THK

About Philip Emde

Philip Emde (b. 1976, Mannheim, Germany) lives and works in Cologne, Germany. Emde studied Drawing and Printmaking at the Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften (HWA), Hamburg under Prof. Ellen Sturm and Prof. Jovica Veljovic from 2000 to 2007. His artistic practice spans painting, installation, and artist books, often exploring narrative, humor, and the absurdities of everyday life through experimental visual strategies.

Emde's work negotiates a balance between playfulness and critical observation, creating immersive visual environments where imagery, text, and sculptural elements interact. He frequently integrates irony and storytelling into his compositions, crafting multilayered spaces that invite viewers to engage both intellectually and emotionally. Through his use of bold color, fragmented narratives, and performative elements, Emde challenges conventional boundaries between medium and content, forging a personal language that is at once humorous, provocative, and deeply reflective.

His work has been featured internationally in solo and group exhibitions across Europe, the United States, and Asia, and is included in public and private collections such as 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.

Emde has received notable grants and residencies, including the Rainer Funke Stiftung Prize (2018) and the Balmoral New York Fellowship (2013).

Following presentations with THK Gallery at their Cologne project space, Emde was included in Enter Art Fair 2025 and the Cape Town Art Fair in 2026. In March 2026, Emde opened his first solo exhibition on the continent with THK Gallery, titled . *RE .. homed ...* Upcoming, Emde has a solo exhibition at the MOUNTAIN VIEW Gallery in Cologne Germany from the 1st of November 2026. He will also be participating in the Art Cologne Art Fair from the 5th to 8th of November 2026.



Philip Emde. Image courtesy of Kuba Freter



Philip Emde. *Mistake Game*, 2024

THK

CV

Education

2000–2007
Drawing and Printmaking, under Prof. Ellen Sturm and Prof. Jovica Veljovic
Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften (HWA), Hamburg, Germany

Selected Public and Private Collections

- Museum of Modern Art, Artist Book Collection, New York, USA
- Tate Library, Artist Book Collection, London, UK
- Xiao Museum of Contemporary Art, Rizhao, China
- Kortmann Collection, Cologne, Germany
- FLAG Art Collection / Fuhrmann Family Foundation, New York City, USA

Grants and Residencies

- Rainer Funke Stiftung Preis 2018, Cologne, Germany
- Residency St. Moritz Art Academy/ Marcel van Eeden, St. Moritz, Switzerland
- Balmoral New York Fellowship (Flux-Factory/Residency Unlimited 2013), New York, USA
- Residency St. Moritz Art Academy/ Thomas Gruenfeld, St. Moritz, Switzerland
- Joseph-und-Anna-Fassbender Preis 2012, Brühl, Germany

Solo Exhibitions

2026
.Jocko.., Cologne, Germany
„ . Mirror .. Mirror . “ , Grisebach , Berlin Germany
„ . Corri .. and Door ... “ , Elektrohalle Rhomberg , Salzburg , Austria
. RE .. homed ..., THK Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

2025
5 Jahre Arbeit, mit Stefan Marx, Ruttkowski;68, Düsseldorf, Germany
. True Story .., Stalla Madulain, Switzerland

2024
.TwoSides .. of the Story., Ruttkowski;68, Paris, France

2023
. And .. What's your Story ..., Düsseldorf, Germany

2022
Mein Hut der hat 3 Ecken, Ruttkowski;68, Paris, France

2021
. Bats .. Balls N Bäume ..., Ruttkowski;68, Cologne, Germany

2019
Cause there is Beauty in the Breakdown. SONG SONG, Vienna, Austria
.Not your own Picture.., Ruttkowski;68, Paris, France

2018
.Emdiland.., Ruttkowski;68, Cologne, Germany

2016
*I DON'T GIVE A F**K ABOUT YOU,* Büro für Brauchbarkeit, Cologne, Germany
NOT YOURS, Villa Böhm, Kunstverein NW, Neustadt, Germany

2015
It's not the darkness I'm afraid of, Cologne, Germany

2014
Philip Emde hat mein Leben zerstört, curated by Alexander Basile, SSZ Sued, Cologne, Germany

2013
Philip Emde Destroyed My Life, Cuchifritos Gallery, New York City, USA

2012
Only two can play this game, Galerie Chu, Cologne, Germany
Joseph-und-Anna-Fassbender Preis, Galerie Brühl, Brühl, Germany

2011
P-mel und die Penisraketenproblematik, Galerie Nina Sagt, Düsseldorf, Germany

2010
Philip Emde hat mein Leben zerstört, Galerie Muelhaupt, Cologne, Germany

2008
Etching, Glanzkinder Gallery, Cologne, Germany

Selected Group Exhibitions

2026
Art Cologne, Cologne, Germany
Enter art Fair, Copenhagen, Denmark
Art Cologne Palma Mallorca 2026, Palau de Congressos de Palma, Spain
Groupshow „ Salon Spalenberg " , Basel , Switzerland
„Friends" (Exhibition and Book Release) , La Felce Gallery , Cologne , Germany

2025
Über den Zaun, THK x DOD Gallery, Cologne, Germany
30 Jahre Kunstgruppe, Salon Schmitz, Cologne

2024
8 rue charlot, Ruttkowski;68, Paris, France

2023
The Cuteness Factor, Ludwig Museum, Budapest, Hungary
Wonderbaarlijke Wezens, Kunsthal KAdE, Amersfoort, Netherlands
Playdate, duo show with Susan Kahurangi King, Ruttkowski;68, New York City, USA
On Marvellous Things, Kunsthal KAde, Amersfoort, Netherlands
Mixed Pickles 12, Ruttkowski;68, New York City, USA

2022
Mixed Pickles 10, Ruttkowski;68, Cologne, Germany
DIE BRUEKE, CFHILL 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, Ruttkowski;68 Gallery, Cologne, Germany
10 Years Ruttkowski;68, POP;68, Cologne, Germany

2019
Mixed Pickles 6, Ruttkowski;68, Ruttkowski Gallery, 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

2017
Mixed Pickles 2, Ruttkowski;68, Micheal Horbach Stiftung, Cologne, Germany
Schönes Gestrüpp, POP;68, Cologne, Germany
Wahnsinn, Kunstgruppe Köln, Salon Schmitz, Cologne, Germany
BUSSI REROXED, Vintage Emde, Cologne, Germany

2016
Wertical 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, Germany2013
PAPERWORK, Flux Factory, New York City, 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, Zehnthaus Jockrim, Germersheim, Germany

2006
Zehnthaus Jockrim, Landkreis Germersheim, Germany

2005
Emy-Röder-Preis, Kunstverein Ludwigshafen am Rhein, Germany
Albert-Haueisen-Preis, Zehnthaus Jockrim, Germersheim, Germany

2004
Junge Künstler in der Villa, Kunstverein, Neustadt/Weinstraße, Germany