

HOSTLER BURROWS

NILS ERICHSEN MARTIN

b. 1969, Scotland, UK

Nils Erichsen Martin (Norwegian, b. 1969) is a ceramicist producing graphic, figurative sculptures and bas-reliefs infused with the playful gestures and signs of everyday identity. Martin's aesthetic lifts from consumer culture, Cubism, drawn animation, and graphic advertisement. Often comic in appearance, his porcelain and stoneware troupe of characters is comprised of martial artists and skateboarders, snooker players and pranksters, among a host of other personas. As participants in street sports and youth subcultures, these characters perform an irreverent and flippant nonchalance, often posing and showing off or reclined in supine indolence. Cartoon-like, their jagged haircuts, elongated fingers, cylindrical limbs, and rounded body parts set them apart. Occasionally, Martin returns to the smooth curves of these sculptures, incorporating drawings on the porcelain surface with oxide pencils. The division between two-dimensional perspective and three-dimensional rendering is muddled, each glimpse of a character superimposed on a subsequent one, giving the impression of dynamic motion as in a comic strip, a kickboxing match, or a strobe-lit music video.

Martin holds a masters degree in ceramics from the Norwegian National Academy of Craft and Art Industry. He has exhibited widely in Norway and internationally, including at the CLAY Museum of Ceramic Art, the Kunstbanken Art Museum, the Sørlandet Art Museum, the Jingdezhen Ceramic University Art Museum, the Suzhou Jinji Lake Art Museum, and the Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts. From 1994–95, he was a visiting artist at the Leedy/Voukos Art Center in Kansas City, MO. Martin received the ten-year national grant for established artists in 2014 and again in 2023.

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EDUCATION

1993 MFA, Ceramics Department, Norwegian National Academy of Craft and Art Industry

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 *Pop Cowboy*, Grenland Art Hall, Porsgrunn, Norway
- 2018 *Loose Fit Supertight*, Format Gallery, Oslo, Norway
- 2013 *Pop from the Barricades*, Format Gallery, Oslo, Norway
- 2009 *Veldig Krig*, Kunstnerforbundet Gallery, Oslo, Norway
- 2007 *Re-ament Time*, Blomqvist Auction House, Oslo, Norway
- 2002 *Men of Steel*, Bomuldsfabriken Art Hall, Arendal, Norway
- 2001 *Apollo 13*, Format (Kraft) Gallery, Bergen, Norway
- 2000 *Boy Pranks*, The Norwegian Drawing Association, Oslo, Norway

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 *Lys*, SKOG Artspace, Oslo, Norway
- 2023 *Keramikk Ringeby 1993-2023 (Ringeby Ceramics 1993–2023)*, The Centre for Ceramic Art, Ringeby, Norway
- 2022 *Skulptursti (Sculpture Trail)*, Wergelandshaugen Art Center, Eidsvoll, Norway
- 2021 *As Far as My Eyes Can Sea*, Bomuldsfabriken Kunsthall, Arendal, Norway
- Happy Go Nothing*, Studio 1/2, Oslo, Norway
- JDZ International Ceramic Art Biennale*, Jingdezhen, China
- Less than 0,002 mm*, Hå Gamle Prestegård, Jæren, Norway
- Galleri Villvin*, Risør, Norway
- Hvitsten Salong*, Hvitsen, Norway
- 2020 *IAC New Members Exhibition*, Beijing Guozhong Ceramic Art Museum, Beijing, China
- 2019 *Ceramic Momentum*, CLAY Museum of Ceramic Art, Middelfart, Denmark
- 2018 *Chart Design*, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2017 *Annual Exhibition of Contemporary Arts and Crafts*, The Museum of Decorative Arts and Design, Oslo, Norway

