About Béla Pablo Janssen

Béla Pablo Janssen (b. 1981, Cologne, Germany) is a multidisciplinary artist whose practice spans painting, installation, performance, film, and publishing. Working across media and genres, he explores the logics of the archive between image, document, and public space. Drawing on methods of collecting and reassembly, his work both reflects on and disrupts processes of order, linking the individual to broader questions of authorship, memory, and the material conditions of artistic production.

His approach to image-making is marked by performative openness, layering abstraction with social and historical resonances, while questioning systems of presentation and authorship. Rather than focusing on singular narratives, Janssen opens spaces where multiple voices and cultural references intersect, often creating immersive and experimental environments that draw from music, cinema, literature, and collective memory.

He studied at the University of Applied Arts (HAW) in Hamburg, the Free Class at the University of the Arts (UdK) in Berlin, and received his Meisterschüler in Painting under Walter Dahn at the Braunschweig University of Art (HBK). He lives and works between Cologne, Berlin, and international project spaces.

Janssen's work has been presented internationally, including at Kunsthalle Düsseldorf, artothek Cologne, GALERIE ALBER Cologne, LRRH_ Düsseldorf, Instituto Inclusartiz Rio de Janeiro, FAAP São Paulo, Sam Francis Residency Tokyo, #NotForSale Basel, and with Jeanroch Dard in Brussels and Paris. In early 2016, Janssen will present his work at Neuer Aachener Kunstverein. His publications have appeared with Salon Verlag, Sorry Press, and Spontan Verlag.



Béla Pablo Janssen





CV

Education

2012

Meisterschüler in Painting under Walter Dahn, Braunschweig University of Art (HBK)

2009

Free Class, University of the Arts (UdK), Berlin

2007

Master, University of Applied Arts (HAW), Hamburg

Solo Exhibitions (Selection)

2026

Theater der Sonnenzuwendung, NAK Neuer Aachener Kunstverein

2025

BPJ's Vorprogram in Köln, Filmpalette, Kunst- und Museumsbibliothek, King Georg, NAK L'avventura, rooftop installation, during Art Basel, #notforsale

2024 Sag mir wo die Sonne steht, POV contemporary, Berlin Art Week Vizinhanças, BPJ inspired by Hélio Oiticica's "Quasi Cinema," Studio 45, Hamburg

2023

Sim, Sim, Fleeting Secrets, Situation 92, Santa Lucia Galerie, Berlin ANARCHIVE, LRRH_ARIAL, Düsseldorf / IM FOYER, Kunsthalle Düsseldorf Foda-se Zeitgeist Schmetterling, Studio 45, Hamburg Manhã nunca acaba, Instituto Inclusartiz, Rio de Janeiro & FAAP, São Paulo

2022

BÉLA PABLO, @#NotFor\$ale, Basel Pau, EIVISSA STUDIO, Ibiza

2021

morgens endet nie (Neue Bilder), Galerie Alber, Cologne

2020

Book Release Show, BÉLA PABLO, Cologne

2019

Goldene Löwen wiegen zu leicht, Bistro 21, Leipzig Medusa Gallery x BPJ, Brussels Schwerkraft als Problem der Malerei, Galerie Alber, Cologne

2018

The Sun is Rising Behind Abstraction, curated by Art Foundation, Tokyo Mit Wenig nach Venedig (with Tom Król), artothek, Cologne Stellen aus Version.02, Damien & the Love Guru, Brussels

2017

Cacao Maravilhião, Portefoin, Paris Stellen aus (with Tom Król), during Art Cologne, Hanten+Schmidt Collection, Cologne

2016

Becomingness, C'est la vie machinerie, MonChérie, Brussels Index, ung5, Cologne

2015

Ma chère ami, le soleil se lève derrière l'abstraction, Gallery Jeanrochdard, Solo Booth at Art Brussels (Catalog)

2014

Le soleil se lève derrière l'abstraction, Gallery Jeanrochdard, Paris (Catalog)

THK

CV

Group Exhibitions (Selection

2024

Basel Social Club, Basel

2023

The Future Has an Orange Background, curated by Georg Elben, @#NotFor\$ale, Basel

2022

Transit, Galerie Alber, Cologne @#NotFor\$ale, during Art Basel, Switzerland

2021

Groupshow, during Art Cologne, Cologne

2020

#4004, Galerie Alber, Cologne BPJ's Siebdruckbühne, Skulpturenmuseum Glaskasten Marl Duo Exhibition, Franziska Reinbothe & BPJ, #3003

2019

Duo Exhibition, Michaela Zimmer & BPJ, Art Berlin Wendenstrasse 45 / 30 Years Hammerbrooklyn, Hamburg

2018

Material Art Fair, Damien & the Love Guru, Mexico City

2017

18 - Akademie [Arbeitstitel], BPJ Spontan Archiv, Kunsthalle Düsseldorf

Publications (Selection)

2023

ANARCHIVE, 2023-2013, 103 Posters, Sorry Press

2020

Béla Pablo, Salon Verlag

2019

Goldene Löwen wiegen zu leicht, Edition Bistro 21 & Spo