

OLAF BREUNING

B. 1970, Schaffhausen, Switzerland
Lives and works in New York, USA



EDUCATION

1988 – 1993

Professional Education as a Photographer, Winterthur, CH

1993 – 1996

Photography, ZHdK, Zürich, CH

AWARDS AND GRANTS

2000

Manor-Kunstpreis, Schaffhausen, Switzerland
Bundesstipendium freie Kunst, Switzerland
Kiefer-Hablitzel Stipendium, Switzerland

1999

Bundesstipendium freie Kunst, Switzerland
Kiefer-Hablitzel Stipendium, Switzerland
Moët-Chandon Stipendium, Switzerland
Atelierstipendium New York, Stadt Zurich

1998

Bundesstipendium freie Kunst, Switzerland
UBS-Werkjahrstipendium, Zurich
Atelierstipendium Rom, Instituto Svizzero di Roma

1997

Atelierstipendium BINZ 39, Zurich

SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

- AROS, Aarhus, DK
- Bank Julius Bär & Co. AG, Zurich
- Collection Rignier, Zurich
- Collection Zellweger-Luwa, Uster, Switzerland
- Collection Schweizer Rück, Zurich
- Collezione La Gaia, Brusca, Italy
- Ellipse Foundation, Portugal
- FRAC Bourgogne, France
- Fonds National D'Art Contemporain, France
- Grafische Sammlung des Museums für Gestaltung, Zurich
- Kunsthalle Hamburg, Germany
- Kunsthhaus Glarus, Switzerland
- Kunsthhaus Zürich
- Louisiana Museum, Copenhagen
- Migros Museum, Zurich
- Musée d'Art Moderne/Centre de Création Industrielle, France
- Museum zu Allerheiligen, Schaffhausen, Switzerland
- Sammlung Goetz, Munich, Germany
- Zürcher Kantonalbank, Zurich

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2025

Plans For The Planet, NGV, Melbourne, AU

2024

Still Complaining Forest, Semiose Gallery, Paris, FR
Sad And Worried Animals, Sidecar, Night Gallery, Los Angeles, US

2023

Olaf Breuning: Storm. Anton Kern Gallery, New York, USA
WINDOW Space. Anton Kern Gallery, New York, USA
It's Still a Garden. Nils Stærk, Copenhagen, Denmark

2022

Two Lakes. Von Bartha, Basel, Switzerland
Ugly Yelp. Nicola von Senger Gallery, Zurich, Switzerland

2021

Olaf Breuning For Kids: Plans For The Planet. National Gallery of Victoria (NGV), Melbourne, Australia
Big Drops. Von Bartha, S-Chanf, Switzerland

2020

Rain. Metro Pictures, New York, USA
Brainwashed by Nature. Carbon12 Gallery, Dubai, UAE
The Weight of Color. Galleria Poggiali, Milan, Italy
Clouds. Art OMI, Ghent, USA

2019

Faces. Gallery Leyendecker, Santa Cruz, Spain

2018

Olaf Breuning: Chicken Or Pasta? Revolver Galeria, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Olaf Breuning, CASS Sculpture Foundation, Goodwood, UK

2017

Olaf Breuning. Metro Pictures, NY, USA
Olaf Breuning – Quiet Afternoon. Galerie Nicola von Senger AG, Zürich, Switzerland

2016

Olaf Breuning: The Madness That We Call Reality. NRW-Forum Düsseldorf, Germany
Restrospektive : Olaf Breuning. NRW-Forum Kultur und Wirtschaft, Dusseldorf, Germany

2015

Home 1-3 – Kunsthall Stavanger, Stavanger, Norway
Michael Benevento, Los Angeles, USA
Metro Pictures Gallery, New York, USA

2014

Clouds, Public Art Fund, Friedman Plaza, New York, USA
Groups, Haifa Museum of Art, Haifa, Israel
Do Not, Art Cube, Artist Studios Jerusalem, Israel

