

OLAF BREUNING

Olaf Breuning studied photography at the Zuercher Hochschule der Kuenste and Winterthur (Switzerland). Breuning's artworks, in whichever of the plethora of media it emerges in, deals with the "big questions in life" through a language that merges mass-culture and art manifesting a body of ephemeral works made permanent via artistic documentation constituting of humorous art without ridiculing art. Breuning has had over 320 exhibitions worldwide, his works are exhibited in the most important galleries and art fairs worldwide, and has many public installations and permanent public sculptures in various locations in North America and Europe, proving a fixture in the contemporary arts and culture.

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

Education

1993-1996, Photography, Zuercher Hochschule der Kuenste, Zürich
1988-1993, Photography, Winterthur, Switzerland

Solo Exhibitions (selected)

- 2018 "CASS Presents: Olaf Breuning", CASS Sculpture Foundation, West Sussex
"Chicken or Pasta?", Revolver Galeria, Buenos Aires
- 2017 "Walking on Love", Kodama Gallery, Tokyo
"Retrospective", Down Stairs Project, New York
"Pig School", Metro Pictures, New York
"Quiet Afternoon", Galerie Nicola von Senger, Zurich
"Retrospective", NRW-Forum, Duesseldorf
- 2016 "The Good Old Evolution", Carbon 12, Dubai
"The Madness We Call Reality", NRW-Forum, Dusseldorf
"Cold Animals", Nils Stærk, Copenhagen
- 2015 "Life", Metro Pictures, New York
"Home 1-3", Kunsthall Stavanger, Norway
Michael Benevento, Los Angeles
- 2014 "Do Not", Art Cube, Artist Studios Jerusalem, Israel
"Groups", Haifa Museum Of Art, Israel
"Clouds", Public Art Fund, New York
- 2013 "Home 3 Screening", The Modern Institute Oxford, Oxford, Uk
"Home Trilogy", Metro Pictures, New York
"Home 3 Screening", Ica London, London
"Camelops Femina", Carbon 12, Dubai
"Home 3", Ima Institute Of Modern Art, Brisbane
"The Grid", Zentrum Paul Klee, Bern
- 2012 "Human Nature", The Box, Pippy Houldsworth Gallery, London
Ima Institute Of Modern Art, Brisbane
- 2011 "The Art Freaks", Metro Pictures, New York
"The Art Freaks", Palais De Tokyo, Paris, France
"The Art Freaks", Kodama Gallery, Kyoto, Japan

- 2010 Nicola Von Senger Gallery, Zürich
Art In The Park Vi, Baur Au Lac Park, Zürich
Contemporary Art Centre, Chapel Of Geneteil, France
Nils Staerk Gallery, Denmark
"Yes? No?", Kunstmuseum Luzern, Luzern, Switzerland
- 2009 "Small Brain, Big Stomach", Metro Pictures, New York
Michael Benevento, Los Angeles
Kodama Gallery, Kyoto And Tokyo
Langhans Gallery, Prague
- 2008 Metro Pictures, New York,
"Omg", Conduits Gallery, Milan
Art Projects For Miami Basel, Miami Beach
Galerie Lucy Mackintosh, Lausanne
- 2007 Galerie Nicola Von Senger, Zürich
Migros Museum, Zürich
Bunker Sztuki, Krakow
Kodama Gallery, Tokyo
Australian Centre For Photography, Sydney, Au2007 Gertrude, Melbourne
- 2006 Wolfsberg, Wolfsberg
"Vidéokiosque", Modern Art Center, Paris
IMA: Institute Of Modern Art, Brisbane
Window Of Elizabeth Leach Gallery, Portland
Nils Staerk Contemporary Art, Copenhagen
"Home", Sketch, London, Uk
- 2005 Metro Pictures, New York
Galerie Air De Paris, Paris
Chapter Visual Arts, Cardiff, Uk
Chisenhale, London
Filmbabend: Home, Kunst-Büro, Lupiod Lounge, Munich
Galerie Meyer & Kainer, Vienna
Nicola Von Senger Galerie, Zürich
Kodama Gallery, Osaka

