

JOHN ISAACS



Past Errors of Judgement Made Real in the Future Lives Affected (2010) Wood, steel, plastic, leather, rubber, 210 x 115 x 95 cm

BIO

John Isaacs first studied biology in the south of England in Exeter. He would later use the knowledge of evolution and nature he obtained there in his art. He considers it his task to connect the rational, scientific view of flora, fauna and, in particular, humans with human qualities such as emotions, humour, and intuition. In 1988, he decided to study art and went to Cheltenham Art College in Gloucestershire for three years. He received the title of Master of Sculpture in London at the renowned Slade School of Fine Art. In 1996, he earned a scholarship in Los Angeles and from 1999 to 2000 he was a resident artist at Imperial College in London. In 2005, he was a guest lecturer at the Getty Foundation in Los Angeles, and in 2015 at the Academy of Fine Arts in Karlsruhe. The art of Isaacs, who lives and creates in Berlin, has been presented in many solo exhibitions in Germany and abroad and has been regularly represented in group exhibitions in many galleries and museums, including at the beginning of his career in the 1990s in the context of the Young British Artists.

CV

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2019

Dust, Travesia Cuatro, Madrid, Spain

John Isaacs, This is the place, Artvera's, Geneva, Switzerland

2018

Archipelago, Galleria Poggiali, Milan, Italy

2016

Only Words, Aeroplastics Contemporary Gallery, Brussels, Belgium

The 13 Corners, Solo Exhibition, Travesia Cuatro, Guadalajara, Mexico

2015

Inconsolus, Votes for children, Travesia Cuatro, Madrid, Spain

2014

The architecture of empathy, Galleria Massimo Minini, Brescia, Italy

The architecture of empathy, Galerie Haas Zürich, Switzerland

2013

The hand that rocks the cradle, Galerie Michael Haas, Berlin, Germany

The architecture of empathy, Travesia Cuatro, Madrid, Spain

2011

The closest I ever came to you, Aeroplastics Contemporary Gallery, Brussels, Belgium

2010

Tears welling up inside, Wendt + Friedman Gallery, Berlin, Germany

A perfect soul, OPA, Guadalajara, Mexico

You are innocent in your dreams, Travesia Cuatro, Madrid, Spain

2009

Let the golden age begin, Museum 52, London, UK

2008

Gathering Dust, Travesia Cuatro, Madrid, Spain

Glass Eye ... Glass Soul, Museum 52, New York, US

2007

You said you would always be there, Aeroplastics Contemporary Gallery, Brussels, Belgium

The supernatural world in which I am professionally involved, Invaliden 1, Berlin, Germany

A perfect soul, Museum 52, London, UK

2006

What is it that there is something and nothing, Museum 52, Basel, Switzerland

2005

Are you like me full of hope and full of fear, Museum 52, London, UK

Are you like me full of hope and full of fear, Feigen Contemporary, New York, US

2004

Are we not the same you and I, Museum 52, London, UK

If not now then when, Gallery Judin, Zurich, Switzerland

2004

Other peoples lives, 20.21 Gallery, Essen, Germany

Is more than this more than this, De Bond, Bruges, Belgium

2003

Voices from the id, Beaconsfield, London, UK
Dumb planets are round too, VTO Gallery, London, UK
Dumb planets are round too, Feigen Contemporary, New York, US

2002

Are you still mad at me, Reykjavík Art Museum, Iceland
Voices from the id, Aeroplastics Contemporary Gallery, Brussels, Belgium

2000

The Turning Point, MArtLab Gallery, Imperial College Residency, London, UK
The Diary of a Loner, 20.21 Gallery, Essen, Germany

