

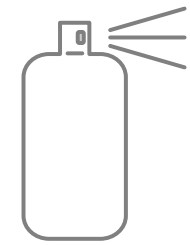


Gunther Schumann  
**Free Projects**

[www.squareboy.de](http://www.squareboy.de)

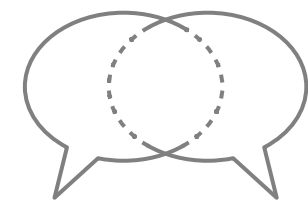


# Free Projects



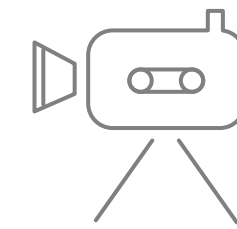
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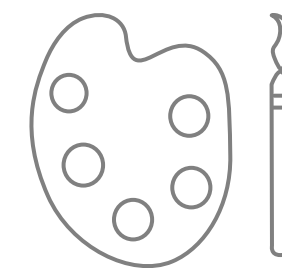
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Painted wall, created as part of the *Tropical Heins / Camillo Schneider* exhibition at Galerie Blech, Halle, 2024

# Urban Art / Installation



# Let's Talk

## Installation

To mark the Day of German Unity, Gunther Schumann has created an installation in the outdoor area of the Moritzburg State Art Museum. The sculpture depicts various social groups with different communication attitudes.

When viewed from different perspectives, it becomes clear that each figure is depicted twice - creating a variety of encounter situations. With this work, the artist comments on public political discourse, which is increasingly characterized by polemics and aggression.

Thanks to Alexander Roschke, Sophie Mildner, Claudius Worbs and Antonio for their support.

Dimensions: 4 x 8m

Spray paint on OSB substrate

Photos: Tom Wesse

Halle, 2021









# 48 Pillars Of Society

## Urban Art

Totem poles are monumental sculptures with a strong memorial character. In the indigenous population of North America in particular, they fulfilled various functions, such as depicting a family saga. However, their meaning is rarely apparent at first glance - only the respective family members can decipher the hidden messages. It is precisely this ambiguity that makes columns particularly exciting for me as an art object. But what could a totem for Halle-Neustadt look like?

In my design, I tried to pick up on various local cultural and social conflicts and translate them into a comic-like visual language. As the column is freestanding and has a relatively small diameter, my focus was on taking into account as many visual axes as possible and making it appealing even when passing by.

The work is part of the 48 Säulen Festival of the Freiraumgalerie Wall paint on a varnished surface Halle, 2024









## Merzbau #2

Solo Exhibition /  
Room Installation

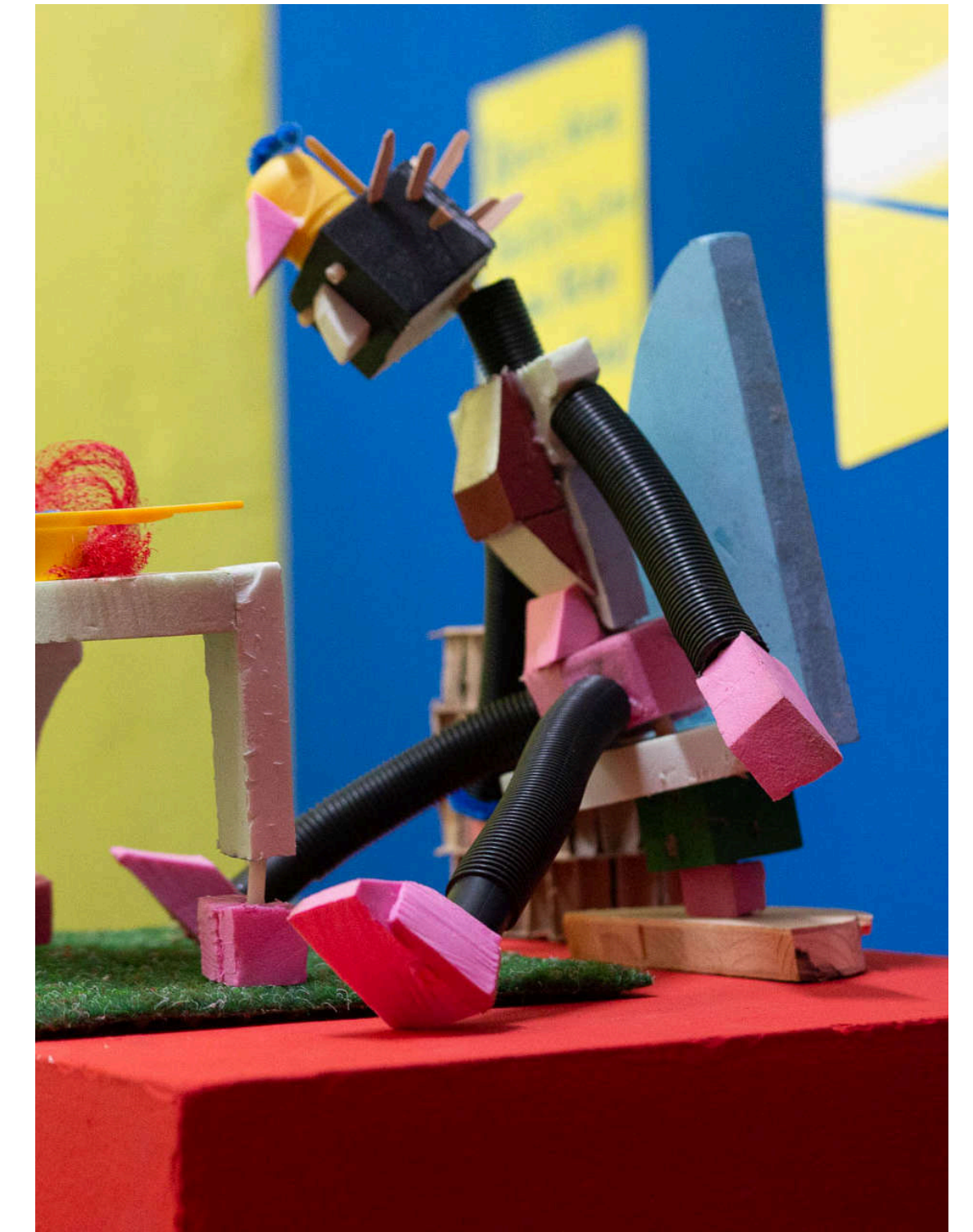
When is art private - and at what point does it become a public matter?

In homage to the Dadaist poet Kurt Schwitters, the artist Gunther Schumann, alias Square Boy, is creating an expansive temporary sculpture at Kunst-halle Ost. It will be made from cardboard, wood and other recycled materials.

According to Schwitters, the term Merz stands for a kind of overall world view. For this work, the focus is particularly on the fact that the Merzbau was a quiet, private work of art for Schwitters for a long time.

which only came to public attention at a late stage. Schwitters concealed the existence of his installation for a long time.

Supported by the Cultural Foundation of the Free State of Saxony and the City of Leipzig / Cultural Office  
Leipzig, 2023





## City Loop-Machine #2

Urban Art Installation

The City-Loop Machine#2 was an interactive art installation by Gunther Schumann in collaboration with the Kulturkiosk Blohmstraße. The artist recorded local ambient sounds and incorporated them into an audiovisual installation. By interacting with the City-Loop Machine, passers-by were invited to rediscover their familiar urban surroundings.

Cooperation with the Kulturkiok Blohmstraße

Funded by the City of Hamburg-Harburg

Hamburg-Harburg, 2022



**CITY  
LOOPS**



# City-Loops

## Urban Traveling Exhibition

City-Loops is a modular exhibition that can be adapted depending on the spatial situation.

The aim is to show art in unusual places in the urban environment and thus make it accessible to a wide range of people.

The paintings and sculptures in City-Loops deal thematically with human co-existence in a big city. They depict fictional scenes and action sequences that interlock like small pieces of a puzzle and stand for larger social and political contexts.

### Previous exhibitions

2022 Eindhoven (NL)

2021 Hall

2020 Hamburg, Sangerhausen,  
Zwickau, Leipzig

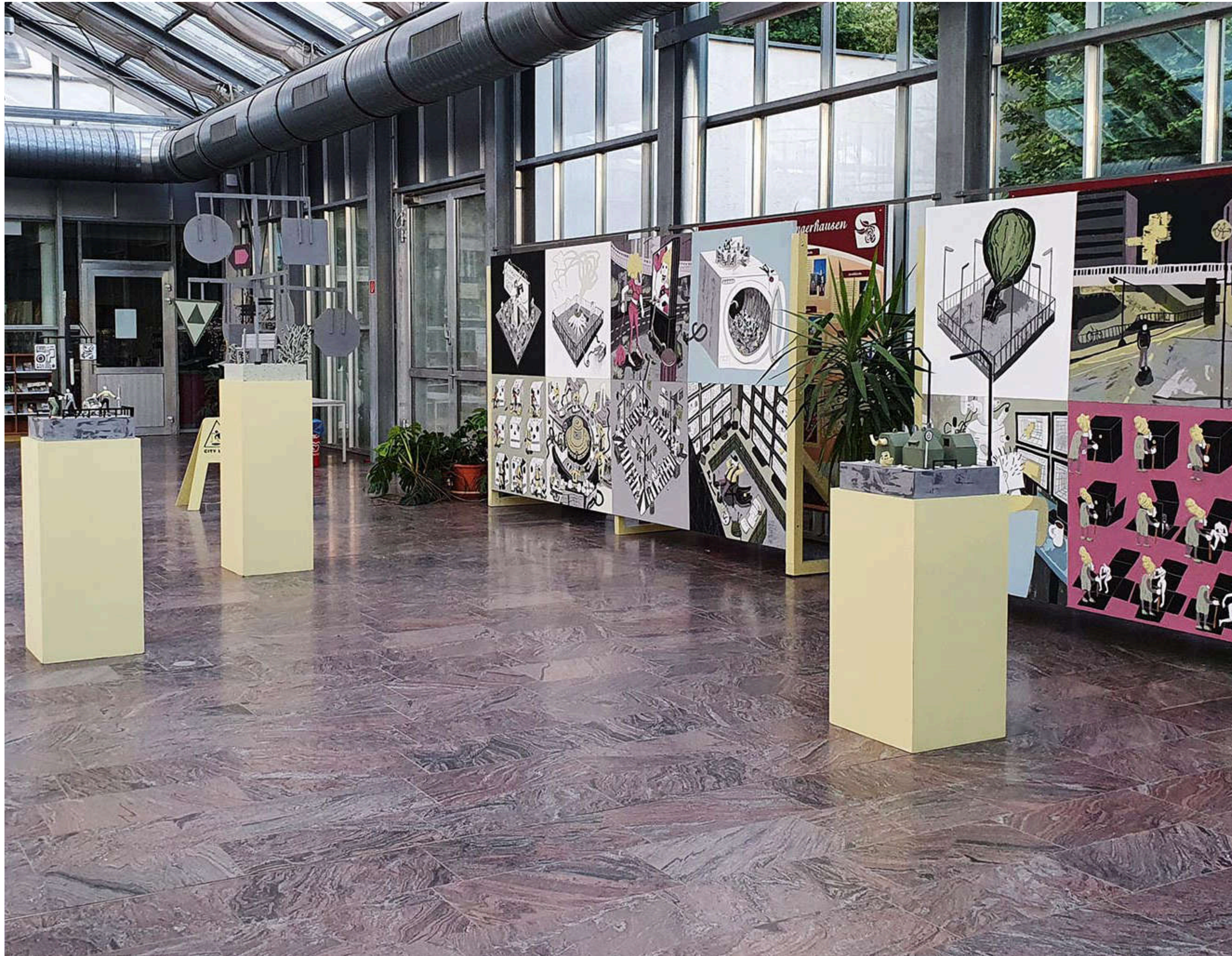
Created as part of the  
Master's program at the HAW Ham-  
burg

[www.city-loops.com](http://www.city-loops.com)



**CITY  
LOOPS**







# City Loop-Machine #1

Interactive Art Installation

Various animations and sounds are controlled using a midi controller. are controlled. The art kiosk thus becomes a sculpture in the urban space.

