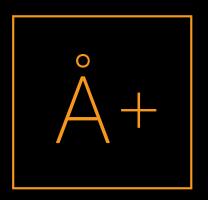
# Kim Nekarda spermwhales in limbo



Dear Kim,

Since we talked yesterday I can't stop thinking about whales.

You told me that you had wished to see a whale ever since you were a child. And a couple of years ago, in Sri Lanka, you saw a whale at last, as it surfaced to breathe. You told me that you were happy to have seen it, but for some reason also disappointed. Later, you realized why: you had seen the whale, but the whale hadn't seen you. You and the whale didn't meet!

To meet someone is a different thing from encountering something. To meet is an act of mutual recognition. When two persons recognize each other, they create a "we" in which they are equal, and free to be who they are as individuals. For Hegel, this is the foundation of love and friendship, as well as society.

Is it possible to meet a whale in this sense? The whale is, after all, a mysterious being that we know very little about. We don't even inhabit the same element as the whale.

But once we did.

As I watch the imprints of your body on your paintings, I wonder if our hands and arms somehow can remember that once they were fins. Do they miss the oceans they left millions of years ago, when our precursors hoisted themselves out of the water and onto land?

It fascinates me to think about this crucial event and about the vast number of species that evolved from the first four-legged terrestrial beings. Many of them remained on land where they improved their skills. Some developed thumbs, and bigger brains, which they used to invent writing, maps, capitalism, artificial intelligence, and other technologies mainly used for domination and exploitation.

For some strange reason, a terrestrial tetrapod called Pakicetus, the being that would become a whale, decided to return to its lost home under water. Eventually, it got rid of its limbs, and learned how to sing.

We don't know much about whales. They chose to return to the ocean, and we chose to stay on the ground. But once, we were alike. I think our bodies still miss the oceans. It's too late for us to go back, but at least we can meet those who did.

Best,

Letter from Jens Soneryd to Kim Nekarda. 1 July-3 July, 2017. Åplus, Berlin.











Out of your depth-into the deep (P. Hoare) / 2014 / vinyl color & body print on cotton / 220 x 170 cm







\* 1973 in Gießen

1996-99 Akademie der Bildenden Künste Stuttgart

1999-03 Akademie der Bildenden Künste Munich

2002 Meisterschüler

2003 Diplom, Akademie der Bildenden Künste Munich

## Ausstellungen (Auswahl)

#### 2017

Vom Mittelatlantischen Rücken ins Auge des Sturms, Hanse Wissenschaftskolleg, Delmenhorst, Germany (solo) spermwhales in limbo, A+, Berlin, Germany (solo) Malerei aus der Kunstsammlung der Stadt Lingen, Kunstverein Lingen Kunsthalle, Germany

#### 2015

J'adore, Kunstverein Lingen Kunsthalle, Germany

#### 2013

l'oiseau présente ... Die Mähne des Wildpferdes teilen, Ballhaus Ost, Berlin, Germany

#### 2012

von einem Rätsel zum andern, Kunstverein Lingen Kunsthalle, Germany (solo)

es gibt eine andere Welt, aber sie ist in dieser , Clages, Cologne, Germany (solo)

#### 2011

Starke Emergenz, Kunstraum Innsbruck, Austria Think about your troubles, Koffer, Berlin, Germany (solo) Field of Questions, Galerie Eva Winkeler, Cologne, Germany

#### 2010

Think about your troubles, Atelierfrankfurt, Frankfurt am Main, Germany (solo)

#### 2009

Marlene et Helena, KWADRAT, Berlin, Berlin (solo) Malerei ist immer abstrakt, Pinakothek der Moderne Munich / Glaspalast Augsburg, Germany

#### 2008

Wu Fu Ling Men, KWADRAT, Berlin, Germany (solo) Schnecke, Vogel, Katze und Qualle, Galerie Mezzanin, Vienna, Austria Zehntausend, Neuer Kunstverein Giessen, Germany (solo)

#### 2007

Strategien der Erzählung heute / 1, Station 64.01, Frankfurt am Main, Germany Unsere Affekte fliegen..., Galerie Sandra Bürgel, Berlin, Germany

#### 2006

Hinterconti, Hamburg, Germany Hush, Rraum, Frankfurt am Main, Germany (solo) La Boum 2, Galerie Sies und Höke, Düsseldorf, Germany The possibility of being real/part one, Autocenter, Berlin, Germany pigment piano marble, Maipu 327, Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### 2005

Galerie Rüdiger Schöttle, Munich, Germany Center, Berlin, Germany (solo) La grande faveur, Galerie Johann Widauer, Innsbruck, Austria Murals festival, Gdansk, Poland Painting Berlin, Galerie Jan Wentrup, Berlin, Germany

#### 2004

Debutanten O4, Galerie der Künstler, Munich, Germany Junge Malerei, UBS, Galerie Barbara Gross, Munich, Germany Looking at painting, Galerie Tanit, Munich, Germany Universal Outstretch, Flaca, London, UK Reuter, Tharandterstraße 19, Dresden, Germany

#### 2003

The state of the upper floor: Panorama, Kunstverein Munich, Germany Freiraum, Overbeck-Gesellschaft, Lübeck, Germany

#### 2002

Event horizon, Lothringer 13/Halle, Munich, Germany Landschaft 300qm, Hohenzollernstraße 113, Munich, Germany

#### 2001

count down, Kunstverein Munich, Germany

## **Preise und Stipendien**

2017 Fellow am Hanse Wissenschaftskolleg, Delmenhorst, Germany

2014 SoArt Stipendium, Millstättersee, Austria

2012 Lingener Kunstpreis

2007 Reisestipendium, Hessische Kulturstiftung, Peking, China

2004 Debutantenpreis, Bayerisches Staatsministerium für Wissenschaft,

Forschung und Kunst

1997 Joe & Xaver Fuhr Preis

### **Publikationen**

2013 Moby Dick Filet No 93, The Castaway, Harpune Verlag, Vienna, Austria 2013 Lingener Kunstpreis 1994–2012, Meike Behm, Heiner Schepers,

Kunstverein Lingen, Germany

2012 von einem Rätsel zum andern, Kim Nekarda, Meike Behm,

StrzeleckiBooks, Kunstverein Lingen, Germany

2011 Starke Emergenz, Veit Loers, Verlag der Buchhandlung Walther König,

Kunstraum Innsbruck, Austria

2009 Marlène et Héléna, Kim Nekarda, argobooks, Berlin, Germany

2008 maecenas, Hessische Kulturstiftung, Wiesbaden, Germany

Giant Fish Lake, Issue 15, The Mix (Text)

2005 bell, volume one, time (Poster)

2004 When you want a tigers cub you have to enter the tigers den,

Kim Nekarda, BBK Munich, Germany

Issue 6, Techno (Poster)



Stromstrasse 38 10551 Berlin

mail@aplusaplus.de +49 152 53 613 714