Tony Matelli, Olaf Bruening, John Miller. Gary
Tatintsian Gallery

2013

The HOME Trilogy, Modern Art Oxford, Oxford, UK
The Grid, Paul Klee Museum, Bern, Switzerland
The HOME Trilogy, Metro Pictures, New York, USA
Camelpos Femina, Carbon 12, Dubai, UAE
The HOME Trilogy, Institute of Contemporary Arts,
London, UK

2012

Human Nature, The Box, Pippy Houldsworth Gallery,
London, UK
Home 3, Swiss Institute, New York, USA

2011

The Art Freaks, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France
The Art Freaks, Metro Pictures, New York, USA
The Art Freaks, Kodama Gallery, Kyoto, Japan

2010

Surface to Air, Paris, France
Galerie Nicola von Senger, Zürich
Can Someone Tell Us..., Centre d'Art Contemporain la
Chapelle du Geneteil, France
Yes? No?, Kunstmuseum Luzern

2009

Langhans Gallery, Prague Small Brain Big Stomach,
Metro Pictures, New York, USA
Michael Benevento, Los Angeles, USA
Life is a Wheel/Color Studies, Kodama Gallery, Tokyo,
Kyoto, Japan

2008

Metro Pictures, New York, USA
Conduits Gallery, Milan, Italy

2007

Galerie Nicola von Senger, Zurich, Switzerland
Migros Museum Für Gegenwartskunst, Zurich,
Switzerland
Bunkier Sztuki, Krakow, Poland
Kodama Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces, Australia

2006

Home, Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane; Australian
Centre for Photography, Sydney; The Gallery Sketch,
London, UK
Nils Staerk Gallery, Copenhagen

2005

Chinatown Objects, Metro Pictures, New York, USA
Galerie Nicola von Senger, Zürich, Switzerland
Ars Futura Galerie, Zurich, Switzerland
Galerie Meyer Kainer, Vienna, Austria

Olaf Breuning: Oh yes...It is a garden, Chisenhale
Gallery, London, UK
Olaf Breuning: They Live, Chapter Gallery, Cardiff, UK

2004

Home, Metro Pictures, New York, USA
Olaf Breuning – films, La Casa Encendida, Madrid,
Spain
Olaf Breuning – videos, Toulouse, France
Kodama Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
The New Stedelijk Museum CS/ Auditorium,
Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Nils Staerk Contemporary Art, Copenhagen, Denmark

2003

Air de Paris, Paris, France
Museo de Arte Carrillo Gil, Mexico City
Musée de Strasbourg, France
Art Unlimited, Art Basel, Basel, Switzerland
Galerie Arndt & Partner, Berlin, Germany
Magasin Cente National d'Art Contemporain de
Grenoble, France

2002

Hello Darkness, Swiss Institute, New York, USA
Ars Futura Galerie, Zurich, Switzerland

2001

Primitiv, Metro Pictures, New York, USA
Swiss Institute, New York, USA
Galerie Meyer & Kainer, Vienna, Austria
Galerie Arndt & Partner, Berlin, Germany
Galerie Air de Paris, Paris Museum zur Allerheiligen
Schaffhausen, Switzerland
Manor-Kunstpreis Basel Kunstverein Freiburg,
Germany
Artspace, Auckland, New Zealand
Chicago Project Room, Los Angeles, USA

2000

ArsFutura Galerie, Zurich

1999

Woodworld, Centre D'art Contemporain, Geneva
ArsFutura Galerie, Zurich

1998

Woodworld, Kunsthauus Glarus, Glarus, Switzerland
(cat.) Schlund/Chris C., Kunsthalle St. Gallen,
Switzerland

1997

Waldfest, Binz39, Zurich

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2024

Afterglow, Acquavella Gallery, Palm Beach, Florida, US
An endlessly smooth common continuum, IVAM, Valencia, SP
My Last Will, Casino Luxembourg, LU
New Ideas For Other Times, Von Bartha Gallery, Basel, CH
16436 Days, Leyendecker Gallery, Tenerife, SP

