

Future Bodies
Bart Hess 2007 - 2017

Exhibition: 24 June - 1 October 2017
Stedelijk Museum 's-Hertogenbosch
The Netherlands



First museum solo of Dutch designer Bart Hess

Since graduating in 2007 Dutch designer Bart Hess positions himself on the crossroads between product design, fashion and art. Over the last decade he has presented numerous experimental material studies, videos and photographs. This work is centred on the relation between person and material, nature and technology. He shot to fame with his *Slime Dress* for Lady Gaga, which also won him the Young Dutch Design Award.

Bart Hess is fascinated by the human body which he tries to dress, decorate or alienate in different ways, in a manner that has little to do with fashion or styling. Hess films or photographs his designs and performances. This documentary work – which is often reminiscent of science fiction – is in a certain sense Bart Hess' real work.

Hess' designs seduce, perturb, attract and repulse. High-tech materials blend with the bodies of the filmed models. This is so convincing that the video *Mutants* went viral on the internet: what looks like a digital animation is actually a filmed performance in a latex bodysuit.

The tension between the virtual and the tangible is a constant in his designs, but in the last few years the physical aspect has become more important for Bart Hess. The impact and interaction with the viewer has become more direct, which is why he has recently moved on from photographs and videos to theatrical installations.

About Bart Hess

Bart Hess (Geldrop, The Netherlands, 1984) has secured a prominent position in the international design world. He has worked with Lucy McRae, Lady Gaga, Iris van Herpen, Nick Knight, Walter van Beirendonck and others. Bart Hess graduated from the Design Academy Eindhoven in 2007. He worked for four years in London and returned to The Netherlands at the beginning of 2016.

This exhibition in the Stedelijk Museum 's-Hertogenbosch is the first retrospective of the work of Bart Hess, from *A Hunt for High Tech* (2007) to a new interactive work that will première during the exhibition.

mondriaan to dutch design

The exhibition Future Bodies is part of the programme marking the Mondrian to Dutch Design year. For more information: www.visitbrabant.nl/mondriaantodutchdesign.

Visitor Information

Stedelijk Museum 's-Hertogenbosch
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Opening times: Tuesday to Sunday 11.00 am - 5.00 pm.
Closed on Mondays.

Also closed: Carnaval (26 - 28 February), King's Day (27 April), Christmas Day and New Year's Day

Not for publication

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