Group Exhibitions (selected)

- 2018 "The Garden", Foundation Carmignac, France
"40 Years of Passion", Fondation Fernet-Branca, Saint-Louis, France
- 2017 "NGV Triennial", National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
"Electronic Superhighway", Museum of Art, Architecture and Technology (MAAT), Lisbon
"Power Mask", Wereldmuseum, Rotterdam
"Call & Response", Museum of Contemporary Art, Jacksonville
7 X SPACE X TIME, Louisiana Museum, Humlebæk, Denmark
"Rituals", Migros Museum, Zurich
- 2016 5 Years at Heddon Street, Pippy Houldsworth Gallery, London
"Send in the Clowns", Nils Stærk, Copenhagen
"Hangar B9", Biennale De L'Image Possible, Liège
"Ulla! Ulla! Ulla! Ulla! Martians, Aliens, Intergalactics and Humans", Casa Nova Arte e Cultura Contemporanea, São Paulo
"This one is smaller than this one", Postmasters Gallery, New York
"Electronic Superhighway (2016-1966)", Whitechapel Art Gallery, London
"Who is Playing?", MeetFactory Gallery, Prague
"Vitaminbombe. Früchtebilder Von Picasso Bis Warhol", Kunsthalle Emden, Germany
"Um Die Ecke Denken", Museum Haus Konstruktiv, Zurich
- 2015 "Station To Station", Barbican Art Centre, London
"Zurich And Elsewhere", Carlos/Ishikawa, London

- "Welcome To The Jungle", Kw Institute For Contemporary Art, Berlin
 "The Generic Way", Zabriskie Point, Geneva
 "Trial / Error / Art", Holden Gallery, Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester "Don't Worry", Kate Macgarry, London
 "Who Is Playing?", Meetfactory Gallery, Prague
- 2014 "Small Detonations", Carbon 12, Dubai
 "Cargo Zeitgenössische", Museum Rietberg, Zurich
 "Drømmeland", Kunsten: Museum Of Modern Art, Denmark
 "Closer Encounters – Summer Accrochage", Carbon 12, Dubai
 "Social Photography Iv", The Emily Harvey Foundation, New York
 "Marie Voignier / Olaf Breuning / Christoph Keller", Caixa Cultural São Paulo, São Paulo
 "Broken. Slapstick, Comedy Und Schwarzer Humor", Haus Der Kunst München, Munich
 "Protect Me From What I Am", Galerie Dina Renninger, Munich
 "Choice & Charity Part I", Katz Contemporary, Zurich
 "Olaf Breuning, Tony Matelli, And John Miller", Gary Tatintsian Gallery Inc., Moscow
- 2013 "Metamatic", Tinguely Museum, Basel
 "Lightness Of Being", Public Art Fund, City Hall Park, New York
 "Revealed 2: Collector Space", The Anne & Gordon Samstag Museum Of Art, Adelaide
 "The Cat Show", White Columns, New York
 "La Realtà Non È Un Luogo Comune: Fotografie E Video Dalla Collezione D'arte Della Julius Baer", Museo Cantonale D'Arte Lugano, Switzerland
 "This Is Not A Love Song", La Virreina – Centre De La Imatge, Barcelona
 "Back And Forth", Stiftung Binz 39, Zurich
 "Pataphysics", Sean Kelly Gallery, New York
 "Other People's Problems: Conflicts And Paradoxes", Herzliya Museum Of Contemporary Art, Israel
 "Sweet Home", Häusler Contemporary, Munich
- 2012 "Post Tenebras Lux – Eine Uebersichtsausstellung", Galerie Nicola Von Senger, Zurich
 "Rejouer / Déjouer Le Grand: Suisse-Québec", Stadtgalerie Im Progr, Bern
 "Family Portrait", Carriage Trade, New York
 "In Living Color", Flag Art Foundation, New York
 "Sport In Art", Mocak: Museum Of Contemporary Art In Kraków, Krakow
 "Itinerary - The Proposition", New York
 Nils Stærk Contemporary Art, Copenhagen
 "Parallelwelt Zirkus", Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna
 "Out Of Focus: Photography", The Saatchi Gallery, London
 "Hidden Stories", Kai 10 Raum Für Kunst, Dusseldorf
 "Death Can Dance", Townhouse, Zurich
 "Fg.Ft", Envoy Enterprises, New York
 "Die Dunkle Seite Des Mondes (The Dark Side Of The Moon)", Carbon 12, Dubai
- 2011 "Living On The Edge Of A Silver Future", Galerie 5020, Salzburg, Austria
 "Dead Lines", The Von Der Heydt Museum, Wuppertal
 "Cover Up (Second Version)", Museum Of Art, Bochum, Germany
 "Display/Replay", Maison De La Culture Frontenac, Montreal
 "Display/Replay, Stad Galerie, Bern
 "Daft (Idiots)", Shanghai Gallery Of Art, China
 "God Only Knows Who The Audience Is", Caa Wattis Institute For Contemporary Arts, Usa
 "Commercial Break", 54th Venice Biennale, Venice
 "Train Fantome", Cruise & Callas, Berlin
 "Let It End Like This", Apex Art, Usa
 "Here Is A Drawing Switzerland", Aargauer Kunsthhaus, Switzerland
 "Electromediascope", Nelson Atkins Museum Of Art, Kansas City, Usa
- 2010 "Move", Ps1 Contemporary Art Center, New York
 "Hareng Saur: Ensor And Contemporary Art", The Museum Of Contemporary Art (S.M.A.K) SVA, Hbc, Berlin
 "The Secret (Still) Knows", (Land) Lab, Los Angeles
 "The Battle Of Bad Taste", The Swiss Institute, New York
 "Swell", Friedrich Petzel Gallery, New York
 "Press Art", Museum Der Moderne, Salzburg
 "The Forest Of My Dream", Gallerie Du Conseil Général Of Aix-En-Provence, France

