



Guido van der Werve, Nummer veertien, home, 2012.

8

The Ross Art Group

www.postergroup.com

Original Vintage Posters Fine Art and Framing

VIENNA.- As the protagonist of his own films, Dutch video and performance artist Guido van der Werve makes great physical demands upon himself. His works chart approaches to the experience of self and the world by staging an existentialist competition with himself. However, he not only documents the realisation of the conceived events; this documentation is also taken as a starting point from which to condense them into complex narratives about

physical endurance, struggling with (one's own) nature, the passage of time, and the uncontrollable dynamics of chance.

Vibrant Nightlife

www.seepuertorico.com

Puerto Rico: Plenty to do when the Sun goes down. Find out more!

Van der Werve, who has also completed training as a classical pianist, often anchors his narratives structurally by reference to the biographies of composers such as Rachmaninov or Chopin, as well as using his own musical compositions. In this way he produces works that measure spatial and temporal determinants by means of physical effort, yet also bear witness to a deep melancholy and the need to come to terms with isolation.

Guido van der Werve complied with a programmatic request from the [Sesession](#) to develop a new work for his exhibition by producing a publication, *Nummer vijftien*, at war with oneself. This extensive artist's book includes textual and pictorial documents, self-reflective pieces and analyses of his most recent group of works from the years 2008 to 2012, in which his main theme is sport alongside classical music. In the *Secession*, in addition to the publication *van der Werve* is showing two works documented in it: the several-part photo piece *Nummer dertien*, *emotional poverty*. *Effugio b*, portrait of the artist as a mountaineer (2011) and the film *Nummer veertien, home* (2012). The latter has already been highly acknowledged: This year he has the *Gouden Kalf* at the film festival in Utrecht and a nomination in the short film category at the International Film Festival Rotterdam.

In the 56-minute film *Nummer veertien, home* van der Werve completes a 1,700 km triathlon – seven times the stretch of the Ironman triathlon. Swimming, cycling and running he covered the distance from Warsaw to Paris to retrace, in the opposite direction, the route that Chopin's heart travelled before being buried.

The division of the plot into three parts not only corresponds to the triathlon but also to the requiem that van der Werve composed himself for this occasion. It is also used as a soundtrack. Inserted into the main thread of the narrative – long durational sporting performance – we find various episodes with situations in the lives of Frédéric Chopin and Alexander the Great. The metaphorical potential of the persistently realised physical activity is plumbed with its full ambiguity, not least through this multilayered construction: it incorporates self-determination and self-fulfilment as well as ambition and achievement, but also isolation and the pointlessness of existence in repetition. Although van der Werve's works have obvious autobiographical traits and deal with his personal passions, he generally remains in the background as a person and artist-subject, as this allows him to create intense moods and space for the viewers' associations.

"Abstracting my personal memories and experiences is a process that I always apply in my work. I try to make my work as open as possible by doing this; I abstract the narrative until only the mood is left. Mood is a medium that everybody can relate to and, more importantly, everyone has their own relationship to the mood. The artist stops being important." (Guido van der Werve, Interview with Xander Karskens)

In *Nummer dertien, emotional poverty*. *Effugio b*, portrait of the artist as a mountaineer, van der Werve captures the moment of successfully climbing a mountain and the emotionality associated with such an effort. To make this work he conquered Aconcagua Peak in Argentina, which is 6,962 metres high. However, van der Werve undermines the sublimity or magnificence of the landscape perhaps to be expected in connection with this achievement by opposing the image of a bright blue sky with a portrait of himself wearing an anorak, lying on his back with wide, staring eyes.

Guido van der Werve, born in Papendrecht (NL) in 1977, lives and works in Berlin and Finland.