Sponsored by hr. Fleischer e.V.

Photos by Tom Wesse

Halle, 2021



**CITY  
LOOPS**





# The Pied Piper from Lünen

## Room Installation

When a well-known AfD politician rolled through Thuringian schools on a Simson in 2024 to promote his political causes, I couldn't help but think of the German tale The Pied Piper of Hamelin. In this story, the children have to pay for their parents' failings by being seduced and kidnapped by the angry Pied Piper.

This analogy struck me as particularly apt given the AfD's current increased presence on social media such as TikTok - platforms used primarily by a young audience. The sad reality is that wherever far-right actors are granted influence in schools, the propensity for violence among children also increases. They often adopt the propagated dogmas without reflection.

My spatial installation completely surrounds the visitors, creating an immersive 360-degree experience that hopefully makes my political concerns clear.



Created in the context of: Art in Hyperspace  
Spray paint and wall paint  
Magdeburg, 2024







## Licata Street-Art Festival

### *Design of Urban Objects*

During the Licata Street Art Festival, I designed various urban objects, such as electricity boxes and concrete pillars. These set colorful accents in the historic surroundings.

Curiously, we received a paper printout from the mayor of Licata, which gave us a de facto license to paint everything. The various plainclothes police officers who checked on me during my painting activities during the day were also surprised by this unusual document.



Paint color on urban objects  
Licata, Italy, 2019







# 2

Video still from the urban animated film *WHEN UUUU SLEEP*  
Halle and Leipzig, 2021

## ***Audiovisual Projects***



## **Blu Hustle**

### *Music and Visual Art*

Blu Hustle's music oscillates stylistically between trip-hop, electro and electropop. Atmospheric soundscapes are created with the help of synthesizers and drum compositions. The name "Blu Hustle" is derived from: "Blue", which means blue, but also melancholic, and "to hustle", which in street slang means to work oneself to death.

Blu Hustle is primarily about experiences of alienation. In order to convey this, an audiovisual performance is to be realized in which video content and music content merge. As this is technically and materially very complex, I am currently looking for project partners with a focus on camera, dance and costume design.

Photography by Colette Dörrwand

[www.bluhustle.com](http://www.bluhustle.com)

# **BLU HUSTLE**







links Albumcover, Changing Tides, 2020  
rechts Albumcover, Rain City, 2021



# WHEN UUUUUU SLEEP

Urban Animation Film

Animated clips were projected into the public space with the help of a video projector. These were accompanied by the music of Blu Hustle.

## Screenings

- 2025 Local Shorts, Halle
- 2023 Art Foundation Saxony-Anhalt
- 2022 Reykjavik Independent Film Festival
- 2021 Prague International Film Awards  
Prague Music Video Awards Awards

Duration: 04:32 minutes

[Youtube Videolink](#)

Video projection, music, single image animation

Supported by the Kunststiftung Sachsen-Anhalt

and the Klosterberg Foundation

Halle and Leipzig, 2020





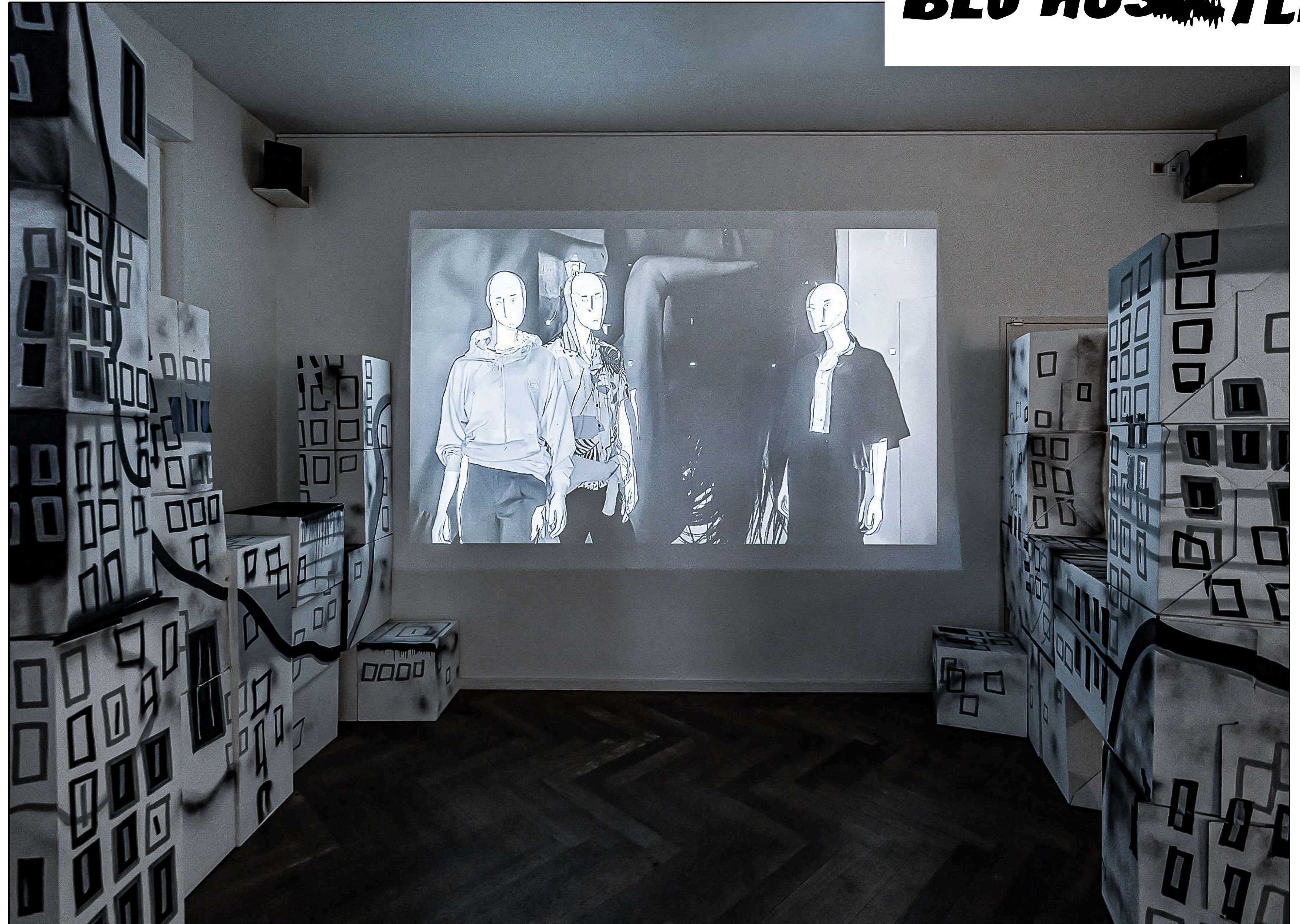
Local Stories exhibition

*WHEN UUUUU SLEEP* was shown as part of the Local Stories exhibition of the Kunststiftung Sachsen-Anhalt and supplemented by an installation of cardboard objects

Art Foundation Saxony-Anhalt

Exhibition photos: Matthias Ritzmann

Halle, 2023





## Street-Comic

### Urban Animation Video

What happens when comics and street art merge in a playful way? Strange creatures suddenly appear in the tropical city - hallucinating monkeys, talking concrete pillars and other surreal figures. The result of the project is a sequential video that was subsequently set to music.

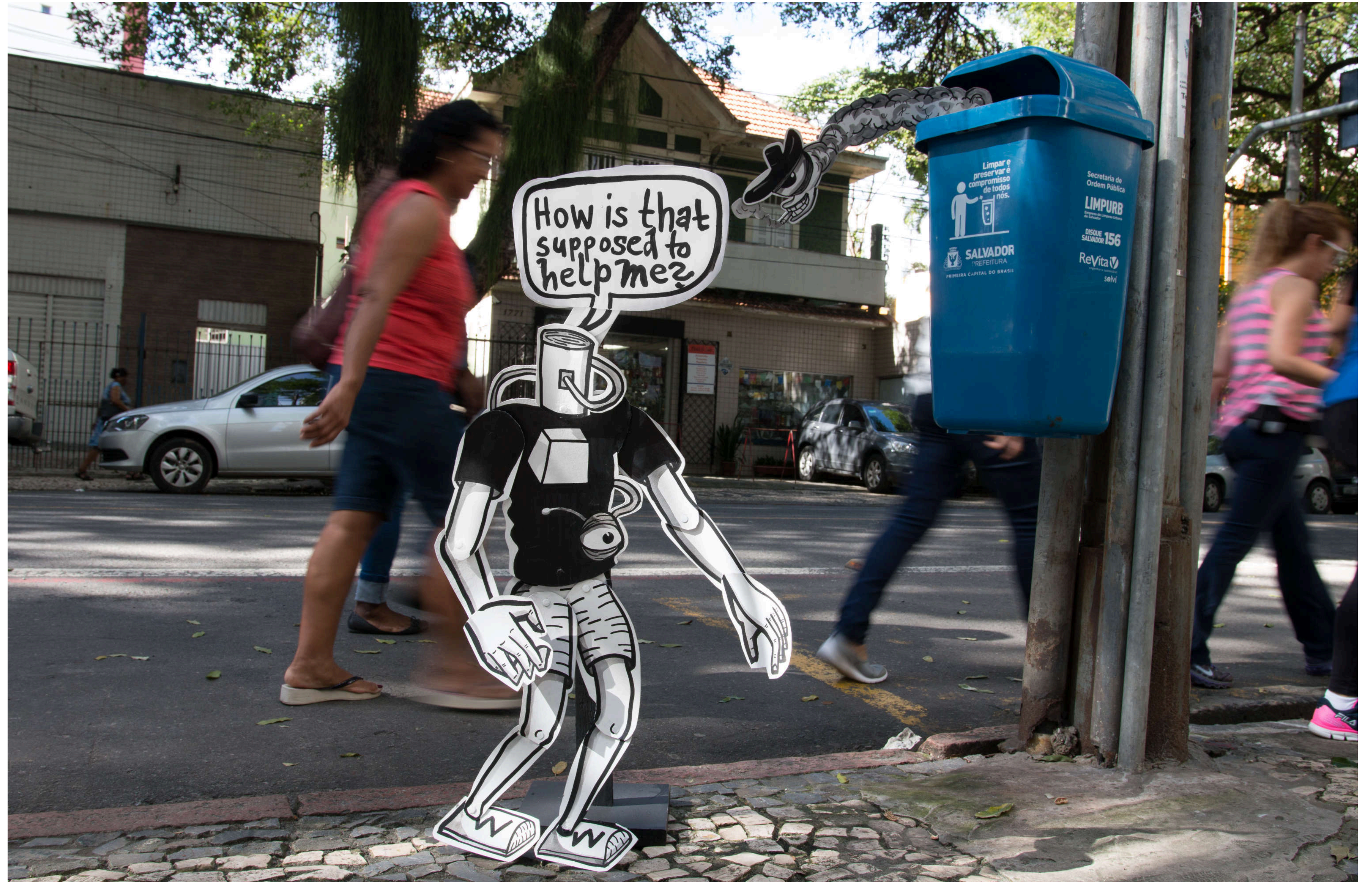
The individual sequences are created using a combination of paste-up (street art), puppet animation and stop-motion technology. The aesthetics are reminiscent of an animated slide show. Further street comic episodes are to follow in the future in order to further develop this technique and explore new narrative possibilities.