"Make Yourself At Home", Kunsthal Charlottenborg, Denmark
 "Adding Complexity To Confusion: A Kind Of History Of Engaged Practice", Grizdale Arts At The Tate Britain, UK
 "Adaptation", The Power Plant, Toronto
 Le Burlesque In Contemporary Art, Centre Culturel André Malruex, Bourget, France
 "Cover Up", The Tape Modern, Berlin
 "If A Tree Falls In A Forest, And Know One Is Around To Hear It, Does It Make A Sound", Solyst Artist In Residency Center, New Zealand
 "Global Localism", (Temporary Venue), Hawaii
 "Fumetto", Kunstmuseum, Luzern
 "Desire", Blanton Museum Of Art, University Of Texas, Austin
 "And The Moral Of The Story Is...Witte De With", Center For Contemporary Art, New Zealand
 "Be A Star, Play A Model", International Photo Festival, Knokke
 "Knock Knock: Who's There That Joke Isn't Funny Anymore", Armand Bartos Fine Art & Fred Torres Collaborations, New York
 "Contact", Toronto Photography Festival, Toronto
 "Fantasmagoria The Mythic World", The Abattoirs Museum, Toulouse
 "Press Art", Kunstmuseum St Gallen
 "I Am Swiss", Musée Rath, Geneva
 "The Secret Knows", Land, Austin
 Shanghai Billboards, Various Locations, Shanghai
 Nuit Blanche, The Drake Hotel, Toronto

