

'Without Intention!'

Unseen works of Cyril Kazis

Curated by Grégoire Schnegg & Thessy Schoenholzer Nichols

9. - 31. December 2022

Opening Event: 9 December 6 pm

Artist, art-therapist and gallerist, Cyril Kazis proudly presents Without Intention, an exhibition that provides a rare opportunity to experience his unseen body of work from the last decade.

Kazis, 71, who returned to his love of drawing ten years ago after a burn-out from his long stint as a new media designer, shows through this extraordinary exhibition how good art is for the mind, body and soul.

Without Intention is the most extensive exhibition of Kazis's work to date. The artist's familiar style is present in this four-part show with each section claiming its own character tone and personality.



Picture: "Deux et demi" 8. June 2021, ca. 80 x 100 Pastel on Paper

Opening:
Fri. 9. December, 6 PM

Opening hours:
Tue-Fri: 1 to 6 PM
Sat: 11 AM to 4 PM
or by appointment

Closing event at new year's eve:
31. December 2022, from 8 PM

Point of view 1. Short stories, collages, portraits and icons

There is a simplicity to the first room of small portraits mounted in relief to the wall. Images contain delicate brush strokes, colours are sparingly applied, and backgrounds breathe air in to each composition.

Point of view 2. Moments in Time

In the second room, the viewer is treated to a celebration of pastel coloured, larger-scaled works arranged mischievously on the floor and mounted on the wall. This incredible set of drawings are captured from live models with each piece executed in a matter of moments with the artist seated and turning the paper as he works. It's a haphazard process that embodies the show's title to perfection.

'My drawings are moments in time with no purpose, no thoughts, no intention. I sit on the floor close to the model, using charcoal and pastel on large pieces of paper that I often rotate between poses. When the session ends, I roll the papers together. It is only when I look back at the drawings much later that I discover them,' comments Kazis.



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Point of view 3. Daughters of Eve

The third room of the exhibition entitled Daughters of Eve is a space where the female form takes centre stage. The series depicts woman from her yesterday to her tomorrow. It's a homage to her innate essence, to her femininity and to her diversity. Each 'Eve' has her own presence. She is dreamlike, erotic, poised, curious, intellectual, intuitive and also heroic. Stupendous variations of colours integrate with diverse body shapes. It's a magnificent series that reminds us all of the glory of being a 'daughter of Eve'.

Point of view 4. Lyrical cheerfulness

The fourth series is entitled Lyrical cheerfulness and showcases scores of librettos and sketches from the many hundreds that exist in Kazis's archive. Regimentally hung in relief on the wall, the small sketches capture intimate moments in time and closely aligned they pack a lot of punch. Many of the original drawings, including a magnificent series on the study of hands, also start to appear in hand-made librettos that use various traditional binding techniques.

About the artist:

Cyril Kazis is an Art-therapist, Artist and Gallerist. Born on 17 August 1951 in Paris, Kazis was raised in France in a multicultural Swiss-Greek environment. He worked as a graphic designer for many years and after a burn-out, switched to study Art-therapy at the l'Ecole d'Art de Berne et Bienne (SfGGB).

The introduction to art-therapy was a life-changing revelation for Kazis enabling him to switch the computer for charcoal, colour and paper and close a chapter of many decades. Starting a new life rooted in his early learnings of graphic design in the 70's when there was barely a computer in sight, he rediscovered his love of pencils and brushes.

Kazis lives and works in Basel, and took over the lease of the historic Bäumleingasse 9 in 2021. The site holds as much magic for art lovers as the artworks on display, since it was once the base of legendary collector Ernst Beyeler from where the latter cultivated contacts with artists such as Picasso and Giacometti and traded their valuable works.

Praxis Art Gallery, Kazis's experimental reincarnation of the premises, aims at creating a novel meeting place for art lovers, where pictures are sometimes combined with music, dance or literature.

[Click this link for more info](#)

Recent Exhibitions:

2022 "Deux Amis" 19.Mai - 25. Juin
Galerie de la fondation mh
84000 Avignon, France

2017 Ausstellung TonArt – TonWerk – DieZweite, 9. Sept. to 1. Oct.
Lausen, Switzerland 60 Kunstschaffende stellen im Tonwerk Lausen aus.

[Click here for more info](#)

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