Duration: 08:38 minutes

Cardboard, single frame animation

[Youtube Videolink](#)

Supported by the Goethe-Institut Brazil  
and the Kunststiftung Sachsen-Anhalt  
Salvador de Bahia  
Brazil, 2017







Group exhibition: In Your Eyes

Exhibits: Street comic film, various cardboard objects  
Art Foundation of the State of Saxony-Anhalt  
Halle, 2018





## Illestrator

### Music and Visual Art

Illestrator is the hip-hop alter ego of illustrator and freelance artist Gunther Schumann. The artistic figure enables him to speak uncomfortable truths directly.

His music deals thematically with social observations and personal conflicts. At live performances, Illestrator is often accompanied by his zebra Pope One and the jazz/funk band The Fonkey Donkeys.

His current work includes three studio albums and two music videos.

#### Illestrator Album Release

Guitar/Synth	Albrecht Schumann
Drums	Constantin Maas
Feature guests	Benjamin Körber Toni Eckelmann
Photography	Tom Wesse

[www.illestrator.de](http://www.illestrator.de)







## Illestrator albums

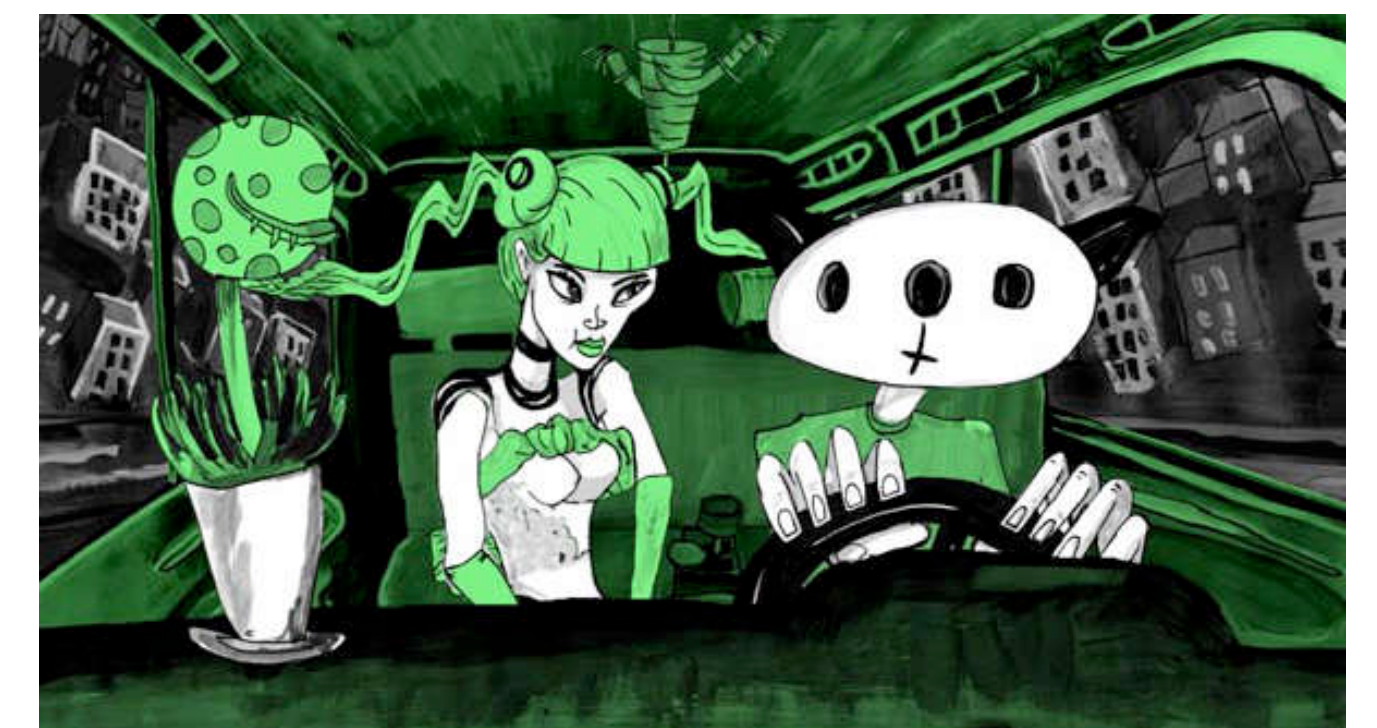
left album cover, Illestrator, 2018

center album cover, Jet-Life, 2019

right album cover, *Richtige Kunst*, 2023



# ILLESTRATOR



Illustrator animation video  
Duration: 04:30 Minuten  
[Youtube Videolink](#)  
2018

Award  
Mach Festival 2018, 1st place



# Die Grauen Herren

(The Gray Lords)  
Experimental Film

Die Grauen Herren is an experimental music video inspired by the universe of Michael Ende's Momo. The protagonist is recruited by the agents of the Time Savings Bank and does everything he can to convince his friends to save their lives. But he soon realizes that he is not up to the task - much to the agents' displeasure. The tables are turned: The convinced time hunter becomes the hunted.

Duration: 04:20 minutes

[Youtube Videolink](#)

Storyboard, costumes, sets, direction,  
editing, post-production

Supported by the Kunststiftung

Saxony-Anhalt and the

Klosterberg Foundation

2016

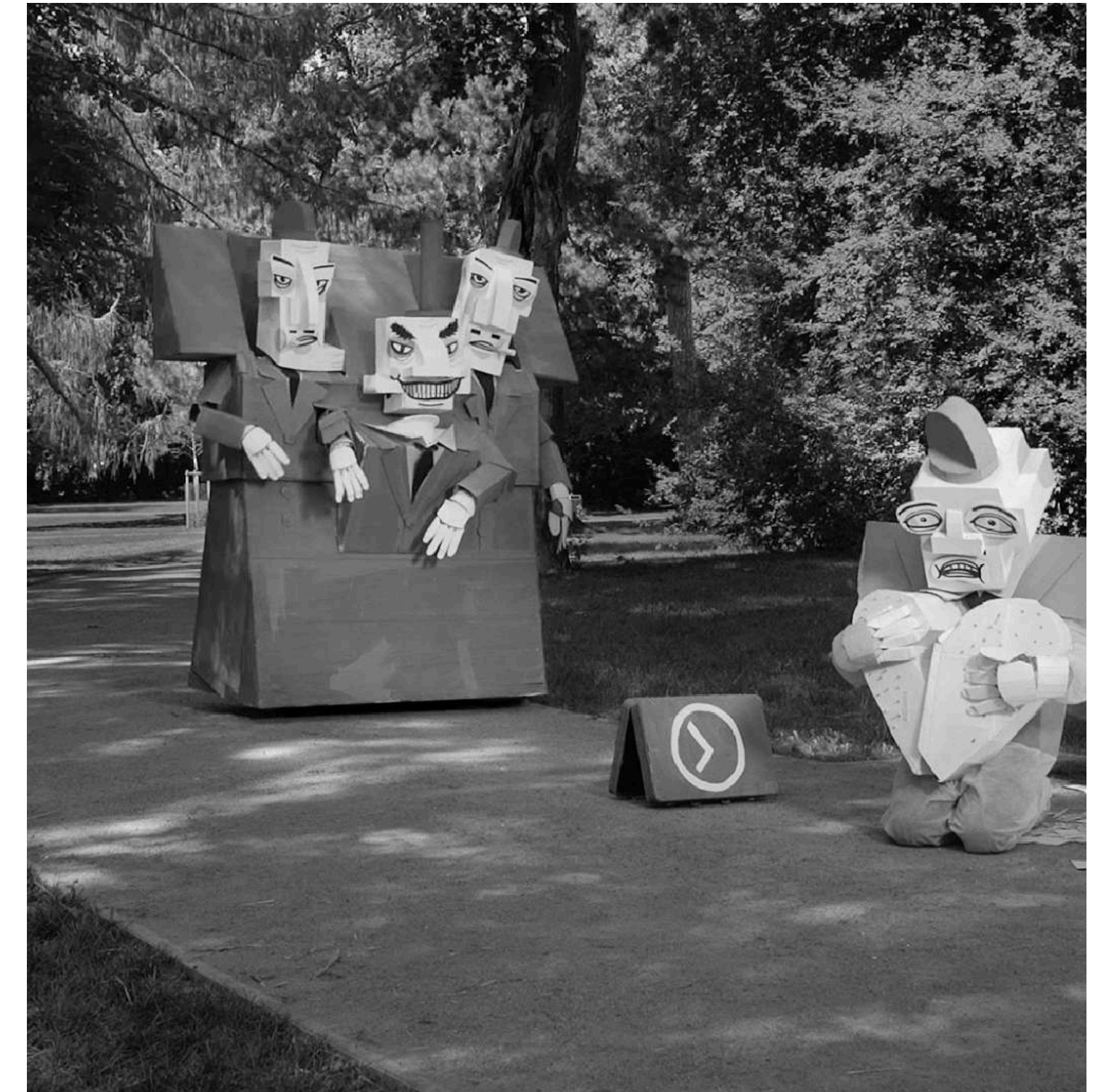
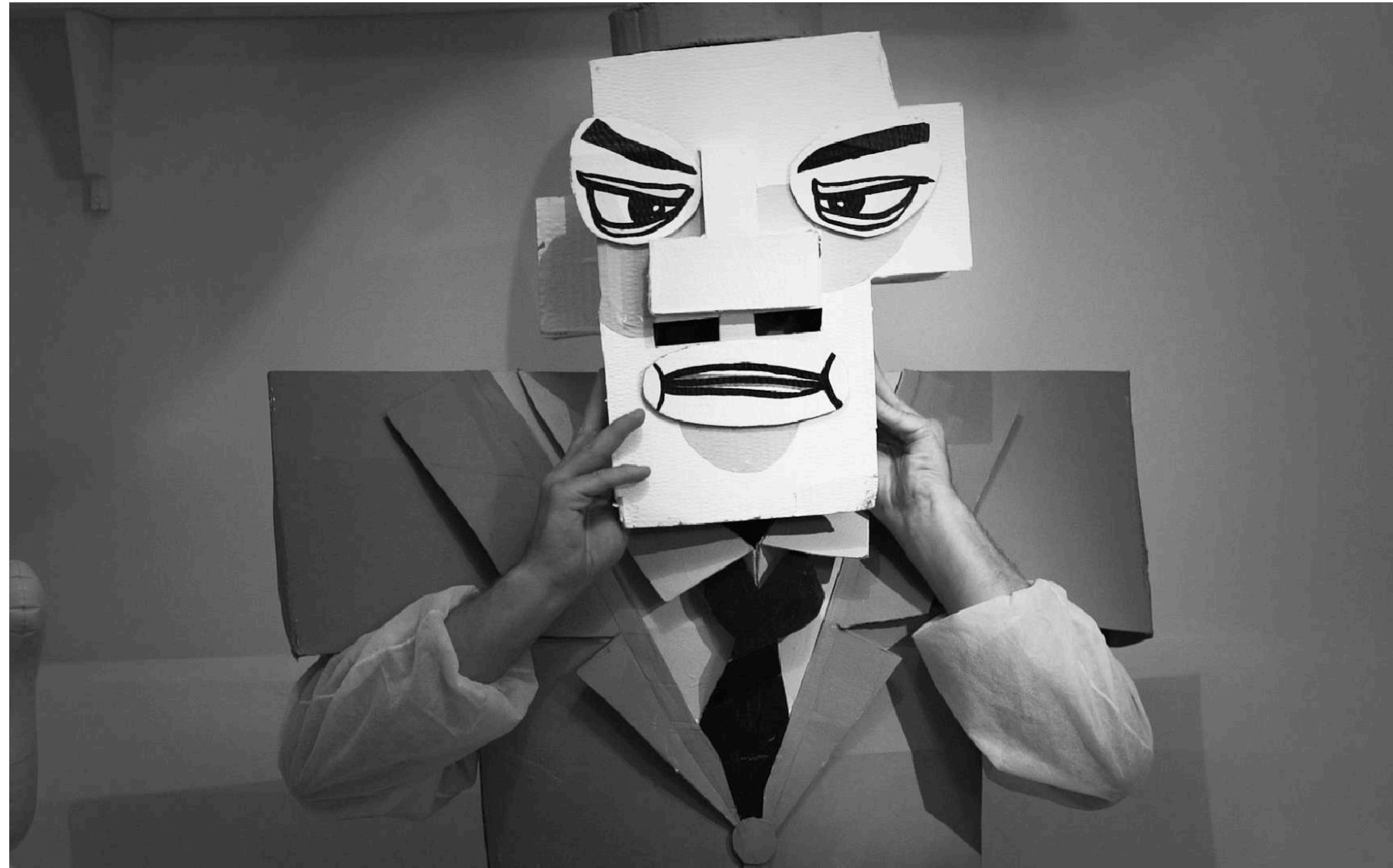
## Screenings

