

About Philip Emde

Philip Emde (b. 1976, Mannheim, Germany) is an artist based in Cologne whose practice unfolds across painting, installation, and artist books. He studied Drawing and Printmaking at the Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften (HWA), Hamburg, under Prof. Ellen Sturm and Prof. Jovica Veljovic from 2000 to 2007. Emde has developed a distinctly narrative-driven visual language, weaving together irony, humor, and sharp social commentary to reflect on the absurdities of everyday life.

Central to Emde's work is his ability to shift between playfulness and critique. His installations often stage encounters between image, text, and object, constructing layered environments that engage both the intellect and the emotions. Bold color, fragmented storytelling, and performative gestures converge in his compositions, where irony and storytelling destabilize conventional categories of medium and content. Emde's works frequently reveal themselves as both humorous and deeply reflective, offering spaces where imagination, wit, and critique co-exist.

Over the past two decades, Emde has built a substantial international presence, with solo and group exhibitions spanning Europe, the United States, and Asia. His works are held in major public and private collections, including the Museum of Modern Art, New York (Artist Book Collection), the Tate Library, London (Artist Book Collection), and the Xiao Museum of Contemporary Art, Rizhao, China. Recognition of his practice includes awards such as the Rainer Funke Stiftung Prize (2018) and the Balmoral New York Fellowship (2013), alongside multiple residencies and institutional commissions.



Tshepiso Moropa.



Philip Emde.

CV

Selected Group Exhibitions

2025

- Wohnzimmer, Galerie MaxWeberSixFriedrich, Munich, Germany
- Mixed Pickles 13, Ruttkowski;68, Bochum, Germany

2024

- Drei aus Köln, with Andreas Schulze & Marco Zumbé, Galerie MaxWeberSixFriedrich, Munich, Germany
- Regional Deltabeben 2024, Wilhelm Hack Museum, Ludwigshafen, Germany
- 8 Rue Charlot, Ruttkowski;68, Paris, France
- Dogs of Weserhalle, Weserhalle, Berlin, Germany

2023

- The Cuteness Factor, Ludwig Museum of Contemporary Art, Budapest, Hungary
- Wonderful Creatures, Kunsthal KAdE, Amersfoort, Netherlands
- Playdate, duo show with Susan Kahurangi King, Ruttkowski;68, New York, USA
- On Marvellous Things, Kunsthal KAdE, Amersfoort, Netherlands
- Mixed Pickles 12, Ruttkowski;68, New York, USA
- Mein Hut der hat drei Ecken, Ruttkowski;68, Paris, France

2022

- Mixed Pickles 10, Ruttkowski;68, Cologne, Germany
- DIE BRUEKE, CF HILL x Ruttkowski;68, Stockholm, Sweden

2021

- Mixed Pickles 9, Ruttkowski;68, Goldberg Studios, Munich, Germany
- Loveley Creatures, Ludwig Forum Aachen, Germany

2020

- Mixed Pickles 8, Ruttkowski;68, Wilhelm Hallen, Berlin, Germany
- Mixed Pickles 7, Ruttkowski;68, Cologne, Germany
- 10 Years Ruttkowski;68, POP;68, Cologne, Germany

2019

- Mixed Pickles 6, Ruttkowski;68, Cologne, Germany
- Mixed Pickles 5, Ruttkowski;68, Funkhaus, Berlin, Germany
- #Bussi III, Qolabo, Cologne, Germany
- #haah25, Galerie Hammelehle und Ahrens, Cologne, Germany
- #haah25 Baden-Baden Edition, Galerie Hammelehle und Ahrens, Vickermann und Stoya, Baden-Baden, Germany

2018

- Mixed Pickles 4, Ruttkowski;68, Horbach Stiftung, Cologne, Germany
- Mixed Pickles 3, Ruttkowski;68, Berlin, Germany
- Rue Charlot, Ruttkowski;68, Paris, France

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2017

- Mixed Pickles 2, Ruttkowski;68, Michael Horbach Stiftung, Cologne, Germany
- Schönes Gestrüpp, POP;68, Cologne, Germany
- Wahnsinn, Kunstgruppe Köln, Salon Schmitz, Cologne, Germany
- BUSSI REROXED, Vintage Emde, Cologne, Germany

2016

- Vertical I, curated by Ruttkowski;68, Michael Horbach Stiftung, Cologne, Germany
- Papier, AK Raum, Cologne, Germany
- Vor Weihnachten nach Ostern, with Andreas Schulze, Vintage Emde, Cologne, Germany

2015

- 1:3 Light, Rooster Gallery, New York, USA

2014

- Short List, Horst-Janssen-Museum, Oldenburg, Germany
- WHAT IF I DON'T GET ALONG WITH MY TABLE COMPANIONS, Institut, Berlin, Germany
- P-SHIRT/HIER, Hallmackenreuther, Cologne, Germany

2013

- PAPERWORK, Flux Factory, New York, USA
- 17/13, Kunstgruppe, Salon Schmitz, Cologne, Germany

2012

- back for good, Frappante e.V., Hamburg, Germany

2011

- MIKRO MAKRO KOSMOS, Kunstverein Germersheim, Germany
- Emy-Röder-Preis, Kunstverein Ludwigshafen am Rhein, Germany
- So long and thanks for all the fish, Goldwald Projekte, Neustadt an der Weinstraße, Germany
- And suddenly we are standing here, Come Together Projekt, Cologne, Germany

2010

- Hug me, Heimlich, Rheinlandhalle, Cologne, Germany

2009

- 18. Karlsruher Künstlermesse, Regierungspraesidium Karlsruhe, Germany

2008

- Emy-Röder-Preis, ARTRMX, Cologne, Germany
- VOL. I - Der Herr und sein Knecht ft. Clemente, L'Aristokrassie, Cologne, Germany
- Art Fair 21, Glanzkinder Gallery, Cologne, Germany

2007

- Albert-Haueisen-Preis, Zehnhaus Jockrim, Germersheim, Germany

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- Zehnhaus Jockrim, Landkreis Germersheim, Germany

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- Junge Künstler in der Villa, Kunstverein, Neustadt/Weinstraße, Germany

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