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Guido van der Werve, Nummer veertien, home. Courtesy of the artist and Luhring Augustine, New York.

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WELLESLEY, MASS.- The Davis presents Nummer veertien, home, Dutch artist Guido van der Werve's haunting, poetic film that interweaves the tales of Alexander the Great, the life and death of Frédéric Chopin, and the artist's own personal odyssey. The exhibition will be on view March 12 through July 20 in the Joan Levine Freedman '57 and Richard I. Freedman Gallery and is free and open to the general public.

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When Chopin died in Paris, his sister vowed to fulfill the composer's wish of bringing his heart back to his native land of Poland; she succeeded in smuggling his heart out of France and carried it to Warsaw where it was interred in the Church of the Holy Cross. For Nummer veertien, home, the artist completed a grueling 1,000-mile triathlon (swimming, biking, and running) from Warsaw to Paris – seven times the length of the Ironman Triathlon – retracing the path along which Chopin travelled to Paris and along which only his heart returned.

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Covered By Medicare. Free Home Shipping. Van der Werve, a classically trained concert pianist, also composed the film's lush score - a romantic twelve-movement classical requiem that is played in situ at various locations en route. Nummer veertien, home explores themes common to van der Werve's work: physical and emotional endurance, man's struggle with nature, virtuosic performance, the intersection between history and geography, melancholy and the solitary.

According to Michael Maizels, Andrew W. Mellon New Media Curator/Lecturer and curator of the exhibition, "Evocative of the grand traditions of Classical composition and Romantic landscape painting, Nummer veetien, home offers an extended meditation on the nostalgia for origins. While Alexander the Great and Frédéric Chopin were never able to return from their wandering van der Werve travels in their footsteps, recounting their journeys and recording the charged landscapes through which they traveled. Although the film ends on an optimistic note – with the artist returning a silver cup full of Polish soil to Chopin's grave in the Père Lachaise cemetery in Paris – the melancholic mood of the piece speaks to the deep impossibility of such returns, of ever truly coming back home."

"Nummer veetien, home is mesmerizing, lyrical, and a little bit cryptic as the artist confronts forces of nature and culture with an almost superhuman strength of will," added Lisa Fischman, Ruth Gordon Shapiro '37 Director of the Davis. "I am thrilled that Mike's first exhibition during his tenure as our Mellon New Media Curator brings Guido van der Werve's ambitious work to the Davis."

Guido van der Werve was born in Papendrecht, the Netherlands in 1977 and currently lives and works in Finland, Amsterdam and Berlin. Van der Werve pursued studies in industrial design, archaeology, music composition, and Russian language and literature at several universities in the Netherlands before beginning to create his first video documented performances around 2000. Since that time he has created a variety of works, including films, videos, and artist's books in chronological order from two to fifteen.

He has become internationally renowned for his video works numbered in sequence of production. His rapidly growing oeuvre of satirical yet deadpan videos, in which he often plays the protagonist, investigates such themes as melancholy and alienation. Van der Werve often composes the music that accompanies his films.

Recent showings of his work include solo exhibitions at the MOMA PS1, New York; the High Line, New York; the Giuliani Foundation, Rome; the Stedeliijk Museum, Amsterdam; and de Hallen Haarlem in the Netherlands. Van der Werve's Nummer veertien, home, won the 2013 Golden Calf Award in Amsterdam for Best Short Film.



Today's News

March 11, 2014

Exhibition at the Orsay Museum focuses on Antonin Artaud's analysis of Van Gogh's work

Mexican archaeologists find ancient ball game court on construction site of basketball court

Sotheby's to sell Dante Gabriel Rossetti's Pandora; Last seen at auction 50 years ago

Dutch masterpiece by Jacob van Ruisdael acquired by the Kimbell Art Museum

"The Passions of Jean-Baptiste Carpeaux" on view at the Metropolitan Museum of Art

Henry Moore bronze among prized works in Palm Beach Modern's March 22 auction of art and modern design

Smithsonian Institution Regents name David Skorton 13th Smithsonian Secretary

University of Warwick's Sir Richard Lambert appointed Chairman of the British Museum

In a just-published book on the Mona Lisa, historian William Varvel sees a feminist

Avant-garde Belgian opera director Gerard Mortier dies aged 70 after battling cancer

Seven seminal works by Sadequain, Pakistan's Picasso who illustrated a book by Camus, for sale at Bonhams

Exhibition traces the path of Modern art through 50 masterworks by the era's most iconic artists

Long-lost New York portrait by John Singleton Copley on offer at Bonhams American Art Sale

Romer Young Gallery's third solo exhibition with artist Kirk Stoller opens in San Francisco

A Phrase that Fits: Exhibition of new paintings by Brenna Youngblood opens at Tilton gallery

First solo exhibition of Indonesian contemporary artist Yunizar in Europe opens at Ben Brown Fine Arts

First Indian film museum to open in home of Bollywood

"Haim Steinbach: once again the world is flat" on view at the Serpentine Gallery

Whitworth Art Gallery to reopen on 25 October 2014 with a major Cornelia Parker exhibition

"Samurai: Beyond the Sword" opens at the Detroit Institute of Arts

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Most Popular Last Seven Days

1.- Susan Silas' "Love in the ruins: Sex over 50" opens at STUDIO10 in Brooklyn

2.- Mexican archaeologists find a 1,500 year old shaft tomb in the state of Colima

3.- The British Museum presents its first major exhibition on Vikings in over 30 years

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{4.-First}}$ major monographic exhibition on Paul Gauguin ever presented at MoMA opens

5.- Major exhibition dedicated to the lifework of Emil Nolde opens at Stadel Museum

6.- Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam announces acquisition of two works by Steve McQueen

7.- Paris fashion goes shopping at the Chanel supermarket with fully-stocked aisles and check-outs

8.- "Craft in America: Industry: Handmade in the Creative Economy" to premiere on PBS in May

9.- Six major art institutions across the United States acquire seminal Robert Rauschenberg works

10.- Art Institute of Chicago presentation showcases the art and science of Renoir painting

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