2017 Mach-Festival, Halle

Sehsüchte, Leipzig

Berlin Music Video Awards

2016 Wagemutig, Halle







Group show  
Sculptures and Video  
Art Foundation Saxony-Anhalt  
Photo by Colette Dörrwand  
Hall, 2016



# Karton Abi

## Costume Design and Video

What would you do if you spent a day as a comic character?

This work is a result of the one-week workshop Graphic Short Stories organized by the Goethe-Institut Istanbul and the German-Turkish Youth Bridge.

Duration: 05:04 minutes  
cardboard costume, video  
[Vimeo Videolink](#)

Many thanks to Seda and Cansu  
Project grant: Urban utopias  
Goethe-Institut Istanbul, 2015





3



**Collaboration /  
Group Exhibition**

Photo of the exhibition *Tropical Heins / Camillo Schneider*  
Blech Gallery, Hall 2024



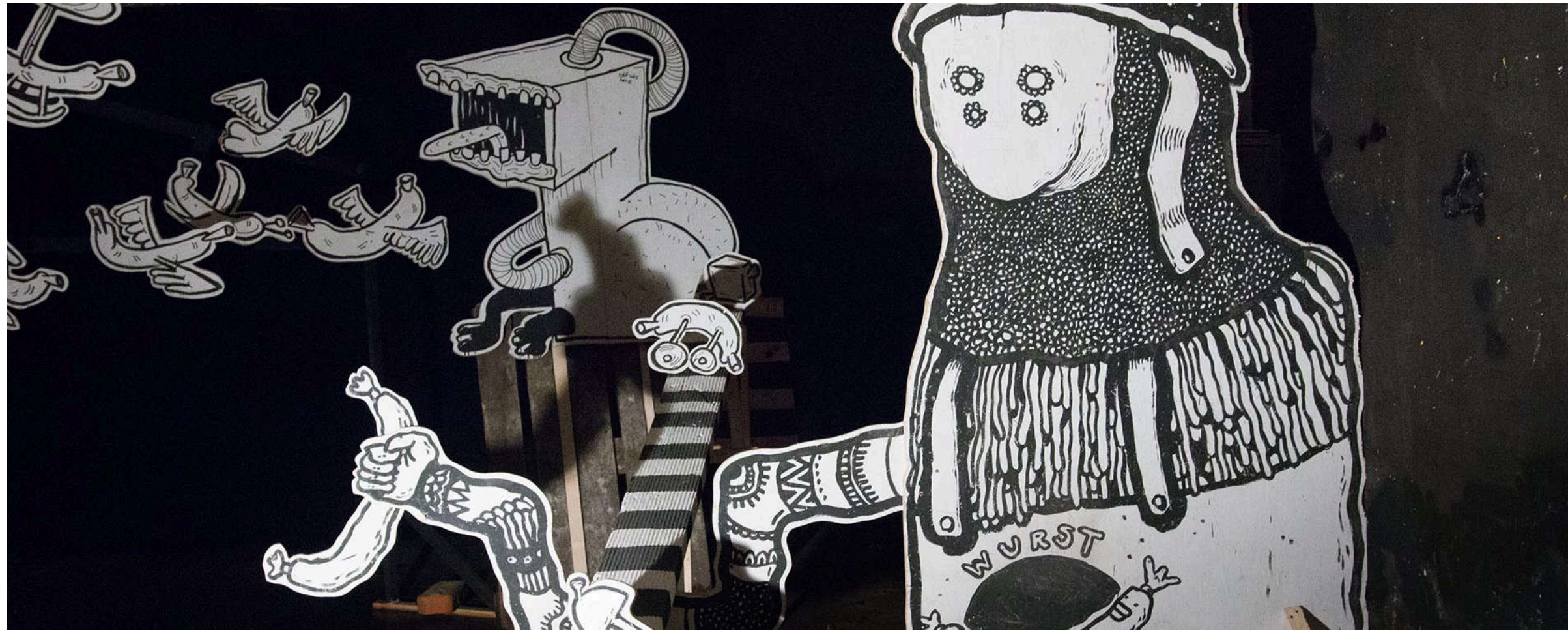
# Tropical Heins

Art Collective

Robin Kowalewsky and I founded the artist collective Tropical Heins in 2013. Initially, we regularly applied to the urban art festival ibug, where we experimented with new ways of working on the wasteland. The festival enabled us to work with new materials and themes in a completely open-ended and process-oriented way. At the same time, we developed a common artistic approach and our own style.

As these project weeks were limited to ten days, a clear working framework was created that allowed us to engage in an intensive exchange. As you can imagine, artistic projects involve creative obstacles, conflicts and surprises that have to be overcome together. Each of us has to step back at one point or another in favor of the collective work. Our reference project was also created during this time: an urban mini-golf course constructed and painted from various found objects.

Photos right  
ibug 2017  
ibug 2018  
Room Boom 2020





Although Robin now lives on the other side of the world, the collective grew with new members over time. As a result, the character of the collective also changed constantly. Our projects are now increasingly taking place in a gallery context, and new material skills have been added.

However, the process-based and communicative way of working remains the core of Tropical Heins - and after every intensive week of work, a subsequent trip to the dump is unavoidable.



