

Willi Kissmer

Biography

Willi Kissmer was born on December 24th 1951 in Duisburg, Germany where he passed away on July 27th 2018.

Kissmer was known for technically exquisite etchings, oil and acrylic paintings that mostly depict nudes or half nudes, which are oftentimes draped in swaths of lush fabric. The details are accentuated in ultra-realistic texture using a combination of mezzotint, dry point, and aquatint, which highlight the juxtaposition between flesh and cloth.

Finding inspiration in his immediate surroundings, Kissmer's model was usually his wife. Presented as a subject of eroticism and detailed study, he articulates our communal relationship with objects of desire. After his studies at the renowned Folkwang art school, Kissmer made a name for himself both as a musician and an artist.

After numerous educational trips to Russia, Egypt, South America, Greece, Italy, and Turkey he taught printmaking at the University of Duisburg. He has had numerous exhibitions in the United States and England.

In his work, the artist preferred the torso. He consciously omitted the representation of the head, abstained from individual facial features, and the rendition of hands, the gestures of which could impair the composition and thus the statement. The omission of individuality as well as psyche, the concentration on universal anonymity, and the emphasis on the body indicate Kissmer's actual concern to deliver symbols of elementary human life, which find beautiful expression in the blooming female body.

Solo Exhibitions

2006	Hart Gallery, Palm Desert, California
2005	Hart Gallery, Palm Desert, California
2004	Hart Gallery, Carmel, California
2000	Kleine Weltlaterne, Berlin, Germany
1999	Galerie Aurika, Frankfurt, Germany
	John Bolxham Fine Art, London, UK
	Galerie No. 3, Essen, Germany
	Galerie Conrad, Bonn, Germany

	Art Expo, New York, USA
	Art Multiple, Dusseldorf, Germany
1998	Galerie Marijke Raalmakers, Netherlands
	PAN, Amsterdam, Netherlands
	Kunsthauß Veith, Pirmasens, Germany
	Art Multiple, Dusseldorf, Germany
	Galerie No. 3, Essen, Germany
	Art Expo, Los Angeles, California, USA
1997	Art Expo, New York, USA
	Art Multiple, Dusseldorf, Germany
	Saga, Paris, France
1996	Lehmbruck Museum, Duisburg Germany
	Cubus Kunsthalle, Duisburg, Germany
	Internationale Grafik Triennale, Frechen, Germany
	Art Multiple, Dusseldorf, Germany
	Art Expo, New York, USA
1995	Art Stockholm, Sweden
	Art Expo, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA
	Art Multiple, Dusseldorf, Germany
	Art Expo, New York, USA
1994	Line Art, Gent, Belgium
	Art Multiple, Dusseldorf, Germany
1993	Art Multiple, Dusseldorf, Germany
1992	International Graphics Triennale, Frechen, Germany
1991	Kontakte II", Duisburg, Germany/Moskau/Leningrad, USSR
	"Erotic Art", Galerie Tabula, Tuebingen
1990	City Gallery, Portsmouth, Great Britain
1989	Galerie 4, Arlesheim, Switzerland
1988	Lehmbruck Museum, Duisburg, Germany

Selected Collections

Kaestner Gesellschaft, Germany

Aldegrevier Gesellschaft, Germany

Helen Chrysler Green, New York, USA

Mark& Sandra Tratos, Las Vegas, USA

Kate Cuddy Gielen, London, Ontario, Canada