

MAARTEN VANDEN EYNDE (1977, BE / based in Drogenbos, BE)

Artist and co-founder of *Enough Room for Space*

Gallery: Meessen De Clercq, Abdijstraat 2, 1000 Brussels, BE (meessendeclercq.be)

'Collaborating has never been as easy and obvious as today, and equal to the emerging moment of human existence, it is of essential importance for our survival in the future. The development of language was a prerequisite for this, and physiologically we have taken this to an extreme, deforming our larynx in such a way that we nearly suffocated ourselves in order to produce a greater variety of sounds. Collaboration, and specifically the development of language, is the foundation of our modern society and the roots of our existence.' Maarten Vanden Eynde (Working Together, 2006)

Maarten Vanden Eynde graduated in 2000 from the free media department at the Gerrit Rietveld Academy in Amsterdam (NL), participated in 2006 in the experimental MSA[^] Mountain School of Arts in Los Angeles (US) and finished a post graduate course in 2009 at HISK Higher Institute for Fine Arts in Ghent (BE) where he is a regular guest tutor. Since 2020 he is a PhD candidate at the UiB / University of Bergen in Norway.

In 2017 he was nominated for the first Belgian Art Prize and won the Public Prize.

His practice is embedded in long term research projects that focus on numerous subjects of social and political relevance such as post-industrialism, capitalism and ecology. His work is situated exactly on the borderline between the past and the future; sometimes looking forward to the future of yesterday, sometimes looking back to the history of tomorrow.

Currently he is investigating the influence of transatlantic trade of pivotal materials like rubber, oil, ivory, copper, cotton and uranium, on evolution and progress, the creation of nations and other global power structures. The initiated project Triangular Trade traces back the origin of the different materials and follows their (r)evolutionary path as they are processed and transformed into 'world changing wonders'.

Recent exhibitions include: Z33 House for Contemporary Art, Design & Architecture, Hasselt, BE (2020); Museum Morsbroich, Leverkusen, DE (2020); Tallinn Photomonth - Contemporary Art Biennial, EE (2019); Mu.ZEE, Ostend, BE (2019); 6th Lubumbashi Biennale, DRC (2019); Latvian National Museum of Art, Riga, LV (2019), Contour Biennale 9, Mechelen, BE (2019); Cid Grand-Hornu, Hornu, BE (2019); Kunsthalle Bremen, Bremen, DE (2019); 1st RIBOCA/Riga International Biennial of Contemporary Art, Riga, LV (2018), ARTEFACT2018, STUK Leuven, BE (2018); Belgian Art Prize 2017, Bozar, Brussels, BE (2017); 2050. A Brief History of the Future at National Museum of Fine Arts, Taichung, TW (2018), Palazzo Reale, Milan, IT (2016) and The Royal Museums of Fine Art, Brussels, BE (2015); Performatik Biennale 2017, Brussels, BE (2017); 4th Lubumbashi Biennale, DRC (2015); Beyond Earth Art at Johnson Museum of Art, Ithaca, US (2014); Gemeentemuseum Den Haag, NL (2013); The Deep of the Modern, Manifesta9, Genk, BE (2012); The Museum of Forgotten History, M HKA, Antwerp, BE (2012) and Dublin Contemporary in Dublin, IR (2011)

Works in Collections: Mu.ZEE, Ostend, BE; Municipality of Montbel, FR; NOMAS Foundation, IT; Bibliotheca Dominicana in Ghent University Library, BE; Mineralogical Museum of Campania, Naples, IT; Province of Flemish Brabant, Leuven, BE; Zeeuws Museum, Middelburg, NL; Verbeke Foundation, Kemzeke, BE; VBO / FBE, The Federation of Enterprises, Brussels, BE; Municipality of Puurs, BE; Belgian Embassy in Kinshasa, DRC; The Futurium, Berlin, DE; DSM, Heerlen, NL; FRAC Lorraine, FR; Belgian Embassy in The Hague, NL and various private collections.

Special commissions: Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the Belgian Embassy in Kinshasa, DRC (2017); Zero Footprint Campus, University of Utrecht, NL (2017); Vent des Forêts, Lorraine, FR (2013); Building a Building, SD Worx, Hasselt, BE (2012); Generali Group, Bensberg, DE (2009)