#### Current members

Katharina Briski  
Francisco Föse  
Marin Nielebock  
Gunther Schumann

#### Former members

Jantje Almstedt  
Robin Kowalewsky  
Alexander Roschke

#### Photos right

Gallery Blech, Halle  
Gallery Büro Für, Halle



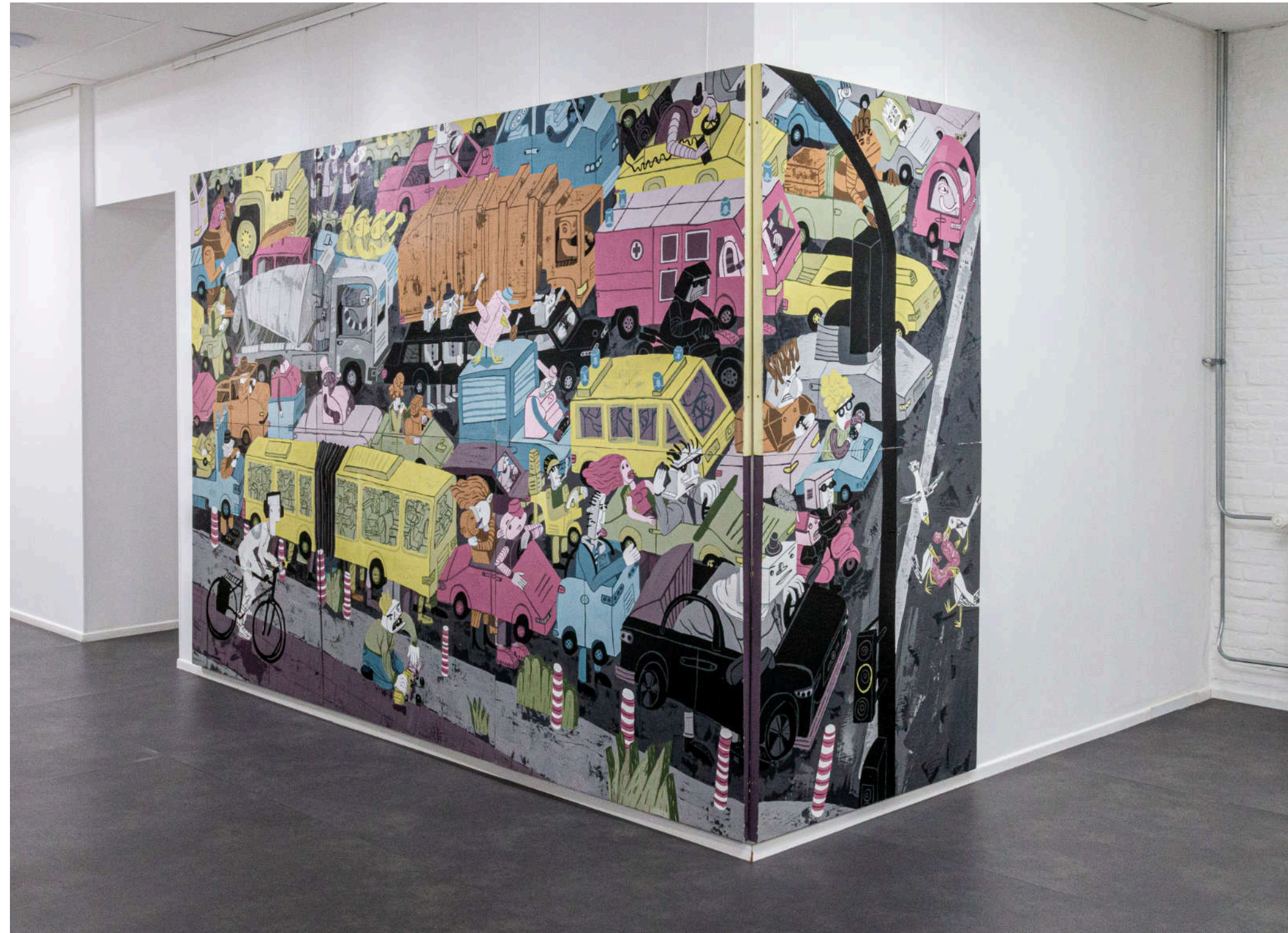


# **Fantasia**

## *Group Show*

In 2022, we planned a traveling exhibition under the title Fantasia. As many of the grants we applied for were not approved, we were all the more grateful for the approval of the Nasty Alice gallery, especially for the financial support for transporting the art to the Netherlands.

We were given a largely free hand in the curation of the exhibition, which enabled us to design the space according to our ideas. As the exhibition took place as part of the gallery's 10th anniversary, we were visited by numerous artists from the Dutch art scene.



Group exhibition with  
Jantje Almstedt  
Ruth Unger  
Martin Schuster

Exhibited works by me  
3 pictures from the series  
This is Not a Car  
1 picture from the series City-Loops

Gallery Nasty Alice  
Eindhoven, Netherlands, 2022





# Come To Where the Magic Happens

Group Show

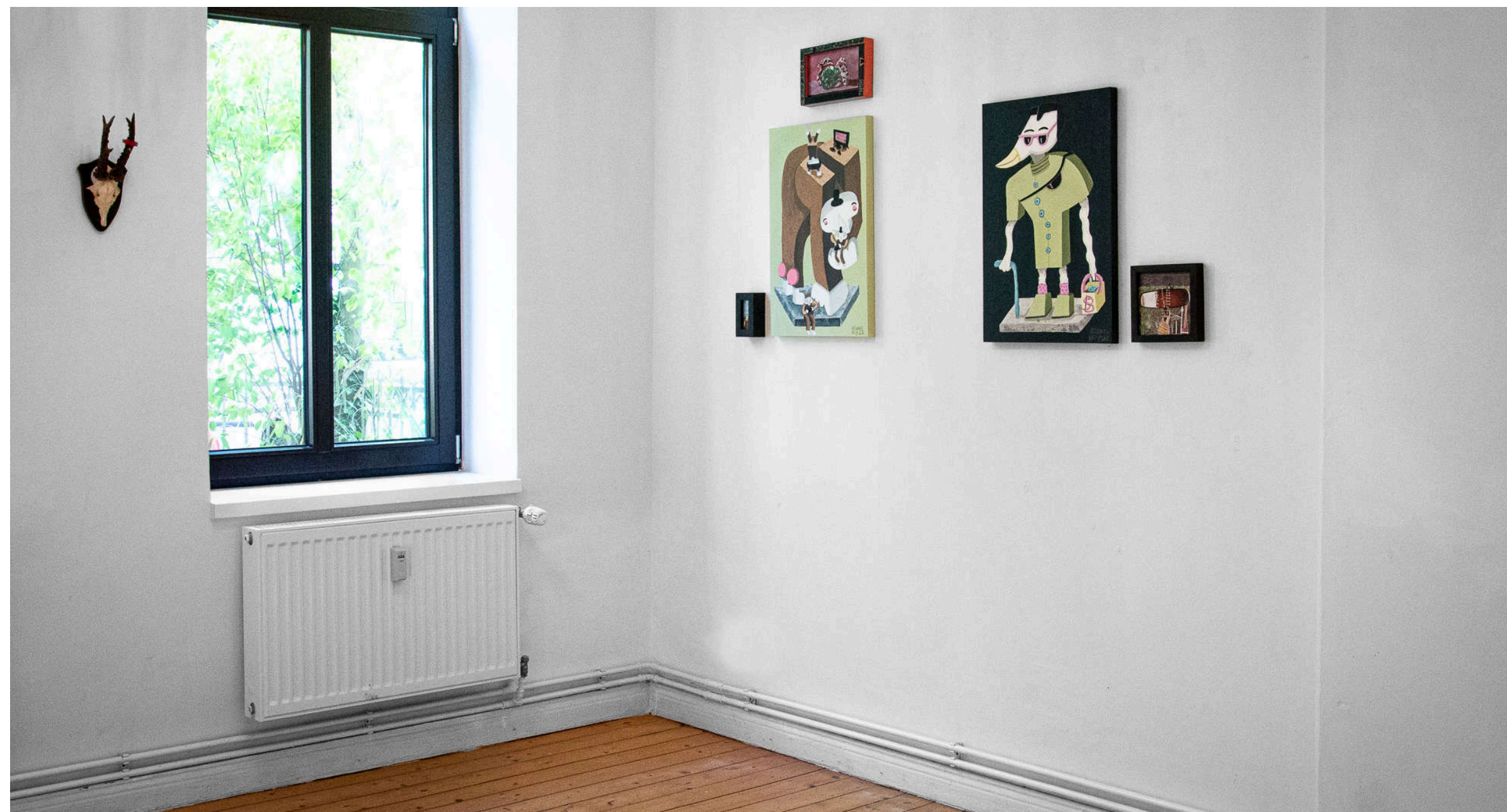
Originally planned as part of the Fantasia exhibition, Alexander Roschke and I realized an independent exhibition at Galerie Goethe 45.

In addition to presenting our own works, we created collages together. I also painted a mural near the gallery to draw attention to the exhibition. The vernissage was accompanied by a fire show by Alexander and a DJ performance by me.

Group exhibition with  
Alexander Roschke

Exhibited works by me  
Painting from the series *Animals Like Us*

Gallery Goethe 45  
Bremerhaven, 2023

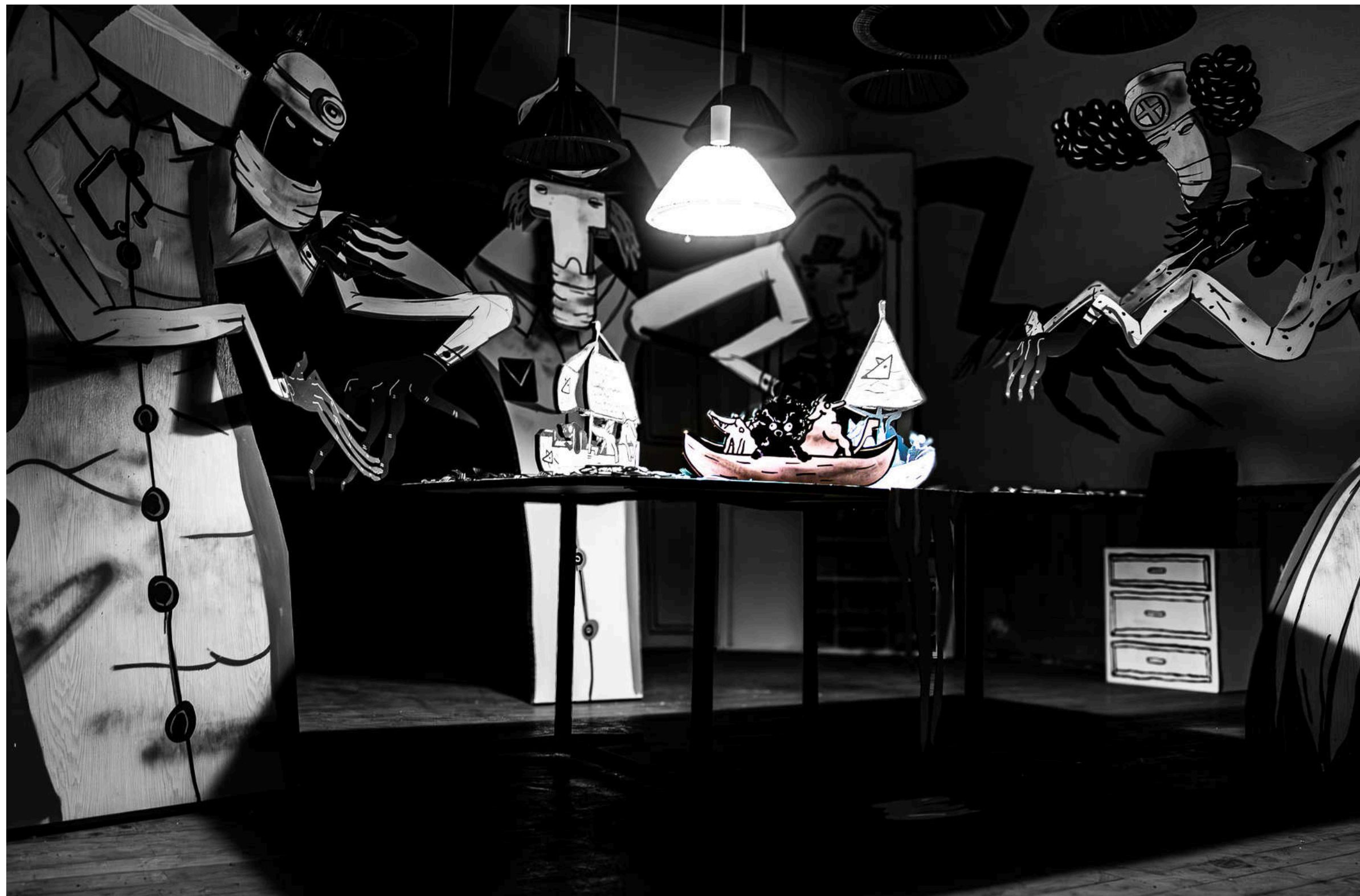




# Heart of a Dog

## Collaborative Room Installation

Loosely based on the novel *The Canine Heart* by Mikhail Bulgakov, we staged a room at the *ibug Festival 2020* that shows an operating theater from the perspective of a dog, the protagonist Lumpi. He is taken into custody by a professor and shortly afterwards transformed into a human-like creature.



