

GUIDO VAN DER WERVE

CONDO

SÃO PAULO

MARCH 30 – MAY 18, 2019

Off site solo presentation, part of CONDO: www.condocomplex.org
Opening: Saturday March 30th at Casa Triângulo, São Paulo

Nummer twee, Nummer drie, Nummer vier

hosted by:

Casa Triângulo
Rua Estados Unidos 1324
São Paulo, Brasil
www.casatriangulo.com



Guido van der Werve | *Nummer drie, take step fall* | 2004 | video still

GRIMM is proud to announce its participation in CONDO São Paulo, with a presentation of three iconic video works by Dutch artist Guido van der Werve (1977, Papendrecht), hosted by Casa Triângulo. This presentation coincides with a solo presentation of Van der Werve's work at both GRIMM's gallery spaces in Amsterdam.

Guido van der Werve is best-known for his video documented performances in which he pushes his body to the limits; physically testing his endurance, exhaustion and perseverance. Scenes of the artist standing on the North Pole for 24 hours, completing a 1500 kilometer triathlon, setting himself on fire, or being hit by a car at full speed are examples of his extreme actions, that are accompanied by his own musical compositions. Three successive films, that stand at the core of Van der Werve's poetic oeuvre, *Nummer twee, just because I'm standing here doesn't mean I want to* (2003), *Nummer drie, take step fall* (2004) and *Nummer vier, I don't want to get involved in this. I don't want to be part of this. Talk me out of it.* (2005), will be on view at the gallery in São Paulo for the duration of CONDO.

"In a digital video shot in 35mm, *Nummer twee* [Number two], 2003, Dutch artist Guido van der Werve addresses the camera with a deadpan stare as an inner narrative reveals his ennui:

"*Just because I'm standing here doesn't mean I want to.*" Standing on a suburban street, he walks backward slowly; focusing on the audience rather than the traffic, he is hit by a car. A blue police van pulls up; five young ballerinas emerge and dance to Corelli's *Christmas Concerto* in front of his inert body, against a backdrop of nondescript condo buildings.

Projected sequentially on a large movie screen, *Nummer drie* [Number three] 2004, and *Nummer vier* [Number four] 2005, continue the theme: reflections of a youthful creative genius in an existential crisis. *Number Three* begins at the artist's local Chinese takeout, where eight nubile dancers perform a minuet to Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet* on a cramped balcony above a tableau vivant of patrons too preoccupied with their own thoughts to take notice. Next our hero lurks against a building between two second-floor windows, dressed in black, like a burglar; the only sound is the gently swooshing traffic below. The image fades out as the passing headlights get brighter; we can only guess that he may jump at any moment. Finally, an angelic ballerina dances to a Chopin Nocturne among misty trees lit by streetlamps; she does not lose her poise when, comically, a random tree falls behind her. All of these surreal juxtapositions construct a timeless poetic reality."

—Cathryn Drake for ArtForum

not for publication

For more information, interview and royalty free image requests, please contact the gallery manager Jorien de Vries: press@grimmgallery.com +31 (0)20 6752465

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About the artist

Guido van der Werve was born in 1977 in Papendrecht (NL). He lives and works in Berlin (DE), Amsterdam (NL) and Hassi (FI). Van der Werve has studied Industrial Design at Delft University of Technology (NL); Classical Archaeology at the University of Amsterdam (NL); Audiovisual Arts at the Gerrit Rietveld Academy in Amsterdam (NL); Russian language, culture and literature at the University of Amsterdam (NL); graduated from the Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunsten in Amsterdam (NL); participated in the International Studio & Curatorial Program (ISCP) in New York, NY (US) and was a resident at Kunstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin (DE).

Van der Werve was awarded several international awards, among others the 2013 Grand Prix (Gouden Kalf) for Best Short Film at the Dutch Film Festival in Utrecht (NL); the 2010 Prix International d'Art Contemporain, Fondation Prince Pierre de Monaco (MC); the 2009 Grant to Artists of the Foundation for Contemporary Arts, New York, NY (US) and the 2007 Volkskrant Beeldende Kunst Prijs (NL).

His work can be found in the collections of international museums and institutions, such as the Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY (US); Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (NL); Sammlung Goetz, Munich (DE); The Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, DC (US); Museum Boijmans van Beuningen, Rotterdam (NL); Museum Voorlinden, Wassenaar (NL); Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, TX (US); Zabłudowicz Collection, London (UK); Galleria d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Turin (IT) among many others.

Guido van der Werve's work is currently included in the exhibition *Freedom*, curated by Hans Den Hartog Jager, at museum De Fundatie, Zwolle (NL). Selected museum exhibitions include the Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY (US); Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam, Amsterdam (NL); Kunsthalle Basel, Basel (CH); Tel Aviv Art Museum, Tel Aviv (IL); the Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA (US); Kyoto City University of Arts Art Gallery, Kyoto (JP); Museum of Contemporary Art Taipei, Taipei (TW); Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebæk (DK) and the High Line, New York, NY (US).

Forthcoming exhibitions include: Guido van der Werve at Fluentum, Berlin (DE), with a performance on April 28th, 2019 of *Nummer elf, chess Piano concert in three movements* (during Berlin Art Weekend) and a solo exhibition at both GRIMM's gallery spaces in Amsterdam that opens at March 22nd, 2019 with an opening reception at the Keizersgracht 241.

In addition to GRIMM, the artist is represented by Luhring Augustine in New York (US) and Brooklyn (US) and by Monitor in Rome (IT) and Lisbon (PT).



Guido van der Werve | *I smile at the world and the world smiles back* | 2001

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