

FONDATION BEYELER

Biography

- 1968
Born in Remscheid, West Germany.
- 1978–1982
Devotes all free time to a passion for astronomy, in particular observing the sun and drawing sunspots.
- 1981
Joins local green/left-wing youth club of the Lutheran church and visits peace-movement festivals in subsequent years.
- 1982
Meets long-time friends Lutz Hülle and Alexandra Bircken (1983) in school.
- 1983
First visit to London. Sees Culture Club in concert.
- 1984
Begins to design and make clothes for himself and friends.
Comes out as gay, while Bronski Beat's "Smalltown Boy" is in the charts.
- 1985–1986
Seeks out modern and Pop art in museums in the Rhineland as well as in New York, Washington, D.C., and Philadelphia while visiting an American pen pal.
Takes drawing classes and starts to paint.
Makes music with Bert Leßmann.
- 1986
First visit to the ecumenical Taizé community in France.
Experiments with digital Canon photocopy machine.
- 1987
Graduates from Leibniz-Gymnasium, Remscheid, and moves to Hamburg to begin his civil service, rejecting military service, at the Red Cross and the Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund (Workers' Samaritan Federation).
- 1988
First exhibition of photocopy work at Café Gnosa, Hamburg.
- 1989
Starts taking photographs for magazines *i-D*, *tango*, and *Tempo*.
Moves to Berlin to study photography at Lette-Verein (Lette Association), and quits after six weeks to move back to Hamburg on November 8, one day before the fall of the Berlin Wall.
- 1990
Meets Maureen Paley in Hamburg.
Moves to Bournemouth, UK, to study photography at Bournemouth and Poole College of Art and Design.
- 1992
Moves to London to live with Alexandra Bircken, Lutz Hülle, and Lars Morgenroth. Regularly contributes to *i-D*.
Meets Daniel Buchholz in Cologne.
- 1993
First solo show at Daniel Buchholz and Buchholz & Buchholz, Cologne. Meets Isa Genzken.
First solo show with Maureen Paley at Interim Art, London.
- 1994
Moves to New York with first solo show at Andrea Rosen Gallery, New York.
- 1995
Publishes his first book with Taschen.
Meets partner, artist Jochen Klein, in New York.
First institutional solo exhibition at Kunsthalle Zürich, accompanied by an artist book.
Is awarded ars viva prize, Germany.
Is awarded Kunstpreis der Böttcherstrasse in Bremen.
Moves to Berlin for three months before settling back in London in 1996.
- 1996
Jochen Klein moves to London.
- 1997
First institutional exhibition in London at Chisenhale Gallery and publication of the artist book *Concorde*.
Jochen Klein is diagnosed with AIDS in June and dies in July.
Moves to Cologne for six months in the wake of Klein's death.
Becomes copublisher of the German music magazine *Spex*.
- 1998
Moves back to London. Takes a studio at 21 Herald Street.
Visiting professorship at the Hochschule für bildende Künste, Hamburg (1998–99).
Begins to exhibit photographs solely made in the darkroom. Releases body of abstract and semiabstract works as *Parkett Edition*, 1992–98.
- 2000
Is awarded the Turner Prize, Tate Britain, London, and that same autumn exhibits at Whitechapel Art Gallery and the Royal Academy of Arts.

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2001

Moves studio to 223 Cambridge Heath Road.

Meets Conor Donlon, who joins the studio as main assistant until 2004 and is an international exhibitions assistant until 2008.

First large-scale museum exhibition tour opens at Deichtorhallen, Hamburg, and travels to Turin, Paris, and Copenhagen/Humlebæk.

2002

Wins competition for the AIDS Memorial of the City of Munich.

2003–2009

Professorship of interdisciplinary art at Städelschule, Frankfurt am Main.

2003

Solo exhibition at Tate Britain, London.

2004

Takes a second home in Berlin.

Meets partner, artist Anders Clausen, in Berlin.

First of a series of long-term installations at the Panorama Bar in the Berlin club Berghain.

2005

Anders Clausen moves to London.

First exhibition of *truth study center* at Maureen Paley, London.

Federico Martelli joins studio as an assistant, until 2010, and is international exhibitions assistant to present.

2006–2008

Solo show at P.S.1, New York; North America survey exhibition tours museums in Chicago, Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., and Mexico City.

Opens the nonprofit exhibition space Between Bridges on Cambridge Heath Road, which continues until 2011.

2007

Rents a studio on Prinzessinnenstrasse in Berlin as a space to experiment in.

2008

Karl Kolbitz joins studio as main assistant until 2013.

Solo exhibition *Lighter* at Hamburger Bahnhof – Museum für Gegenwart, Berlin.

2009

Is awarded Kulturpreis der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Photographie, Heidelberg.

Takes position as Artist Trustee on the Board of Tate until 2014.

Takes part in the 53rd Venice Biennale curated by Daniel Birnbaum.

Begins switching from analogue to digital photography and travels extensively in the following years.

2011

Moves main studio from London to Prinzessinnenstrasse, Berlin.

Takes house in Clerkenwell, London.

2012–2013

South American museum exhibition tour goes to São Paulo, Bogotá, Lima, and Santiago de Chile.

2012

Neue Welt exhibition at Kunsthalle Zürich accompanied by his fourth artist book published with Taschen.

Retrospective at Moderna Museet, Stockholm, which travels to Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen – K21, Düsseldorf, 2013.

Is elected full member of the Akademie der Künste, Berlin.

2013

Is elected full member of the Royal Academy of Arts, London.

Reopens Between Bridges in Keithstrasse, Berlin, with exhibitions of British artists Patrick Caulfield and Scott King.

2014

Visits Saint Petersburg three times as artist in Manifesta 10.

Joins David Zwirner, New York.

Is awarded the Charles Wollaston Award, Royal Academy of Arts, London.

2015

Revisits his interest in making music and performs in video work *Instrument*.

Solo exhibition *Your Body is Yours* opens at National Museum of Art, Osaka.

Is awarded Hasselblad Foundation International Award in Photography, Gothenburg.

2016

Devises and designs an anti-Brexit/pro-EU campaign in the run-up to the EU referendum in the UK.

Releases two music records *2016 / 1986 EP* and *Device Control EP* as well as Fragile band album *That's Desire / Here We Are EP*.

Spends three months in Fire Island Pines, New York, working on music. First live performance at Union Pool, New York.

2017

Is awarded the B.Z.-Kulturpreis, Berlin. Solo exhibition at Tate Modern, London.

Explores new medium of a light and sound installation at South Tank, Tate Modern, London.

Redesigns pro-EU/anti-populism campaign and expands his political activism.