

JOSEPH LAMBERT

b. 1950, Grand-Halleux, Belgium

Joseph Lambert was born in the small village of Ardennes, Belgium. For years he took a daily bus to work in a protected atelier, where he focused primarily on woodworking. He continued to focus on this for a long time, making colorful furniture of joined lengths of plank, paneling, and lathes fitting the pieces together like puzzles in a sort of homespun marquetry.

This previous experience translates to his drawings. Where before he wasted no piece of wood, in his drawings there is no wasted gesture. He starts a drawing with language and letters though he does not speak very much himself. As he begins one can see the letters with their familiar contours, but he does not stop with a readable paragraph, instead he continues to write over what he has written before until the letters disappear under a mass of marks. He lays his words down in stratum—like geological layers until they are abstracted into superimposed lines of color. Visually these compositions could be perceived as vast foggy landscapes that sometimes lead into primary forests, or to the edge of the sea. He sees them as letters and stories...they are his mode of visual speech in lieu of his physical reluctance to communicate verbally.

Exhibitions:

- 2022: Summer Improv: Bibi's Choice, Cavin-Morris Gallery, New York, NY
Natural Abstraction, Cavin-Morris Gallery, New York, NY
- 2019: Effusions of Light, Cavin-Morris Gallery, New York, NY
Mavericks II, Cavin-Morris Gallery, New York, NY
- 2018: Do the Write Thing 2: Read Between the Lines, Galerie Christian Berst, Paris, France
Outsider Art Fair, represented by Cavin-Morris Gallery, Paris, France
Summer Collection 3, Musée Art et Marges, Brussels, Belgium
Les Refuges du Récit. Ecritures, langues et mondes imaginaires à partir de l'art brut, Lille Métropole Musée d'Art Moderne, Lille, France
Outsider Art Fair, represented by Cavin-Morris Gallery, New York, NY
- 2017: Outsider Art Fair, represented by Cavin-Morris Gallery, Paris, France
Knock Outsider Komiks, Musée Art et Marges, Brussels, Belgium

Outsider Art Fair, represented by Cavin-Morris Gallery, New York, NY

2016: Outsider Art Fair, represented by Cavin-Morris Gallery, Paris, France

Cavin-Morris Summer Spotlight, Cavin-Morris Gallery, New York, NY

Outsider Art Fair, represented by Cavin-Morris Gallery, New York, NY

Maverick, Cavin-Morris Gallery, New York, NY

World Made By Hand, Andrew Edlin Gallery, New York, NY

Tell It Slant, Frith Street Gallery, London, UK

2015: Outsider Art Fair, represented by La 'S' Grand Atelier, Paris, France

2014: Art brut masterpieces & découvertes: carte blanche à Bruno Decharme, Galerie Christian Berst, Paris, France

Collection abcd / Bruno Decharme, La Maison Rouge, Paris, France

Awards:

2007: Finalist, Outsider Art/Art Brut Art Absolutement Prize

Collections:

Collection de l'Art Brut, Lausanne

Madmusée, Liège, Belgium

abcd Collection, Montreuil, France

Museum of Everything, London, England

Hervé Lancelin Collection, Luxembourg

Publications:

L'art brut by Collectif. Martine Lusardy, Michel Thévoz. Paris, Citadelles & Mazenod Editions, Pages 338, 340, 341, 2018

Do the Write Thing 2: Read Between the Lines, exhibition catalogue, Galerie Christian Berst, Paris, France, 2018

Art Brut Masterpieces & Découvertes: Carte Blanche à Bruno Decharme, exhibition catalogue, Christian Berst art brut, Paris, France, 2014