2023

Olaf Breuning & Edgar Orlaineta: Yours or Mine? Carbon 12, Dubai, UAE
The Green Line, Public Commission, Le Voyage à Nantes, Nantes, France
Acts of Friendship, Migros Museum, Zurich, Switzerland
Transformations, Franz Gertsch Museum, Burgdorf, Switzerland

2022

The Swimming Pool, CARBON 12, Dubai, UAE

2021

Flowers In Art. Arken Museum of Modern Art, Ishøj, Denmark

2020

PIN. Auction. Pinakothek der Moderne, Munich, Germany
It Never Ends. John M Armleder & Guests, Kanal - Centre Pompidou, Brussels, Belgium
Nature in Play, Metronom, Modena, Italy

2019

Installationen Aus 25 Jahren Sammlung Falckenberg. Sammlung Falckenberg, Hamburg, Germany
Mask. Aargauer Kunsthaus, Aarau, Switzerland
La Source. Fondation Carmignac, Paris, France
Older than Satan. Galería Germán Krüger Espantoso, Lima, Peru

2018

Collection David H. Broillet, Geneve. Fondation Fernet Branca, Saint-Louis, France

2017

RxArt Benefit Exhibition: The Minted 50. RxArt, New York, USA
Various artists from the Gagliardi collection. Gagliardi Art System, Turin, Italy

2016

5 Years at Heddon Street. Pippy Houldsworth Gallery, London, UK
Electronic Superhighway (2016 – 1966) – Whitechapel Art Gallery, London, UK
Vitaminbombe. Früchtebilder von Picasso bis Warhol. Kunsthalle in Emden, Emden, Germany
Um die Ecke denken. Museum Haus Konstruktiv, Zurich, Switzerland
Conversation autour d'une collection. Collection Jocelyne et Fabrice Petignat. Villa Bernasconi, Lancy, Switzerland
Send in the Clowns. Nils Stærk Contemporary Art, Copenhagen, Denmark

Bip - Biennale de l'Image Possible. BIP - Biennale de l'Image Possible, Liège, Belgium
Art Basel Miami Beach 2016. Art Basel Miami Beach, Basel, Switzerland

2015

Who Is Playing? MeetFactory Gallery, Prague, Czech Republic
Who Is Playing? – MeetFactory Gallery, Prague
The Generic Way – ZABRISKIE POINT, Geneva
Station to Station – Barbican Art Gallery, London, UK
Trial / Error / Art – Holden Gallery at Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester, UK
Zurich & elsewhere – Carlos/Ishikawa, London, UK
Don't Worry – Kate MacGarry, London, UK
Welcome to the Jungle – Kunst-Werke Berlin – KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin

2014

Drommeland, Kunsten Museum of Modern Art, Aalborg
Elevation 1049, Luma Foundation, Gstaad, Switzerland
Protect me from what i am, Galerie Dina Renninger, Munich, Germany
Broken, Slapstick, Comedy and Black Humor, Haus der Kunst, Munich, Germany
Close Encounters, Carbon 12, Dubai, UAE
Os Tropicós, Centro Cultural CAIXA, Sao Paulo, Brazil
Gastspiel, Museum Rietberg, Zurich, Switzerland
Is it much too much to ask, not to hide behind the mask? Old Room, New York, USA
Group Show, (Tony Matelli, John Miller) Gary Tatintsian Gallery, Moscow, Russia
Bash, Woodstock Byridcliffe Guilt, Woodstock, USA

2013

Go! You sure? Yeah. A POOL Exhibition, LUMA/Westbau, Zurich
METAMATIC Reloaded, Museum Tinguely, Basel
Lightness of Being, City Hall Park, New York, USA
The Cat Show, White Columns, New York, USA

2012

The Circus as a Parallel Universe, Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna
Liverpool Biennial, UK
Out of Focus: Photography, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK
Hidden Stories, KAI10 Raum für Kunst, Arthens Foundation, Dusseldorf, Germany
In Living Color, FLAG Art Foundation, New York, USA