Collaboration with  
Sophie Mildner

Acrylic paint, found objects,  
light installation

As part of the *ibug 2020 festival*  
Zwickau, 2020



# A Cidade Impossível / The Impossible City

Collaborative Mural

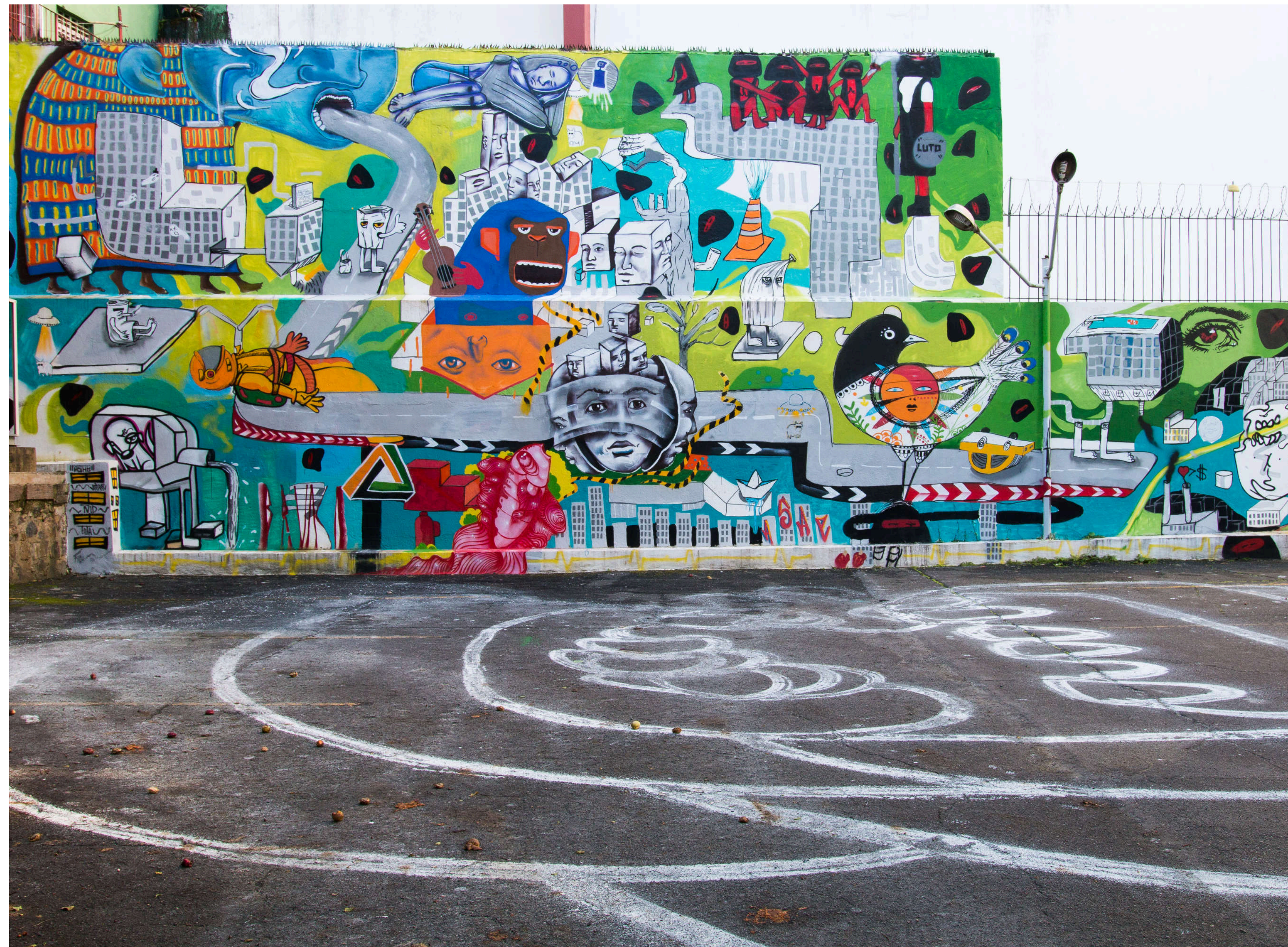
As part of my artist residency, I invited several local graffiti artists to paint the wall of the Goethe-Institut. First I created an empty city, which was then filled by the artists' imagination.

The painting process was announced as an event so that guests could watch the transformation of the impossible city.

Goethe-Institute Salvador de Bahia

Photos: Lara de Caravalo

Brazil, 2017





4



Miethai, painting from the series *This is Not a Car*  
Supported by the VG-Bild-Kunst, 2021

*Painting*



# ***This is Not a Car***

## *Painting Series*

As a passionate cyclist, I have always had an ambivalent relationship with cars. Few things are as memorable as the feeling of being pushed to the side of the road by a Porsche SUV in a narrow street - and sending a silent prayer of thanks to your guardian angel.

In Germany in particular, the car is almost like an object of worship: it is carefully polished, lovingly cherished and proudly displayed. Even in the age of electromobility, it remains a status symbol - a sign of the energy transition and an expression of personal lifestyle. But to what extent does the choice of a vehicle actually serve a practical purpose, and where does pure object fetishism begin?

In my series *This is not a Car*, I take a humorous look at the relationship between vehicle and driver. After all, the choice of vehicle often reveals the character of its owner. The pictures were created as part of a VG-Bild-Kunst grant.

13 pictures

Dimensions: 80 x 120cm

Acrylic paint on wood ground

Leipzig, 2021

Created as part of a VG-Bild-Kunst scholarship

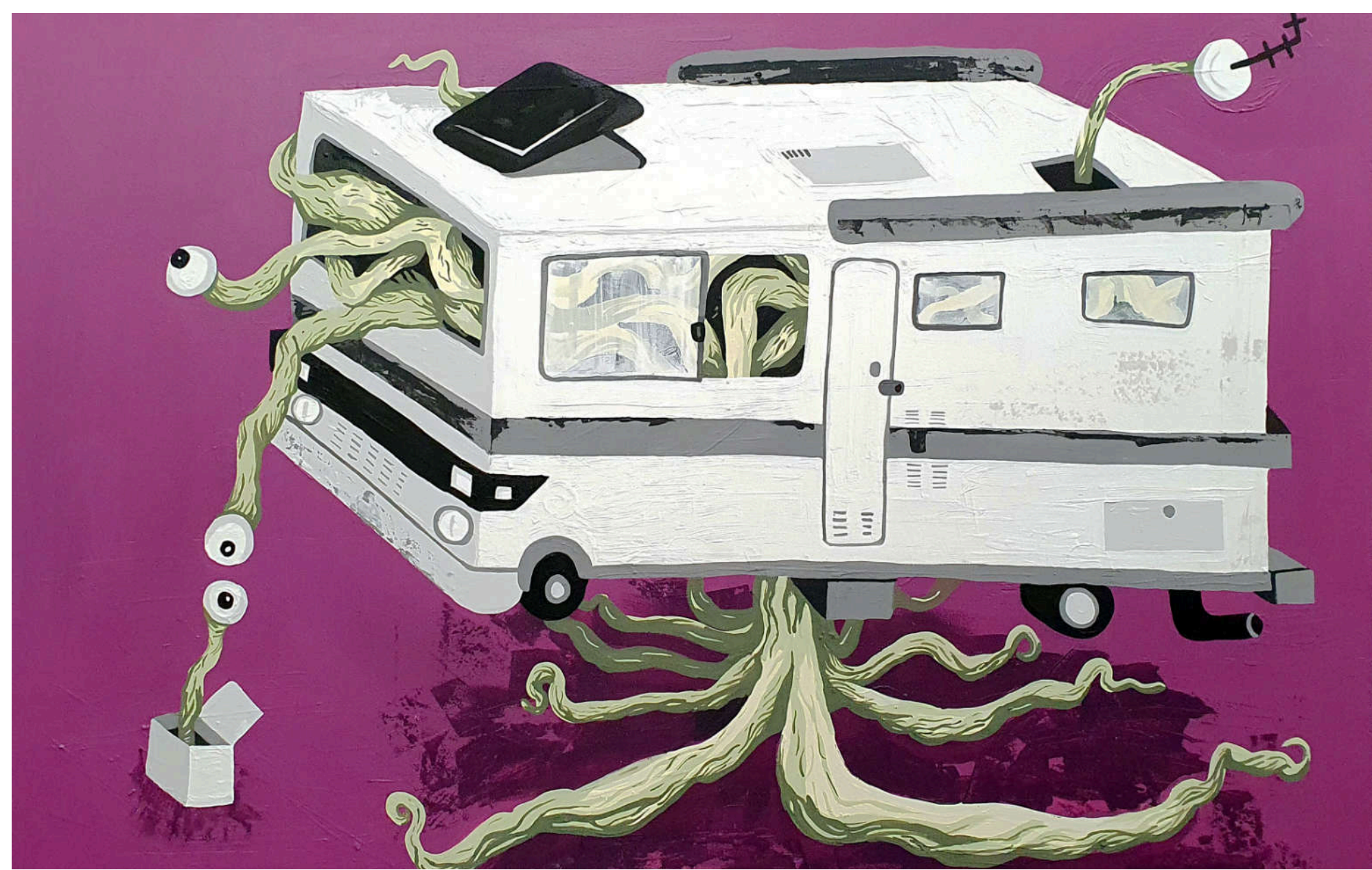
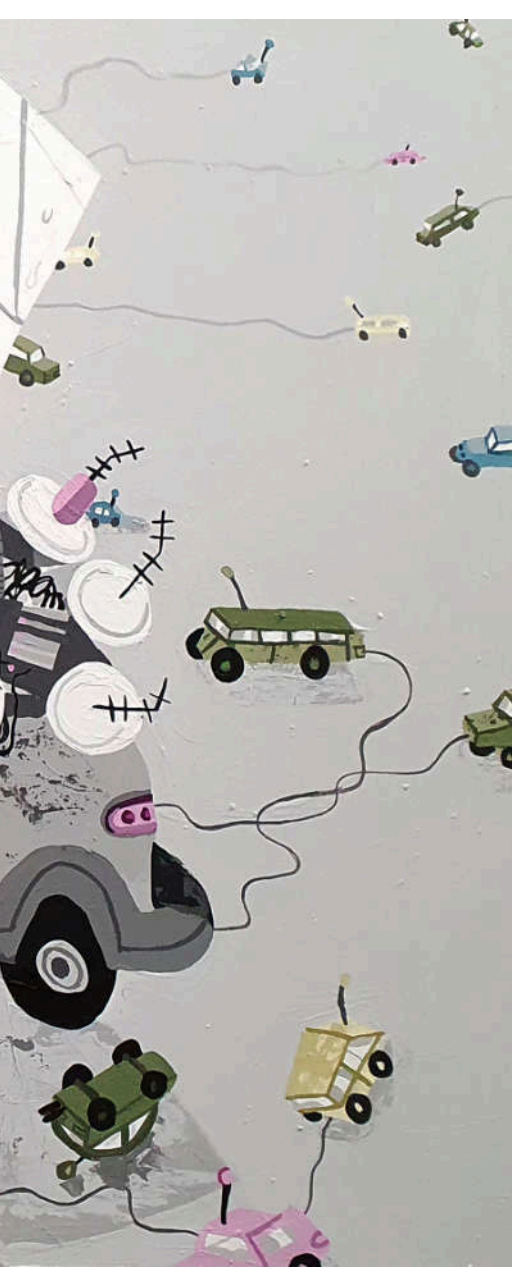
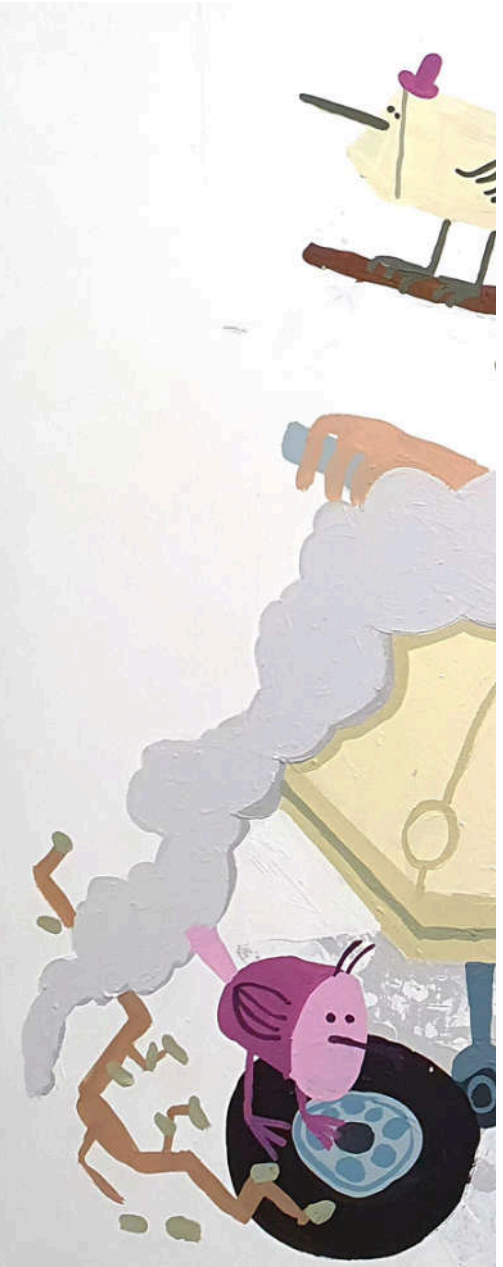
Photo right