2009

"Objects, Furniture And Patterns", Art Since The Summer Of 69, New York
 "Rock Garden", Salon 94, New York
 "The Likely Fate Of The Man That Swallowed The Ghost", Centre Pompidou, Paris
 "Bernhard Wilhelm Retrospective", Groninger Museum, Groningen
 "Pandora's Box", Performa, White Box, New York
 Time Out Video Festival, Ucca, Beijing
 Tina B Festival, Prague
 Photo Festival Mannheim Ludwigshafen Heidelberg, Public Space, Germany
 "Warehouse Of Horrors", Embassy Gallery, Edinburgh, UK
 "The Reach Of Realism", Moca, Miami
 "Total Nowhere Emotional Expansion", Brisbane Festival, Brisbane
 "Lowlands Summer Music Festival", Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam
 "I Am Comedy", Arnolfini, Bristol, UK
 "Borderline Pleasure", Michael Janssen Galerie, Berlin
 "Today And Everyday", X Projects, New York
 "The Haunted Chateau", Indianapolis Museum Of Contemporary Art, Indianapolis
 "Foodprint Exposition", Art & Architecture Center, Stroom Den Haag, The Netherlands
 "60 Minutes", Institute For Research In Art, University Of South Florida, Tampa
 "The Uncertainty Principal", Museu D'art Contemporani De Barcelona (Macba), Barcelona
 "Stranger Things Are Happening", Aspex, Portsmouth, UK
 "The Magic And The Funny Meet Again", De Brokke Grond, Amsterdam
 "Tradecity", Contemporary Art Manchester (Cam), Manchester, UK
 "Fotographica Bogotá", Photo Museum, Bogota
 "Everything Must Out Going", Asia Song Society, New York
 Nils Staerk, Copenhagen
 Vanderbilt University Fine Arts Gallery, Nashville
 "Hypocrisy: The Sitespecificity Of Morality", The National Museum, Oslo
 "Pictoplasma", Haus Der Kulturen, Berlin
 "Books, Books, Nothing Else Than Books", Ursula Blickle Foundation, Kraichtale, Germany
 "Born In The Morning, Dead By Night", Leo Koenig, New York
 "Moving Money: Global Capital And The Dematerialization Of Value", Sac, New York
 "Virtual Insanity", Cinders Gallery, Brooklyn
 "A Meeting Between The Tragic And The Funny", Hessen Huis Museum, Antwerp
 "Unfictions", Empac, Troy, New York
 "Uncharted", University At Albany Art Museum, Albany, New York
 "Travelogue", Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Vancouver
 F.I.S.Co, Festival Internazionale Sullo Spettacolo Contemporanea (9th Edition), Bologna, Italy
 "Offset Exhibit", Mount Tremper Arts Facility, Hudson, New York
 Fotofestival Mannheim, Ludwigshafen, Heidelberg, Germany

