

# Galerie Lelong

## Magnus Plessen

Born in Hamburg in 1967, Magnus Plessen lives and works in Berlin. A self-taught artist, he pursued photography and filmmaking before dedicating himself fully to painting in 1999.

Plessen's multidisciplinary background continues to inform a distinctive painterly practice that explores the porous boundary between abstraction and figuration. Through fragmented representations, dynamic compositions, and an expressive use of paint, he creates works that challenge conventional notions of space and perception, resulting in images that are characterized by their materiality and emotional complexity.

Plessen's work was presented at the 50th Venice Biennale (2003). It has been exhibited in numerous international museum exhibitions and is held by major public institutions such as the Centre Pompidou (Paris), the Museum of Contemporary Art (Los Angeles), the Art Institute of Chicago (Chicago), Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen (Düsseldorf), the Walker Art Center (Minneapolis), the Pinakothek der Moderne (Munich), the Museum of Modern Art (New York), and the Rose Art Museum (Waltham).

It is also included in prominent private collections including the De la Cruz Collection (Miami), the Fundación Amparo y Manuel (Mexico City), the Goetz Collection (Munich), the Rachofsky Collection (Dallas) and the Rubell Collection (Miami).

Since 2019, he has been Professor of Painting at the Staatliche Akademie der Bildenden Künste in Karlsruhe.

Magnus Plessen is also represented by Mai 36 Galerie (Zurich), Konrad Fischer Galerie (Düsseldorf, Berlin), Wentrup (Berlin), and White Cube (London, Paris, Honk-Kong, New York). His first solo exhibition with Galerie Lelong will open in Paris on October 19, 2026.

### Solo shows (selection)

2026

*Théâtre imaginaire*, Galerie Lelong, Paris, France

2025

*Dein Gesicht in meinen Händen*, Wentrup, Berlin, Germany

2023

*Lucid density*, Mai 36 Galerie, Zürich, Switzerland

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2022

*Collagen*, Mai 36 Galerie, Zürich, Switzerland

2021

Neues Kunstmuseum, Lucerne, Switzerland

*Hope, Love, Helium*, White Cube, London, United Kingdom

2019

Mai 36 Galerie, Zürich, Switzerland

2018

*Mess Dress Mess Undress*, White Cube, Hong Kong, China

*Schablone und Fragment*, Daniel Marzona Gallery, Berlin, Germany

*zweitausendeinhudertachtzehn*, Konrad Fischer Galerie, Düsseldorf, Germany

2016

*The Skin of Volume*, Kunstparterre, Munich, Germany

*The Skin of Volume*, Gerhardsen Gerner, Oslo, Norway

*The Skin of Volume*, White Cube, London, United Kingdom

2015

*Neunzehnhundertvierzehn*, Mai 36 Galerie, Zürich, Switzerland

2014

*19:14 Magnus Plessen*, The Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University, Waltham, United States

2013

Gladstone Gallery, Brussels, Belgium

White Cube, São Paulo, Brazil

2012

*Riding the Image*, White Cube, London, United Kingdom

Gladstone Gallery, New York, United States

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2010

Mai 36 Galerie, Zürich, Switzerland

2009

Glastone Gallery, New York, United States

2008

*Freizeit*, Konrad Fischer Galerie, Berlin, Germany

2006

Mai 36 Galerie, Zürich, Switzerland

2005

*For Immediate Release*, Glastone Gallery, New York, United States

2004

*Kristin Baker & Magnus von Plessen*, Espace 315, Centre Pompidou, Paris, France

2002

*Malerei*, K21 Kunstsammlung, Düsseldorf, Germany

*Recent Paintings*, MoMA PS1, New York, United States

2001

Neues Kunstmuseum, Lucerne, Switzerland

1999

*Fotografien 1996 -1999*, Kunstsammlung, Neubrandenburg, Germany

1996

Galerie Volker Diehl, Berlin, Germany

## Group shows (selection)

2023

*A Theatre of Waiting*, The Cloud Collection, Nanjing, China

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2022

*What is Left Unspoken: Love*, High Museum, Atlanta, United States

2020

*Figure and Form: States of Dissolution*, White Cube, West Palm Beach, United States

2018

salondergegenwart, Hamburg, Germany

*Memory Palace*, White Cube, London, United Kingdom

2016

*With a Touch of Pink - With a bit of Violet - With a Hint of Green - Dorothee Fischer - In Memoriam*, Konrad Fischer Galerie, Düsseldorf, Germany

2014

*Fruits de la Passion: La collection du Centre Pompidou*, The Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art, Kobe, Japan

2010

*Biennale für aktuelle Fotografie*, Wilhelm-Hack-Museum & Kunsthalle Mannheim, Germany

*Wojtek Bakowski, Piotr Bosacki, Magnus Plenssen, Iza Tarasewicz, Philip Topolovac*, Galerie Isabella Czarnowska, Berlin, Germany

*Americans Looking In.*, Center for Book Arts, New York, United States

*Florida Wild*, McKenzie, Miami, United States

2009

*HUB: Dumont Editions*, White Space, Beijing, China

*Slow Paintings*, Museum Morsbroich, Leverkusen, Germany

2008

*The Krautcho Club / In and Out of Place*, Forgotten Bar Project, Berlin, Germany

*You Dig the Tunnel, I'll Hide the Soil*, White Cube, London, United Kingdom

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2007

*Eberhard Havekost, Johannes Kahrs, Magnus Plessen, Wilhelm Sasnal: Imagination Becomes Reality*, Arbeiten aus der Sammlung Goetz, Karlsruhe, Germany

*Images in Painting*, Museu Serralves, Porto, Portugal

2006

*Imagination Becomes Reality*, Sammlung Goetz, Munich, Germany

*Infinite Paintings*, Villa manin, Passariano, Italy

*The Cartin Collection : Subject, Contemporary Portraiture*, Lyman Allyn Art Museum, Connecticut, United States

2005

*Bilder von Magnus Plessen und Fotos von Carlo Bottigello*, Kunstparterre e.V., Munich, Germany

Art Institute of Chicago, United States

*Drawing from the Modern, 1975 – 2005*, MoMA – Museum of Modern Art, New York, United States

2004

*Direct Painting*, Kunsthalle Mannheim, Mannheim, Germany

2003

*Clandestine, Dreams and Conflict*, Mai 36 Galerie, Zürich, Switzerland

2002

*Startkapital*, K21 Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen, Düsseldorf, Germany

1999

*Missing Link: Menschen-Bilder in der Fotografie*, Kunstmuseum Bern, Bern, Switzerland

## Public collections (selection)

Start Museum, Shanghai, China

Centre Pompidou, Paris, France

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Goetz Collection, Munich, Germany

K21 Düsseldorf, Düsseldorf, Germany

Kunstsammlung NRW K20/K21, Düsseldorf, Germany

Pinakothek der Moderne, Munich, Germany

Fundación Amparo y Manuel, Mexico City, Mexico

Ellipse Foundation, Cascais, Portugal

Art Institute of Chicago, United States

MoMA, Museum of Modern Art, New York, United States

Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, United States

Rose Art Museum, Waltham, United States

Rubell Collection, Miami, United States

Rubell Museum, Miami, United States

Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, United States