2011

The Last First Decade, Ellipse Foundation Contemporary Art Collection, Cascais, Portugal

2010

Hareng Saur: Ensor and Contemporary Art, S.M.A.K./Museum of Fine Arts, Ghent 5
21st Century: Art in the First Decade, Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane
Dream Time 2—Fantasmagoria, Grotte Du Mas D'Azil, France

Fantasmagoria: Le Monde Mythique, Les Abattoirs,
Toulouse, France
PortugalArte 10, Lisbon
Desire, Blanton Museum of Art, Austin, Texas
Adaptation: Between Species, The Power Plant, Toronto
The Secret (Still) Knows, Los Angeles Nomadic Division, The
Lab, Los Angeles, USA

2009

The Reach of Realism, Museum of Contemporary Art, North
Miami, USA
The Likely Fate of the Man That Swallowed the Ghost,
Centre Pompidou, Paris, France
The Uncertainty Principle, The Museum of Contemporary
Art, Barcelona
About Photography, Museo Nacional de la Fotografía,
Bogotá
The Tragic and the Funny Meet Again, De Brakke Grond,
Tijdelijk Museum, Amsterdam
Pictopia, House of World Cultures, Berlin, Germany
Hypocrisy: The Sitespecificity of Morality, The Museum of
Contemporary Art, Oslo
The Darkside II, Fotomuseum Winterthur, Zürich,
Switzerland

2008

A Meeting Between the Tragic and the Funny, HessenHuis,
Antwerp
Experimenta Folklore, Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt
The Station, Midblock East, Miami, USA
Looking at Music, Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA
_Aurum: Gold in Contemporary Art, Le CentrePasquArt, Biel
Bienne, Switzerland
Blasted Allegories: Works from the Ringier Collection,
Kunstmuseum, Luzern Sammlung/Collection, Migros
Museum für Gegenwartskunst, Zürich
Hayward Gallery, London, UK
Whitney Biennial 2008, Whitney Museum of American Art,
New York, USA
Family Affair, Conduits Gallery, Milan, Italy

2007

James Cohan Gallery, New York, USA
What We Bought, Camera Austria, Kunsthaus Graz, Austria
Destroy Athens, 1st Athens Biennial, Technopolis of the City
of Athens
Elsewhere, Contemporary Art Museum, University of South
Florida, Tampa, USA
Metro Pictures, New York, USA
Imagination Becomes Reality, ZKM Center for Art and
Media, Karlsruhe, Germany
Architecture, Art and Landscape Biennial of the Canaries,
Canary Islands
All About Laughter, Mori Art Museum, Japan

2006

Panoramic, Museo Tamayo Arte Contemporaneo, Mexico
City
Music is a Better Noise, P.S.1, New York, USA
Flesh Records, Haswelllediger, New York, USA
Open House, The Ellipse Foundation: Contemporary Art
Collection, Portugal
Nicola von Senger, Zurich Metro Pictures, New York, USA

2005

Burlesques Contemporains, Jeu de Paume, Paris, France
Olaf Breuning, Lily van der Stokker, Air de Paris, France

2004

Boys Behaving Badly – Perspectives 142, Contemporary
Arts Museum, Houston, USA
Genesis Sculpture, Vranken Pommery, Reims, France
Planet B, Magazin4 Bregenzer Kunstverein, Bregenz, Austria

2003

Urban Diaries– Young Swiss Art [Suiza en ARCO '03], Alcalá
31, Madrid, Spain
Durchzug/ Draft, Kunsthalle Zürich, Switzerland
Metro Pictures, New York, USA
Extra, Swiss Institute, New York, USA
Fast Forward, Media Art Sammlung Goetz, KZM, Karlsruhe,
Germany

2002

Spring Forward, Downtown Arts Project, New York, USA
Golden Week, Kodama Gallery, Osaka, Japan
Liverpool Biennial, Bluecoat Gallery, Tate Liverpool &
Pleasant Street Board School, Liverpool, UK