- 2008
- "Experimenta Folklore", Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt
 - "Second Nature", Domaine Départemental De Chamarande, Paris
 - "The Empty Page", James Fuentes, New York
 - "Looking At Music", The Museum Of Modern Art, New York
 - "Dream Berries", Westfälischer Kunstverein, Muenster, Germany
 - "Aurum", Centre Pasque Art, Bie, Switzerland
 - "Family Affair", Conduits/Gea Politi, Milan
 - "I Am Comedy", Hotel Mariakapel, Holland
 - "Second_Nature", Gallery Nosbaum And Reding, Luxembourg
 - "The Rocky Mountain People Show", Galleria Civica Di Arte Contemporanea, Torino, Italy
 - "Living London, I Don't Like To Curate, But At Least I Like The Videos I Selected", 176, London
 - "Less Is Less And More Is More, That's All", Capc Musée D'art Contemporain, France
 - "Anyone Got Wood", Bondegatan, Stockholm
 - "Nekrokvlt", Impakt Festival, Utrecht
 - "Damn I Wish I'd Made That", Chapter, Cardiff, Uk
 - Moscow Short Film Festival, Moscow
 - "Tell Tchaikovsky The News", Standard, Oslo
 - "Like Watching A Train Wreck", Groeflin Maag Galerie, Zürich
 - "Damaged", Gbe Passerby, New York
 - "Laughing In A Foreign Language", Hayward Gallery, London, Uk
 - Whitney Biennial, Whitney Museum Of American Art, New York
 - "The Spectrarium (The Ghosts Of The Machine)", Fondation Suisse, Paris
 - "After Effects", Museo De Arte Contemporaneo De Santiago, Santiago
 - "Fun, Fun, Fun", Aros Aarhus Kunst Museum, Aarhus
 - Collection/Sammlung, Migros Mu 2008 Bad Moon Rising, Ispc, New York
 - "Bad Moon Rising", Ispc, New York
- 2007
- Air De Paris, Galerie Delphine Pastor, Monaco
 - "Total Recall (Bernhard Wilhelm)", Mode Museum, Antwerp
 - "Playback", Musée D'art Moderne De La Ville Da Paris, Paris
 - "Hold The Line", Ferenbalm-Gurbrü Station, Karlsruhe, Germany
 - "Elsewhere", University Of South Florida Contemporary Art Museum, Tampa
 - Idylle, Da2 Domus Artium 2002, Salamanca
 - Group, Home I, King, The Dome, Toronto
 - Les Collections, Capc Museum Of Contemporary Art, Bordeaux
 - "What We Bought, Camera Austria (Steirischer Herbst), Graz
 - "Mask", James Cohan Gallery, New York
 - Dutch Film Festival, Lowlands, Amsterdam
 - "Enlarge Your Practice", La Friche La Belle De Mai, Marseille
 - Arnhem Mode Biennale, Bernhard Wilhelm, Arnhem
 - "Yo", Rivington Arms, New York
 - "Imagination Becomes Reality Part Vi", Museum Of Contemporary Art At Zkm, Germany
 - "The Return Of The Seven Samurai", Galerie Lucy Mackintosh, Lausanne, Switzerland
 - "Forest Assembly", Gallery Alexandra Dyvi, Oslo
 - "All About Laughter", Mori Museum, Tokyo
 - "Destroy Athens", 1st Athens Biennial, Athens
- 2006
- "Panoramica", Museo Tamayo Arte Contemporaneo, Mexico City
 - "Music Is A Better Noise", Ps1 Contemporary Art Center, New York
 - Galeria Leyendecker, Santa Cruz De Tenerife
 - Architecture, Art And Landscape Biennial, Santa Cruz De Tenerife
 - "Flesh Records", Haswellediger, New York
 - Nuit Blanche, Paris
 - "Distor", Garillo Gill Museum, Mexico City
 - "Summer", Nils Staerk Contemporary, Copenhagen
 - "Detonating Detours", Maison De La Culture D'amiens, Amien
 - Summer Kamp K48 2006, John Connelly Presents, New York
 - "Some Tribes", Scalo Guye Gallery, Los Angeles
 - "Video Program Switzerland 3 Generations", Spazio Culturale Svizzero Di Venezia, Venice
 - "Jrp Rigniers Exhibition In Paris", Christophe Daviet-Thery Gallery, Paris
 - "Human Game", Pitti Fondazione, Florence, Italy
 - Rencontres D'arles Award, Arles, France

"Imagination Becomes Reality Part Vi", Sammlung Goetz, Munich
Videonale - Negative Space Extend, Kunstmuseum Bonn, Bonn
"Action", Frac Provence-Alpes-Côte D'azur, Marseille
Expo Photosuisse, Museo Comunale D'arte Moderna Ascona, Switzerland
Expo Photosuisse, Pinacoteca Casa Ruece, Locarno, Switzerland
"Cindy Sherman, Gianni Motti, Olaf Breuning", Galerie Nicola Von Senger, Zurich
"Waking-Up", Galerie Cortex Athletico, Bordeaux, France
"The Bravo Show", Kunsthalle Zu Kiel, Kiel, Germany
"Cindy Sherman, Jim Shaw, Olaf Breuning", Metro Pictures, New York

