

art Market

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GOLD
TOP
CONTEMPORARY
ARTISTS OF TODAY
LIST

TOP ARTIST



PIET VAN DEN BOOG



“ For 12 years now I have been experimenting with using metal as canvas for my paintings. First working with rough steel plates, making them worn out and combining this with portraiture. For the last 10 years, sheets of lead are my preferred surface to work on. As a modern day alchemist experiments with patinas and chemicals gives me unexpected possibilities on the lead surface which resulted in totally new textures and colors.

An intensity of color and texture which I could never achieve with oil and acrylic alone. Combining these techniques with oil and acrylic and at the same time include abstract in figuration. The chemical techniques are unpredictable, which gives freedom to work. Recently I made a number of paintings which are completely done with chemicals on the lead surface giving a vibrant imagery. Portraiture and figuration will always be the center of my work.

Left: I myself am Made Entirely ...
185 x 150 cm, Acrylic and oil on patinated lead,
green patina, iron oxide, lead white.

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Top Left: Jewish Bride (#2), 150 x 200 cm
Acrylic and oil on patinated lead, iron oxide

De Baadster / Woman Bathing, 150 x 100 cm
Oil and acrylic on lead, black patination, iron oxide, azurite, silver sand

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Dutch painter, Piet Van Den Boog (b.1951) currently lives and works in Amsterdam. His work is included in many important international museums and collections, has found a new interpretation of the figure and portrait by way of an alchemic process that promotes effects of chemistry on the picture plane. Influenced by the writings of Sylvia Plath and painters like Jenny Saville, van den Boog's point of departure is a photo reference, which he then enlarges to a monumental size. Oil and acrylic paint make up flesh tones and facial details, while abstract strokes in rust tones are chemically etched into the cold lead surfaces, becoming a powerful metaphor for the internal scars we all possess.

Van den Boog pushes the limits of portraiture by directly confronting emotion head-on by way of large-scale paintings. New ways of seeing, generated

through a personal process, have always rewarded the viewer with new insights. A modern day alchemist, van den Boog's experiments with base metals like lead, copper, steel etc. form a grand visual allegory of personal transmutation and the quest for a cure for the human soul. It is the process that ultimately imbues the portraits with relatable human qualities. The element of technical surrender alludes to the unforeseen consequences of intimacy and the perpetual co-existence of pain and pleasure. Van den Boog's work is exciting and emotionally rich in that as viewers we participate in his process and feel transformed by it. He benefits from the uncontrollable nature of chemical action by way of accidents, which bring chaos to the organized mind. Piet Van Den Boog represented by Zemack Contemporary Art Gallery in Tel Aviv.

Left: My Self Portrait as Vincent
95 x 75 cm, Acrylic and oil on lead, green patina, azurite

Top: The Muse, (Based on Balthus painting)
150 x 220 cm
Acrylic and oil on lead, black patina, lead white, azurite, intestine paper, gold leaf, iron oxide and silver sand



Portrait of Vincent (Based on the painting by his colleague painter John Peter Russell year 1886), 85 x 60 cm
Acrylic and oil on black patinated lead, azurite, iron oxide.



The Face Forgives the Mirror, 190 x 150 cm
Acrylic and oil on white patinated lead, green and blue patina, iron oxide.

PIET VAN DEN BOOG

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