Group exhibition *Fantasia*,

Eindhoven, Netherlands, 2022









# **The Illustrated Album**

## *Painting Series*

The combination of music and video has fascinated me for as long as I can remember. As I have been producing, drawing and designing music myself for around ten years, it was obvious for me to combine these artistic disciplines.

With my current album *Richtig Kunst* by my hip-hop alter ego *Illustrator*, I have consistently continued along this path: I made a painting for each piece of music. I created a total of 14 paintings.

I am currently animating these paintings digitally in order to prepare them for live and exhibition situations.

Currently 14 pictures

Acrylic paint on wooden ground

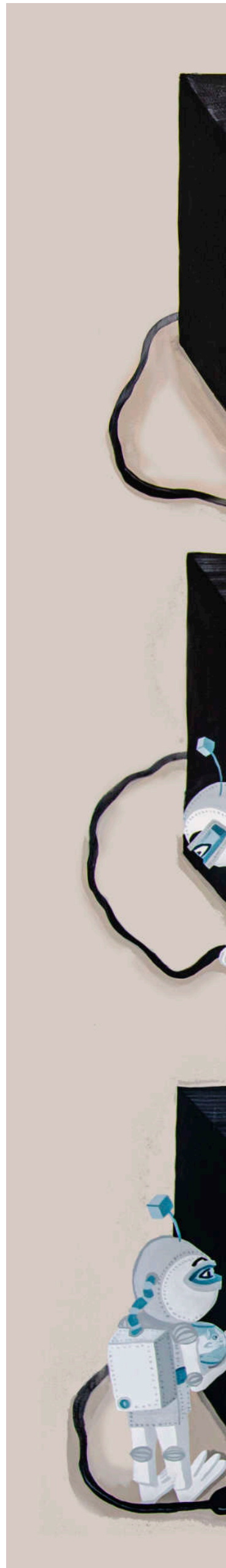
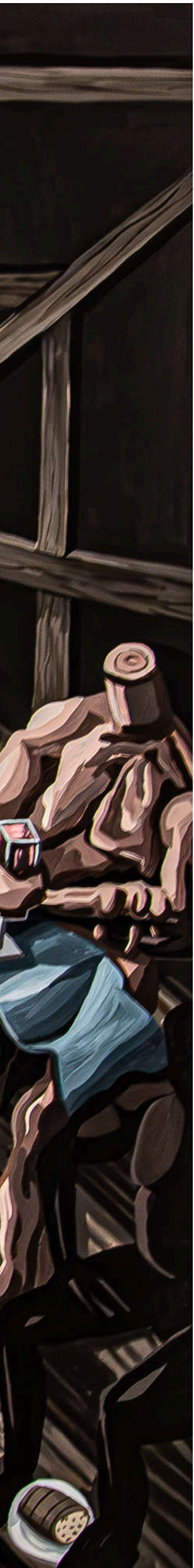
Dimensions: 150 x 150cm

100 x 150cm

2025









## **Animals Like Us**

### *Painting Series*

It all started when my former flatmate called me a “goldfish”. At first I didn't know why, but he obviously saw a certain resemblance between me and this bubbling, shiny golden creature.

The more I thought about it, the more I realized how often we anthropomorphize animals - and, conversely, ascribe animal characteristics to humans. There are cat people and dog people, but also dirty pigs and spider monkeys, to name just a few examples.

This ongoing series of pictures takes a humorous look at the relationship between humans and animals. For me, the focus is on the characteristic attributes - not a naturalistic depiction.

Currently consisting of 10 works

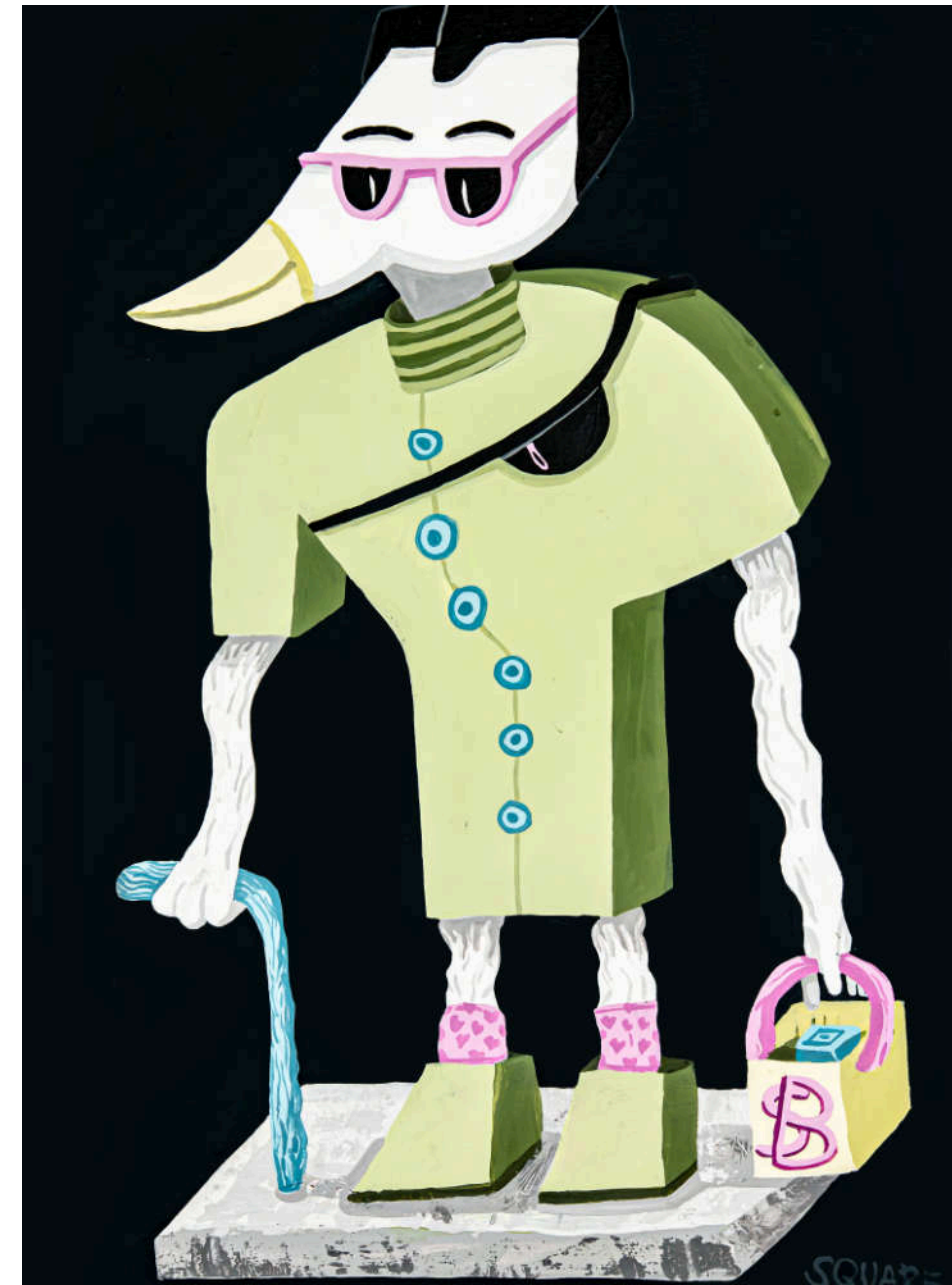
Dimensions: 60 x 40 cm

Acrylic paint on wood ground

Ongoing series









# City-Loops

## Painting Series

The City Loops paintings are designed like a mosaic. The individual pictures can be arranged in any combination or presented individually. Thanks to lateral anchors, they can be linked together and presented free-standing on pillars - or hung on the wall in the traditional way. A transparent varnish makes all the works weatherproof.



