



# MEGA RENAISSANCE

Boris van Berkum



Journey to the kingdom of life (fountain), 2011  
glazed ceramics - 85 x 75 x 60 cm



Ink Fountain, 2010  
glazed ceramics – 60 x 60 x 56 cm

Working with Boris van Berkum is an adventure.

Boris van Berkum's work is no less adventurous. He mixes styles and tastes, recycles and invents techniques.

Old forms, images and styles are given new life in a 'Mega Renaissance'. Fondant ceramics, rubber molds with a coating of red and gold, Buddha bellies and the royal god of Ife (Nigeria) fused into neo-reincarnations.

Ludwig II of Bavaria would have employed him, had he still lived. Swan's necks stuffed with grapes, horses' hooves to gnaw on.

So explosive.

Boris van Berkum is so explosive.

# SJAREL EX



Archi-shell, Rembrandt House, 2011  
painted epoxy molding paste – 31 x 21 x 16 cm



Venus Pop Grotto, 2011 – Collection Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam  
spray painted ceramics / styrofoam / fondant icing – 72 x 72 x 200 cm



Spring Rites (back), 2007 – Private Collection  
patinated bronze – 27 x 26 x 38 cm



Spring Rites (front), 2007 – Private Collection  
patinated bronze – 27 x 26 x 38 cm



Intervention #17 – Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam 2011  
spray painted epoxy molding paste, emu eggs & rhea eggs / glazed ceramics, white swan eggs



Kalki, 10<sup>th</sup> Avatar of Lord Vishnu, 2008  
glazed ceramics, thea eggs – 90 x 85 x 45 cm





After Ife, 2011  
glazed ceramics – 85 x 50 x 20 cm



Journey to the kingdom of Ife (fountain), 2011  
glazed ceramics – 85 x 75 x 60 cm



Sublime Resurrection, 2008  
patinated bronze – 100 x 45 x 30 cm



Messiah and Martyr, 2011  
painted epoxy molding paste – 60 x 60 x 20 cm



Messiah and Martyr, 2011  
painted epoxy molding paste – 55 x 45 x 90 cm



Salome wine fountain, 2004 – Collection Groninger Museum  
glazed ceramics – 100 x 90 x 60 cm

Boris van Berkum (1968) is a Neo-artist. Just as artists in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries appropriated classical and gothic art, he fuses the styles and forms of various periods, cultures and religions in his sculptural groups. He combines classical torsos and Christian symbols with motifs borrowed from reincarnations of the Hindu god Vishnu, statues of Buddha and 14<sup>th</sup> century art from the Kingdom of Ife (now Nigeria).

The installations are made from ceramic and bronze, but also plastic, chocolate and fondant icing. Van Berkum's work shows his affinity with artists from earlier periods, whose creative force he re-uses and passes on. He speaks of a 'Mega Renaissance', in which old forms, sculptures and styles come to life again.

After studying at the art school in Prague, Van Berkum established MAMA, 'showroom for media and moving art' in Rotterdam in 1997. He served as its artistic director until 2007. Since leaving MAMA he has reinvented himself as an artist and has appropriated traditional and modern sculpture techniques.

DJ Chantelle is van Berkum's muse and pseudonym. This eccentric avatar loves to collaborate with directors, fashion designers and photographers.

# BORIS VAN BERKUM



# DJ CHANTELLE

DJ Chantelle , DJ sans disques.

In her mirror paradise.  
A heavy perfume an artist can wear, when feeling scandalous expressive.

DJ Chantelle is my name...  
DJ Chantelle  
DJ Chantelle

Art Direction: Boris van Berkum  
Photo: Ari Versluis  
Models: Elton, Leonie, DJ Chantelle, Mary Lou, Gulumcan  
Make-up: Judith van Dongen



Messiah and Martyr, 2011  
painted epoxy molding paste – 60 x 60 x 20 cm

#### COLOPHON

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Mega Renaissance