



ABOUT MICHAEL KAPHENGST

PERSONAL BACKGROUND AND CREATIVE APPROACH

Michael Kaphengst, born in the picturesque North Sea coastal town of Norden, Germany, grew up in the small village of Berumbur. Here, amidst the stark beauty of the coast, he began his artistic journey. Art served as a critical escape for Kaphengst during challenging times, particularly as he coped with his mother's mental health struggles. His early experiences in Berumbur, surrounded by the natural landscapes and personal challenges, deeply shaped his artistic perspective and narrative. These elements continue to echo through his creative expressions, offering a unique lens on the complexities of human experience and the environment.

Kaphengst's educational path further refined his artistic vocabulary. He trained as a graphic designer in Minden, where he mastered the intricacies of drawing and explored a variety of materials. This phase of formal education laid the groundwork for his diverse artistic techniques. Additionally, his training in acting in Hamburg opened new avenues for emotional depth and expression in his art. The process of embodying and then releasing intense roles helped him understand the fluidity and transient nature of emotions, a concept that permeates his artworks.

Today, Michael Kaphengst's art is a testament to his multifaceted background, blending graphic design's precision with the emotive spontaneity of acting. His approach to art is not bound by traditional techniques; rather, he engages with a broad spectrum including oil, acrylic, pencil, colored pencils, collage, and mixed media. This versatility reflects his belief in experimentation and innovation, making each piece a unique exploration of his internal and external worlds.



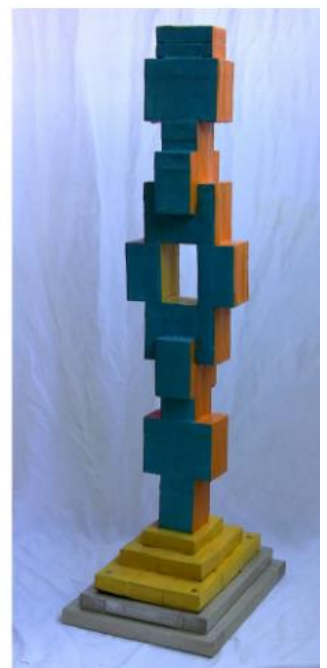
WORKS

THE WORK OF MICHAEL KAPHENGST

Michael Kaphengst is not confined to a single artistic style but rather thrives in a realm of diverse expressions. His works often challenge the conventional boundaries of art, navigating through "consumptive surrealism," "linearism," "fencing images - absolute linearism," and "extreme linearism." Each style serves as a narrative channel through which Kaphengst critiques and redefines the linear processes he observes in the consumer world. His artworks emerge as visual dialogues that question and dissect the norms of visual consumption and societal expectations.

Central to Kaphengst's philosophy is a defiance of the pop culture depiction of the consumer world. Instead, he views his artistic process as a linear journey, where each piece builds upon the last in a continuous evolution of ideas and forms. This perspective is vividly expressed through his dynamic use of lines and forms, which are not merely aesthetic elements but are imbued with deeper philosophical meanings. His techniques vary from delicate pencil lines that offer subtle introspections to bold collages that demand attention, showcasing his mastery over medium and message.

The motivation behind Kaphengst's creations is deeply personal and intellectually profound. He strives not for perfection but for authenticity and innovation. His works are crafted not to mimic but to mark his distinct voice in the art world. This commitment to originality ensures that each piece is not just seen but felt, allowing viewers to recognize and resonate with his signature style. Through his art, Kaphengst invites viewers into a conversation about identity, existence, and the overarching linearities of life.



*Neuzeit*

1998

*Stillife*

1996

ARTIST STATEMENT

INNOVATION AND INSPIRATION IN NORDEN

In my creative pursuits, I'm driven by a philosophy that veers away from the typical depictions of a consumer-driven world, which many align with pop art. Instead, I see the world and my art as inherently linear. My journey through art is a continuous exploration of this linearity, which I express in various styles including consumptive surrealism, linearism, and extreme linearism. These styles allow me to delve into the complexities of our societal structures and question the oversimplification often depicted in mainstream art.

This linear exploration is not just a method; it's a way of seeing the world that influences every stroke and color choice I make. By treating each piece as part of a larger narrative, I aim to connect each work to a broader conversation about culture, identity, and existence. The challenge is not only in the creation but also in the interpretation, pushing viewers to engage with the art on a level that transcends aesthetic appreciation and moves into intellectual discourse.

For me, art is a platform for challenging norms and exploring new ideas. It's about making the viewer pause, reflect, and perhaps understand a fragment of the world in a way they hadn't considered before. My work is my voice in this vast, complex world—an attempt to leave a mark that speaks of depth, challenges the status quo, and offers a unique perspective that is distinctly my own.



RESUME

EDUCATION, EXHIBITION, AWARDS, AND PUBLICATIONS

Education:

- Graphic Design, Minden
- Acting Training, Hamburg

Exhibitions:

- 2012, Barcelona, Hamburg
- 2013, New York, Hamburg
- 2018, ArtExpo Ingolstadt
- 2020, Biennale Dei Normanni Palermo
- 2023, Vienna Art Summer, Biennale San Remo
- 2024, Matera

Awards:

- 2020/23, International Prize Leonardo Da Vinci, Florence/Milan
- 2020, International Prize Raffaello & Canova, Venice
- 2024, Artist of the Year, Cesenatico
- 2024, Premier Art Prize, Barcelona

Publications:

- 2017 – 2022, Lexicon series "Awarded art International", Germany
- 2019, Art Freaks Global Inc, "for the love of art", India
- 2021/22, Art Universal – the Great Encyclopedia of International Art, Italia
- 2022, ART DOMAIN PUBLISHER "Art Compass", Germany
- 2024, Lexicon: "public artists PROFILES", Austria
- 2024, Contemporary art collectors Book Volume 1



KONTAKTANGABEN

KONTAKTIEREN SIE UNS

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