Photo right: Tom Wesse

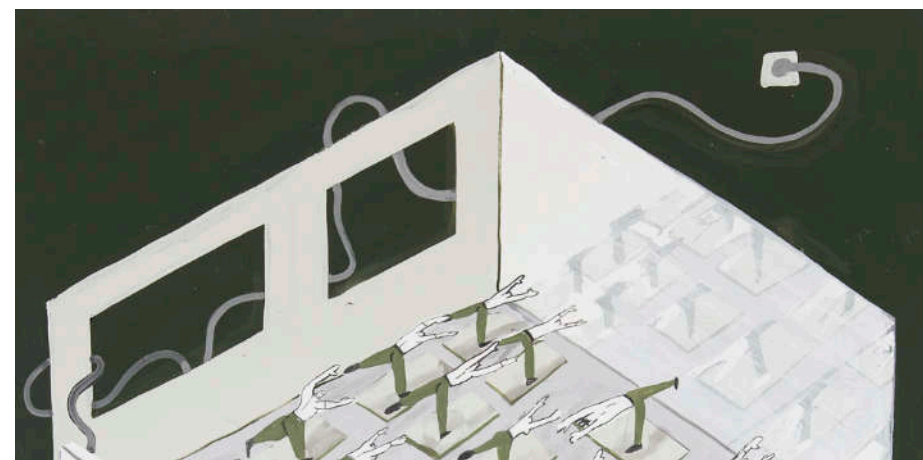
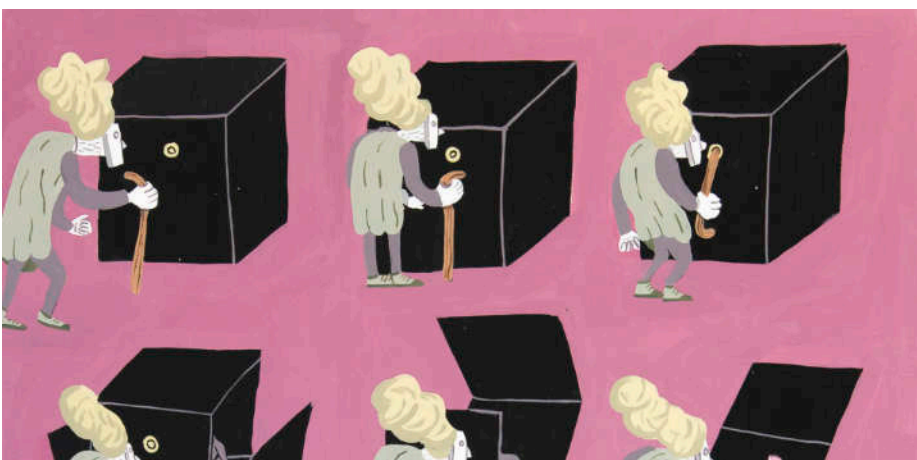
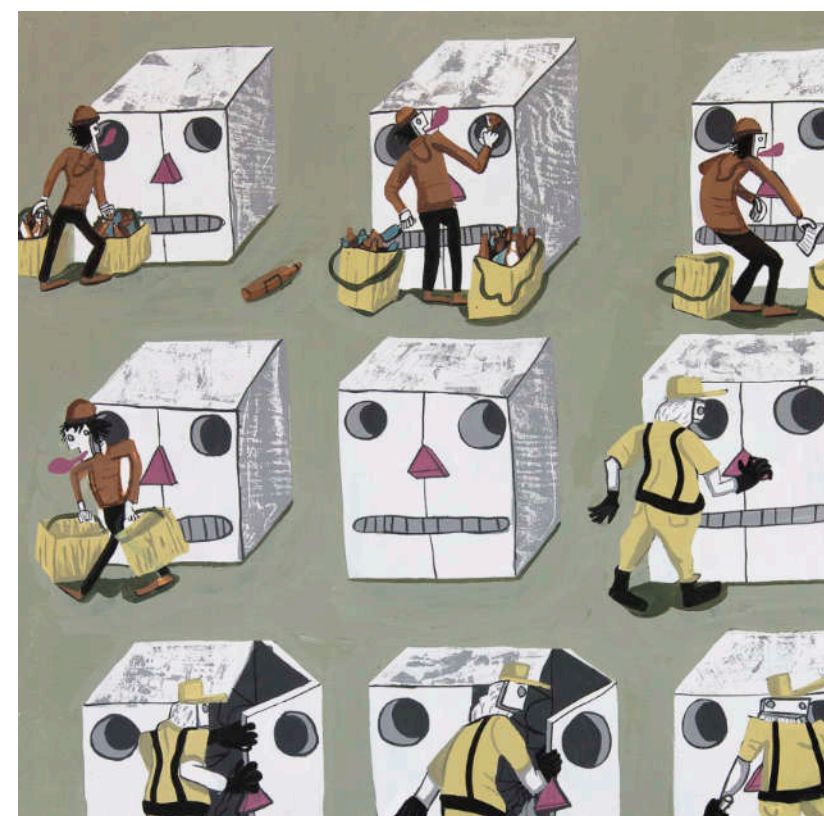
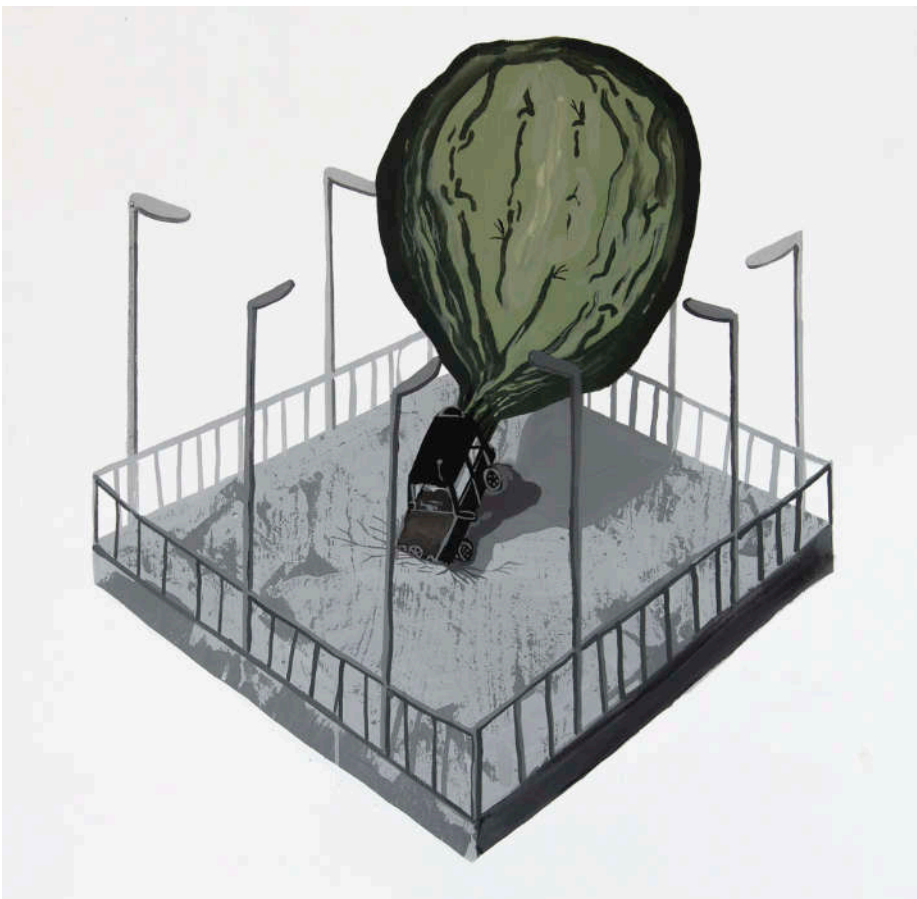
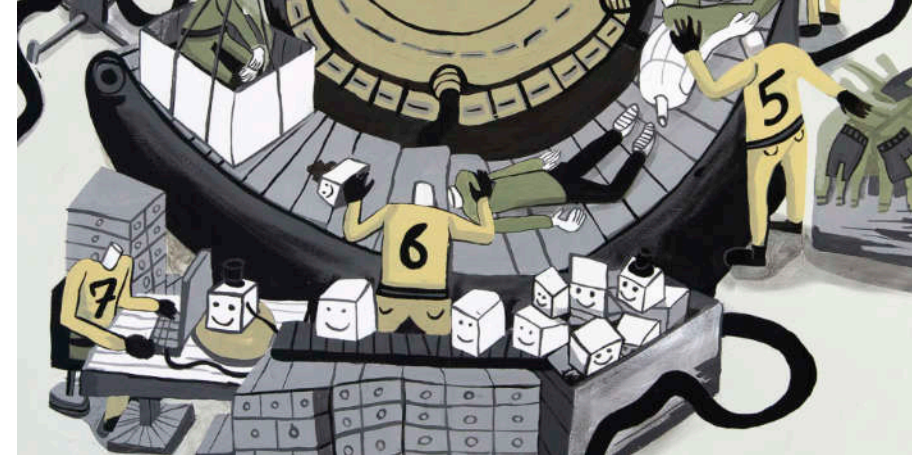
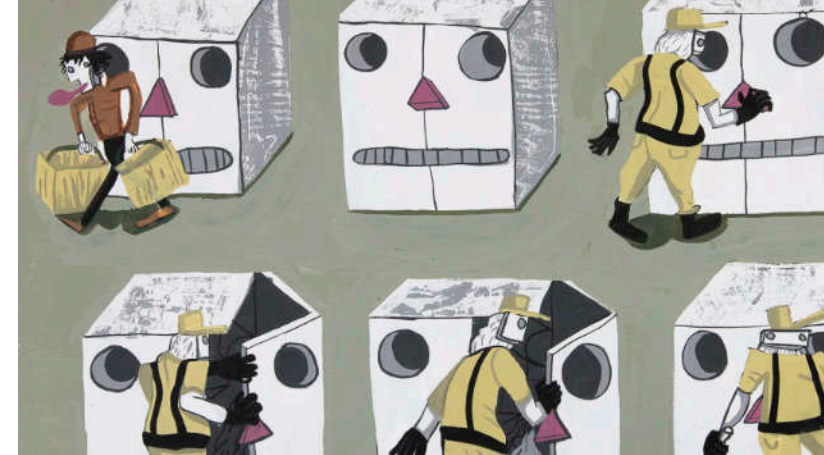
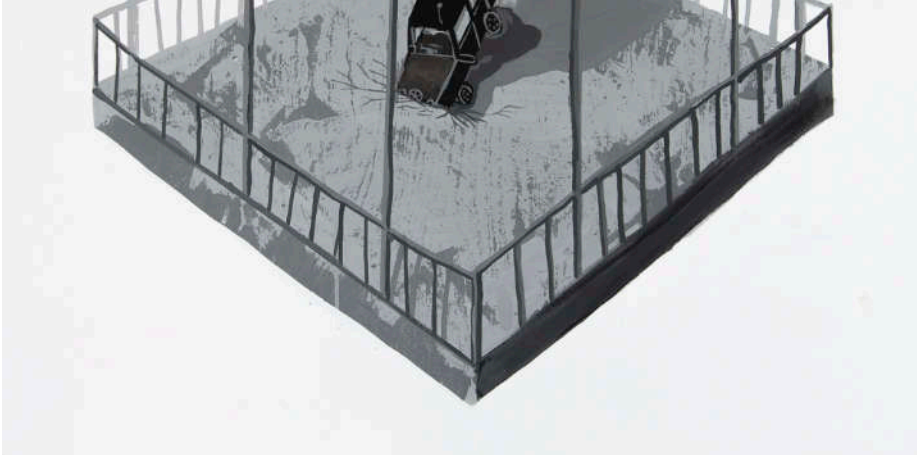
20 single pictures

100 x 100 cm

Acrylic paint on wood ground

Hamburg, 2020









The Traffic Jam

Exhibition photo: Gallery Nasty Alice,

Group exhibition Fantasia, 2022, NL

600 cm x 200 cm

Acrylic paint on wood ground

2020



# Further References



Photo taken in the *Street Comic* project in  
Salvador de Bahia, Brazil 2017

[www.squareboy.de](http://www.squareboy.de)