2001

Swiss Institute, New York, USA
Tokyo TV, Palais Tokyo, Paris, France
Der Gehilfe, Museu de les Arts Decoratives, Barcelona;
Museum für Kunst und Kulturgeschichte, Dortmund,
Germany
Anteprima Bovisa- Milano Europa 2000, Padiglione D'Arte
Contemporanea, Milan, Italy
Je Pense Donc Je Suisse, FRAC PACE, Marseille, France
More Than One, Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York, USA
Objects in Mirror Are Closer Than They Appear, Team
Gallery, New York, USA

2000

Wall 6, Galerie Air de Paris, Paris, France
Galerie Arndt Partner, Berlin, Germany
Reality Bites, Kunsthalle Nürnberg, Germany
Let's Entertain, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, USA
Vis-à-vis, Kunsthaus Zürich, Switzerland
Desparate Optimists, Festival a/d Werft, Utrecht, The
Netherlands
Der Gehilfe, Museum für Gestaltung Zürich, Switzerland;
Kunsthalle Krems, Österreich, Austria Presumed Innocent,
Capc Musée, Bordeaux, France
The arsFutura Show, Galerie arsFutura, Zurich
Guarene Arte 2000, Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo,
Torino
Art & Public, Geneva, Switzerland
Transfert, Tenth Swiss Sculpture Exhibition, Biel
Au-Delà du Spectacle, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris
Ausstellung Bundesstipendium, Fri-Art, Fribourg,
Switzerland
International Media Art Festival, Kiev, Ukraine
EX 25, Museum für Gestaltung, Zurich
Air Suisse, Ecole Superieure D'Art, Perpignan, France
Close Up, Kunstverein Baselland und Freiburg; Kunstverein
Hannover, Hannover,
Germany
Chicago Project Room, Los Angeles, California, USA

1999

XN, Espace des Arts, Chalon sur Saone, France
Transfer, Instituto Svizzero Roma, Italy
Eidg. Wettbewerb für freie Kunst, Messe Basel, Switzerland
Städt. Wettbewerb für freie Kunst, Helmhaus Zürich, Switzerland
Statement, Art Basel, ARS Futura, Zurich, Switzerland
Palazzo delle Papesse, Siena, Italy
Young, Fotomuseum Winterthur, Switzerland
DACH, Galerie Krinzinger, Bregenz; Semper Depot, Vienna
Come In and Find Out, Vol. 2, Podewil, Germany
They Came by Taxi, Parabolica Spaces, Berlin
Missing Link, Kunstmuseum Bern, Switzerland
Hotel Utopia, Vienna
From Camouflage to Free Style, Toasting Agency c/o Galerie Yvon Lambert, Paris
Ausstellung Bundesstipendium, Kunsthalle Zürich, Switzerland

1998

Binz 39, Zurich
Freie Sicht aufs Mittelmeer, Kunsthaus Zurich, Switzerland
Eidg. Wettbewerb für freie Kunst, Messe Basel, Switzerland
Diana 98, X-Tra Zürich, Switzerland
Präsentation Film Woodworld, Castell Zuoz
Empire, Museum zu Allerheiligen, Schaffhausen, Switzerland
Grown in Frozen Time, Shed im Eisenwerk, Frauenfeld, Switzerland
Medium eine Welt, Museum für Gestaltung, Zurich, Switzerland
Dogdays Are Over, Centre Culturel Suisse, Paris, France

1997

Gewebeprobe, Museum zur Allerheiligen Schaffhausen, Switzerland
Gross und Klein, Museum für Gestaltung Zürich, Switzerland
Bed & Breakfast, Grossmünsterturm Zürich, Switzerland

1996

Die Klasse, Museum für Gestaltung, Zurich, Switzerland

1995

Ernte, Museum zur Allerheiligen Schaffhausen, Switzerland
Eidgenössischer Wettbewerb für Freie Kunst, Messe Basel, Switzerland

1994

8004 Zürich, (with Lewis Balz) Peter Kilchmann Galerie, Zurich, Switzerland