2005
"Blanknessisnot A Void", Standard, Oslo
"30 Video Works From The Goetz Collection", Seedamm Kulturzentrum, Pfäffikon, Switzerland
Arndt & Partner, Berlin
"Abstract Naturally", Centre D'art Contemporain Genève, Geneva
"Kults, Werewolves And Sarcastic Hippies", Yerba Buena Center For The Arts, San Francisco
"Canale Grande In The Public Baths", Kunsthalle St Gallen, Switzerland
"Exhibition Project Photo Swiss", Istituto Svizzero Di Roma, Rome
"Old And New Dreams (Prince Charles Cinema For Art Fortnight)", Artprojx, London
"Fade To White", Vita Kuben, Umea
"When Humor Becomes Painful", Migros Museum Für Gegenwartskunst, Zürich
"Migration Baustelle Schweiz", Toni Areal, Zürich
Film Festival Lima/ Cuzco, Center Of Photography, Lima
"Nomads Land", Miracle Association, Bayonne, France
"Figure It Out", Hudson Valley Center For Contemporary Art, Peekskill, New York
"With Us Against Reality, Or Against Us", Loft, Oslo, Norway
"Viennastripe", Museum In Progress, Vienna
"First We Take Arts Now", Museum Of Contemporary Art Kisama, Helsinki
"Contemporary Burlesque", Jeu De Pomme, Paris
"Growing Up Absurd", Kent Institute Of Art, Kent, Uk
"Second Sight", The Prague Biennale Of Contemporary Art, Prague

Collections

Centre Pompidou, Paris
Aros, Aarhus, Denmark
Bank Julius Bär & Co. Ag, Zürich
Collection Rignier, Zurich
Collection Zellweger-Luwa, Uster, Switzerland
Collection Schweizer Rück, Zürich
Collezione La Gaia, Brusca, Italy
Elipse Foundation, Lisbon
Frac Bourgogne, France
Fonds National D'art Contemporain, France
Grafische Sammlung Des Museums Für Gestaltung, Zurich
Museum Zu Allerheiligen, Schaffhausen, Switzerland
Kunsthalle Hamburg
Kunsthau Glarus, Switzerland
Kunsthau Zürich, Zürich
Louisiana Museum, Copenhagen
Musée D'art Moderne, Centre De Création Industrielle, France
Sammlung Falkenberg, Hamburg
Ubs Collection, Switzerland
Sammlung Goetz, München, Germany
Zürcher Kantonalbank, Zürich
Saatchi Collection, London
Centre Pompidou - Musée National D'art Moderne, Paris
MAMCS: Musée D'art Moderne Et Contemporain, Strasbourg
Burger Collection, Berlin
FRAC Provence - Alpes-Cote D'azur, Marseille
Migros Museum, Zuerich
Trevi Flash Art Museum Of Contemporary Art, Trevi
Gallery Of Contemporary Art Bunkier Sztuki, Krakow
Fotomuseum Winterthur, Winterthur
Samuel P. Harn Museum Of Art, Gainesville
IAC: Institut D'art Contemporain Villeurbanne/ Rhone-Alpes, Villeurbanne

Public Sculptures / Installation

"Clouds" Central Park, New York

"The Guardians", Toronto

"Snow Drawing", Elevation 1049, Gstaad

"Heads", CASS Sculpture Foundation, West Sussex

"Mother Nature", Fondation Carmignac, Porquerolles, France

Awards

2000 Manor-Kunstpreis, Schaffhausen

2000 Bundesstipendium Freie Kunst 2000, Kiefer-Hablitzel Stipendium

1999 Bundesstipendium Freie Kunst

1999 Kiefer-Hablitzel Stipendium

1999 Moët-Chandon Stipendium

1999 Atelierstipendium New York, Stadt Zürich

1998 Bundesstipendium Freie Kunst

1998 Ubs-Werkjahrstipendium

1998 Atelierstipendium Rom, Istituto Svizzero

1997 Atelierstipendium Binz 39, Zürich