THK

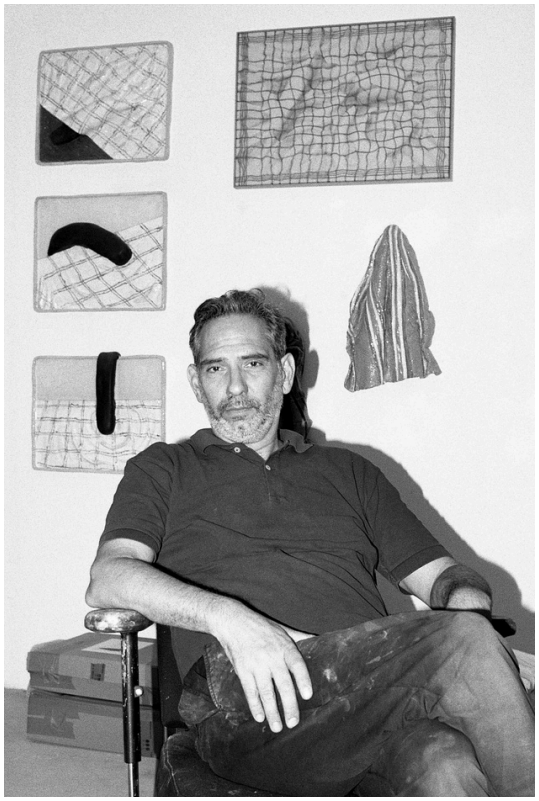
About Marco Zumbé

Marco Zumbé (b. 1975) is a visual artist based in Cologne, Germany. He studied Illustration and Painting at the University of Applied Sciences Hamburg under Prof. Rüdiger Stoye from 2000 to 2008. His practice spans painting, installation, and ceramic-based object-making, grounded in a nuanced interrogation of abstraction, perception, and memory.

Zumbé's work explores the interplay between surface and structure, interior and exterior, through a language of condensed and reconfigured patterns drawn from domestic ornamentation: wallpaper, decoration, and interior design catalogues. His images oscillate between abstraction and narrative, between psychic space and lived environment. In doing so, he foregrounds the act of seeing as a subjective and fragmented experience, marked by projection, association, and distortion.

Zumbé transforms painterly gestures into spatial objects, collapsing the two-dimensional into three-dimensional forms. Ceramic elements often punctuate his installations, anchoring the viewer's eye in materiality while offering a surreal or symbolic logic of their own. As his visual language develops through layering and repetition, so too does it question the unconscious structures that shape our aesthetic and emotional attachments to space, decoration, and memory.

His work has been exhibited widely in Germany and abroad, including solo presentations in New York, Cologne, and Marbella. He has received numerous studio grants, including from the Lepsien Art Foundation, Düsseldorf, ArtAcademy St. Moritz, and ArtistAlliance in New York. In 2026 Zumbe has presented his work in art fairs such as the Enter Art Fair in Copenhagen, Über den Zaun in Cologne, Art Cologne Palma Mallorca in Spain, the online show, Studies in Perception by the THK Gallery and Alongside 2026 by the THK Gallery.





Marco Zumbé. *Against all odds*, 2025

CV

Solo exhibitions

2024
Ode To No One (with Martin Galle), Belle Etage Schmitz, Cologne

2023
Home By The Sea, EitingRäume, Cologne
Paint The Town, Book Release, MD, Cologne

2021
Tryin' to Read Your Portrait (with Sebastian Fritzsch), Susanne Neuerburg Gallery, Hennef

2020
Bikini Deep, LaFelce, Cologne

2019
Welcome to the Jungle, Reiners Contemporary, Marbella, Spain

2017
Various Ink, Ruttkowski Gallery, Cologne
Linien, Dommuseum, Halberstadt

2015
What You See Is What You Get, Cuchifritos Gallery, New York, USA

Group exhibitions

2026
Alongside, THK Gallery, Germany
Art Cologne Palma Mallorca, THK Gallery, Spain
Studies in Perception, THK Gallery (online exhibition)

2025
Über den Zaun, THK Gallery, Cologne, Germany
Enter Art Fair, Copenhagen, Denmark

2024
Die Drei aus Köln, MaxWeberSixFriedrich Gallery, Munich
OG;68, Kesselhaus, Offenbach

2023
The Land Before Time, Hörsaal Fakultät, Leipzig

2022
Tiere, Cathrine Zeta, Cologne

2021
With a Little Help of My Friends, Susanne Neuerburg Gallery, Hennef

2020
To Your Left a Pleasant Sight, Ung5 Artspace, Cologne

2019
Leikela Annual Show 3, Michael Horbach Foundation, Cologne
T45, Polymedialer Ponyhof, Berlin

2018
Wer kann der soll, Kunstgruppe, Cologne

2016
Bussi, Velangel, Cologne
The Snoring Princess, Kunstgruppe, Cologne

Publications & Catalogues

2023
Paint The Town, Salon Verlag, ISBN: 978-3-89770-570-8

2022
Vierkanthof Bismarckstraße / Cycling in the Studio, ISBN: 978-3-8923334-4-1

2020
Salon No. 15, Salon Verlag, ISBN: 978-3-89770-523-4

2017
Hangman, Artist Book (Edition of 30), TBOOKS Cologne

2014
Soweit die Füße tragen, Artist Book (Edition of 100), TBOOKS Cologne

2012
Grants 11|12, Lepsien Art Foundation, Kerber Verlag, ISBN: 978-3-86678-689-9

Residencies & Grants

2015
ArtistAlliance Studio Grant, New York, USA

2013
ArtAcademy Studio Grant, St. Moritz, Switzerland

2012
– Lepsien Art Foundation Studio Grant, Düsseldorf, Germany

Education

2000–2008
University of Applied Sciences, Hamburg (Studies in Illustration and Painting under Prof. Rüdiger Stoye)