Today's News

November 26, 2013

[LACMA presents the first monographic Museum exhibition of Alexander Calder in L.A.](#)

[Excavation provides a fascinating glimpse into thousands of years of human development](#)

[Rare Egyptian revival jewels by Cartier featured in Magnificent Jewels Auction at Sotheby's](#)

[Christie's offers original map of Pearl Harbor attack, prepared by Japan's lead pilot](#)

["A Private View: Modern Masters from the Kerry Stokes Collection" opens at the Art Gallery of Western Australia](#)

[Ugo Rondinone exhibits a series of seven masks, made in gold, at Sorry We're Closed](#)

[Ketterer Kunst's Auction of Art from the 15th-19th Century in Munich achieves €1,15 million](#)

[London-based artist William Bradley opens exhibition at Galerie Richard in New York](#)

[Original Curt Swan Action Comics cover art of Superman and JFK as Clark Kent steals the show at Hake's](#)

[Exhibition at Camera Work Gallery features the unprecedented creative work of the artist Christian Tagliavini](#)

[Dallas Museum of Art names Jacqueline W. Franey Director of Development](#)

[Archives of American Art celebrates the holiday season with handmade cards](#)

[Last call to enter Fourth Annual Emerging Focus Photography Competition](#)

[Eli Klein Gallery is moving to Chelsea](#)

[Tiancheng's Fine Chinese Paintings & Modern and Contemporary Art Auctions realise US\\$ 1,442,240](#)

[Overview of Lutz Bacher's works opens at Kunsthalle Zurich](#)

[Exhibition of new work by Dutch video and performance artist Guido van der Werve opens in Vienna](#)

[Yutaka Sone and Benjamin Weissman build a mountain in the Santa Monica Museum of Art](#)

[Bonhams December Period Art & Design Auction to feature property of Harry Denton](#)

[Quinn's to auction 1,000-piece William S. Lieth American art pottery collection on Dec. 7](#)

Most Popular Last Seven Days

1.- [Italian Renaissance master Leonardo da Vinci's extremely rare Viola Organista: the sound of genius](#)

2.- [After facing international criticism, Germany to put online 590 works from Nazi art trove](#)

3.- [Robert L. Oswald, Brother of Lee Harvey Oswald Disputes Last Week's Sale of Coffin](#)

4.- [Germany to return some works to Cornelius Gurlitt, hoarder of Nazi-era art trove](#)

5.- [Major exhibition of new works by artist and musician Bob Dylan opens at Halcyon Gallery](#)

6.- [In interview with Der Spiegel, Recluse defiantly stakes claim to Nazi-era art hoard](#)

7.- [Dallas Museum of Art presents first in-depth study of Edward Hopper's working process](#)

8.- [Switzerland pays heavy price for Van Gogh gift from businessman Oskar Reinhart](#)

9.- [Alex Prager's first solo museum exhibition in the U.S. opens at the Corcoran Gallery of Art](#)

10.- [3D printing 'will change the world'](#)

[The History Of 'Comfort Women': A WWII Tragedy We Can't Forget](#)

[Everything A Feminist Needs To Know About Quilting](#)

[Happy Birthday, Rene Magritte!](#)

[How We View The Middle East, From YouTube Clips To 19th Century Orientalist Paintings](#)

['Tea And Morphine' Exposes A Darker Side Of 19th Century Women](#)

[Can You Tell The Artwork From The Factory Reproduction?](#)

[Foolproof Photo Exhibition Delivers Naked Youths Being Young \(NSFW\)](#)

[The Heartbreaking Reason These Billboards Are Taking Over Jersey](#)

Museums, Exhibits, Artists, Milestones, Digital Art, Architecture, Photography, Photographers, Special Photos, Special Reports, Featured Stories, Auctions, Art Fairs, Anecdotes, Art Quiz, Education, Mythology, 3D Images, Last Week, [RSS](#)

artdaily.org © 1996-2013

Founder:

Ignacio Villarreal

Editor & Publisher: [Jose Villarreal](#) - Consultant: Ignacio Villarreal Jr.

Art Director: Juan José Sepúlveda Rmz. - Marketing: Carla Gutiérrez

Web Developer: Gabriel Sifuentes - Special Contributor: Liz Gangemi

Special Advisor: Carlos Amador - Contributing Editor: Carolina Farias

Royalville Communications, Inc
produces:

ignaciovillarreal.org

Founder's Site.

theavemaria.org

The most varied versions
of this beautiful prayer.

juncodelavega.org

Hommage
to a Mexican poet.

facundocabral-elfinal.org

Hommage