



SKT TALKS TO...CRANN' PIORR ART

Crann' Piorr Art is a sensitive artist, constantly inspired by music and sustainability in his practice. His first encounter with art was in 1989 when he entered the painting school in Dendermonde, Belgium. From that moment, he never stopped to produce art. He is showcasing his art piece “Hardwhere” with us in our virtual show “restART the planet” in collaboration with WhereFromUK.

Hello Crann'Piorr Art and thank you so much for being here with us. As an artist inspired by Van Eyck and Rembrandt (to mention a few) able to create a parallel world where reality and fiction verge together in a very natural way, what are the issues you experience during the creation of your art pieces (if any) and how much do you think the artists are developing their practice towards sustainability? Artists would always love that their art remains after they are gone and is remember for the next generations and even the next centuries. So I think artists are very implicated in sustainability of their work but also the planet. We are not for destruction but more for the transmission of our culture and knowledge. The main issue I have when creating an art piece is, will I succeed in transmitting my feelings and my emotions?

Your piece is called “Hardwhere” what is the story behind it and what would you like us to feel when looking at it? What was the inspiration behind the creation?

When I did Hardwhere, I was realizing a serie of 9 paintings with 2 common subjects in it, the cosmos and the word where. Hardwhere, Softwhere, Everywhere, Somewhere, Anywhere, etc. So, the main idea for “Hardwhere” was to create a dump of planets in the bottom of an ocean with a demolition crane who try to pick the dumped planets to clean the ocean. Ok this idea is a little bit crazy and not logic, but art is not logic or it is boring. Once finished, I loved this painting as I feel the calm in it, like when you are beside the sea, as if the sea ions where inside this painting. It is amazing. I don't know if everybody feel that, but it is what I feel.



We are SKT, and we aim to create a scattered gallery without borders. We want to break boundaries and being as much as inclusive as we can, spreading art for everyone by everyone, all around. We teamed up with WherefromUK because we wanted to add sustainability as central-theme of the contemporary artistic research. It is something that cannot be ignored. Why you chose to work with distorted perspective? Do you think you would like to live in a different world, more sustainable? I deformed the perspectives mainly in my collection Panic in the City, because I thought it was more artistic to have no straight lines. Straight lines are the symbol of order and oppression, they are also the opposite of the substantify. For example, intensive agriculture can be sketched in straight lines with defined lined limit of fields, roads and factories all that is straight lines for me. In my paintings, even if I use sometimes some straight lines, I mostly use round figures to express my art.

Your art pieces creation is deeply connected to music. You also had an original idea to connect each piece to a QR code linked to a specific music track. Can you tell us more about the connection between art and music and if is the music that inspires the art or viceversa.

When I go to my workshop to paint, the first thing I do is to connect my phone to my Bose speakers and to put the music full blast in the shuffle mode. I have more than 128go of music so I'm sure to not have the same play again and again. Then when the music is on, I can start to work. So I wanted to transmit my love in music in my painting but this is hard stuff as it is easier in the other way. A music group can always display paintings on the background whil is he playing on stage but when you are in an exhibition, it is not really the place you like to have loud music or at least not everyone like it. So I had this idea of linking a QR code behind each piece of music to a specific music I like. For Hardwhere, I chose Dancing in the dark from Bruce Spingsteen because in the lyrics he said

*"Man, I ain't gettin' nowhere
I'm just livin' in a dump like this
There's somethin' happenin' somewhere
Baby, I just know that there is".*

I thought it was appropriate.

Can you share with us what do you do to be more conscious and live towards a zero-waste life in your own personal life? Zero waste is very hard to achieve when you have pets and you need to buy pets food with the packaging they use and my cats don't like ordinary food from the butcher, it must be process food, even I try to explain them, they don't listen... Otherwise, I am very concerned by all that and we (my wife and me) are vegetarians and we recycle the food rests in the garden, we don't use plastic and are very careful to save this planet. But, it is not always possible, if I need to bring my big paintings to an exhibition, I need to rent a van who is running on diesel with fine particles emissions for instance...

Why do you think it's important for the artists to use their voices to talk about climate change?

Of course, it is important, especially after this terrible time where Donald Trump was in office and was doing exactly the opposite. I'm not American and I don't live there but I was angry by all his decisions towards climate and also the diversity of wild life. I think we have to hurry up to explain to everybody that it is our survival as human species that is now engaged. When I see people dumping their face mask in the street after use, I know there is still a lot of work to do.



Tell us one last thing, something you would like to say to the art community that for you is important. I would like that the art community would be more engaged about the quality of art than to look for the buzz. Many are not even looking at your work because you are not known and are running after a banana stuck on a white board. I have nothing against it, I found it was a great thing actually for an artist to do this, but we need more consideration sometimes. It is very hard to be known in this and there are lot of sharks there who just want your money. And money is exactly what an emerging artist doesn't have.

Thank you, Crann'Piorr Art, for your time.

Brioni for SKT