foundations

- “The CosmoGolem Foundation”; founded in 2010, the goal of this foundation is to coordinate the project behind the growing series of towering wooden sculptures symbolizing children’s rights. Chaired by Peter Adriaenssens, child - and youthpsychiatrist (MD, K.U.Leuven) honorary member is Jeanne Devos (DR).
- “The Walking Egg Foundation”, founded in 2010 to support the Walking Egg Project and the research on (in)fertility in developing countries. Chaired by fertility specialist Willem Ombelet (MD, PhD).
- “CC@P Foundation”; wants to bridge the gap between art and science, through the work of Koen Vanmechelen. It is the intent of the foundation to create the possibility for scientific research as well as to support social projects. Chaired by architect Alfredo De Gregorio, secretary Luc Vrielinck, honorary members Steve Stevaert, Prof. JJ Cassiman, Dr. Agnes Husslein, Dr. Mike Phillips, Jill Silverman, and Koen Vanmechelen (artist).