- 2016 *Annual Exhibition of Contemporary Arts and Crafts*, The Museum of Decorative Arts and Design, Oslo, Norway
- 2015 *Annual Exhibition of Contemporary Arts and Crafts*, The Museum of Decorative Arts and Design, Oslo, Norway
Transformator (Transformer), Kunstnerforbundet, Oslo, Norway
 Bomuldsfabriken Kunsthall, Arendal, Norway
 Hydrogenfabrikken, Fredrikstad, Norway
- 2014 *Beyond G(l)aze*, Jinji Lake Art Museum, Suzhou, China
Transformator (Transformer), Kunstnerforbundet, Oslo, Norway
 SOFA Chicago
- 2012 *Collect*, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK
- 2011 *Annual Exhibition of Contemporary Arts and Crafts*, The Museum of Decorative Arts and Design, Oslo, Norway
- 2010 *Essens (Essence)*, Kunstbanken Art Museum, Hamar, Norway
 Kuben Art Museum, Ålesund, Norway
 Telephonebooth Gallery, Kansas City, MO
- 2009 *Annual Exhibition of Contemporary Arts and Crafts*, The Museum of Decorative Arts and Design, Oslo, Norway
 Telephonebooth Gallery, Kansas City, MO
- 2008 *A World of Folk*, Stavanger, Norway
 Telephonebooth Gallery, Kansas City, MO
- 2007 *Meccano*, Sørlandet Art Museum, Kristiansand, Norway
 Telephonebooth Gallery, Kansas City, MO
- 2006 *World Ceramics*, Steninge Castle, Stockholm, Sweden
- 2004 *Østlandsutstillingen Annual Art Exhibition*, Kunstbanken Senter for Samtidskunst, Hamar, Norway
Vårutstillingen (The Spring Exhibition), The Norwegian Drawing Association, Oslo, Norway
- 2003 *Trolls*, International Traveling Exhibition by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- 2002 *Norwegian Ceramics*, Munich, Germany
- 2001 *Sotheby's International Young Art*, Sotheby's, Tel Aviv, Israel
Vårutstillingen (The Spring Exhibition), The Norwegian Drawing Association, Oslo, Norway
Østlandsutstillingen Annual Art Exhibition, Norway
 The Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts, New York, NY
- 1999 *Ceramic Millenium*, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 1998 *Annual Exhibition of Contemporary Arts and Crafts*, The Museum of Decorative Arts and Design, Oslo, Norway
Talente (Talents), Munich, Germany
- 1997 *Tendenser (Trends)*, Gallery F-15, Jeløya, Norway
- 1995 *Brytninger (Wrestling)*, Nordenfjeldske Kunstindustrimuseum, The National Museum of Decorative Arts and Design, Trondheim, Norway

Leedy/Voulikos Art Gallery, Kansas City, MO
1994 *Vi Blomstrer (We Flourish)*, The Museum of Decorative Arts and Design, Oslo, Norway

PUBLIC COMMISSIONS

2016 Bodø High School, Bodø, Norway
2015 Bodø High School, Bodø, Norway
2014 Bodø High School, Bodø, Norway
Vennesla High School, Vennesla, Norway
2003 Mysen Primary School, Mysen, Norway

COLLECTIONS

Bank of Norway
REV Ocean
SKMU Sørlandets Kunstmuseum, Kristiansand, Norway
St. Olav's Hospital, Trondheim, Norway
The City of Oslo, Norway
The Museum of Decorative Arts and Design, Oslo, Norway
The National Museum's Drawing Collection, Oslo, Norway
The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
The North Region Museum of Decorative Arts and Design, Trondheim, Norway
The Vest Region Museum of Decorative Arts and Design, Bergen, Norway

GRANTS & AWARDS

2023 Ten-Year National Grant for Established Artists
2014 Ten-Year National Grant for Established Artists
2013 Study Grant from the Arts and Crafts Fund
2012 Study Grant from the Arts and Crafts Fund
2011 Unrestricted National Grant
2009 Two-Year National Work Grant
2006 Three-Year National Work Grant
2003 National Grant for Material Costs
2002 One-Year National Work Grant for Younger Artists
2001 National Grant for Travels
The City of Oslo Culture Prize
Steen Gallery, Spring Exhibition, First Place Prize
2000 National Grant for Debutants
One-Year National Work Grant for Younger Artists
1999 One-Year National Work Grant for Younger Artists
1998 National Grant for Young Artists

Third Place Prize, Steen Gallery, Spring Exhibition
1994 National Grant for Material Costs