

JASKI GALLERY

AMSTERDAM



Caspar

mixed media on panel

18 x 13 cm 2020

Caspar is a famous botanist. He stems from a long line of scientists suffering from a rare condition that resulted in the subject of their specialties manifesting out of the tops of their heads. After the mysterious passing of his grandfather the zoologist specialized in elephants; his father the planetologist and his uncle and fellow botanist and cartographer of the forests of Europe, he took on the job of finishing the uncompleted books his uncle left him.

He wisely decided to focus on the smaller species. He managed to complete and publish several works of importance on exotic plants. At the moment he is preparing a dissertation on ferns. It's quite interesting and a lot of fun, but it does attract big bugs. He might consider a career of hat designer next.

CASPAR loves everything that grows. He is focused on organisms in distress or need of love and care. He can pick up on even the smallest of disturbances in the force and is happy to write a book about all your fears,

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anxieties, concerns, worries and pet peeves.

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Chris Berens

Chris Berens studied illustration at the Academy of Art & Design in 's-Hertogenbosch, graduating in 1999. He has developed a complex and time-consuming painting technique, mostly shown as mixed media on panel.

"I'm most comfortable using fine brushes and drawing inks and graphites, but I also regularly use water color paints, markers and acrylics", Berens says. "For some time now I've added digital image making to my line of techniques, meaning 3D sculpting, digital painting and image processing. I combine and mix them with my more traditional media."

After his first major solo show at Jaski Gallery in 2005, Chris Berens' fame spread quickly. The young artist has already exhibited all over the world, from Amsterdam to New York, from Tokyo to Los Angeles, Seattle and Singapore. He also designed the cover for *Panic of Girls*, an album which was released in 2011 by Blondie. Deborah Harry and Chris Stein, founders of the band, are admirers of his work.

Back home Chris has been the subject of a television documentary. *Chris Berens, Master of his Magical Universe* was made for Dutch broadcaster Avro's *Close Up* series in 2013 and has since been broadcast several times at home and abroad.

Chris Berens also featured prominently in the television documentary *Krabbé searches for Van Gogh*, in which actor/painter Jeroen Krabbé traced the path of Vincent van Gogh in co-operation with Dutch artists.