1999

The Incomplete History of Unknown Discovery, 20.21 Gallery Essen, Germany

1998

The Diary of a Loner, Chapter Arts Center, Cardiff, UK

1997

The Matrix of Amnesia, Imperial College, London, UK

Selected Group Exhibitions

2021

Burning House, Antoine de Galbert collection, Muzeum Sztuki, Łódź, Poland

2020

Sublimi Anatomie, Palazzo Esposizioni, Rome, Italy
Please leave this world, Maëlle Galerie, Paris, France
Touriste! Art Contemporain, L'Atelier Espace arts plastiques, Mitry-Mory, France
Moving Energies – 10 years me Collectors Room Berlin, Germany
Street Trash, Sculpture as special effect, Friche la Belle de Mai, Marseille, France
Portal, Schau Fenster Artspace Berlin, Germany

2019

Painting Still Alive, Centre of Contemporary Art, Torun, Poland
Wundersame Welten. Von Alten Meistern bis zu zeitgenössischer Kunst, Galerie Michael Haas / Kunst Lager Haas, Berlin, Germany
Asymmetrische Demobilisierung part II, Luis Leu, Karlsruhe, Germany
Too Cute! Sweet is about to get sinister, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery, Birmingham, UK
Feeling called Love, Kunstmuseum Bochum, Germany
Souvenirs de voyage. La collection Antoine de Galbert, Musée de Grenoble, France
The statues also die, The Daniel Cordier collection, Les Abattoirs, Museum of Modern Art, Toulouse, France
Beyond The Road, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK
Vertikalwinkel, Schaufenster Berlin, Germany
Both hands on the wheel, Hans Alf Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark

2018

Sticky Business - The Temptation of Sugar in Art, Stedelijk Museum Schiedam, Netherlands
Proof of Life, Weserburg, Museum für moderne Kunst, Bremen, Germany
Why Look at Animals?, The Atkinson Art Gallery, Southport, UK
NGORONGORO II – Artist Weekend Berlin, Lehderstrasse 34, Berlin, Germany
Da uno a Dieci, Galleria Massimo Minini, Brescia, Italy
Eat me, Kunstmuseum Trapholt, Kolding, Denmark
Il terzo giorno, curated by Didi Bozzini, Palazzo del Governatore, Parma, Italy
I left my dog in the car, Galerie Russi Klenner, Berlin, Germany
Kanu Islands, Darmstadt, Germany
Art Biesenthal 2018, Wehrmühle Biesenthal, Germany
Fo You, Marienburg, Berlin, Germany

2017

So many steps, so little time, De Bond, Bruges, Belgium
Daydreaming with UNKLE Presents...The Road: SOHO, Lazarides, London, UK
Small – an exploration of miniature, Sexauer Gallery, Berlin, Germany
Faith & Fathom, Galleria Poggiali, Florence, Italy
Fata Morgana: Selections from the Goss-Michael Collection, The Goss-Michael Foundation, Dallas, US
My Abstract World, me Collectors Room, Berlin, Germany
Living in Dreams, De Bond, Bruges, Belgium
Red Desert, Artvera's Gallery, Geneva, Switzerland
Elastic Collisions, Kunsthalle Exnergasse, Vienna, Austria
The inner skin - Art and Shame, Museum für Kunst, Architektur, Design, Marta Herford, Germany
Washington 186, Aeroplastics Contemporary Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
Meet me in Heaven, Schloss Tüßling, Germany
Unique, John Isaacs, Galleria Poggiali, Pietrasanta, Italy
Abstracted #1, Aeroplastics Contemporary Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
Abstracted #2, Aeroplastics Contemporary Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
Time for Outrage, Great Eastern Street Gallery Wall, initiated by Alteria Art, London, UK
Kunstschorle, Ventilator, Berlin, Germany
Friends & Family, Galerie Eva Hober, Paris, France

2016

Forever, Bobox, Kortrijk, Belgium
2050. A Brief History of the Future, Palazzo Reale, Milan, Italy
The Difference between Sunrise and Sunset, Schloss Tüßling, Germany
Private Exposure, me Collectors Room, Berlin, Germany
Divine Decadence, Kasteel van Gaasbeek, Belgium
Daydreaming With...Stanley Kubrick, Somerset House, London, UK

The De Lirio Curiosity Shop Vol. 1, Galerie Braubachfive, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
Sternstunde 100 Zeichnungen, Galerie Michael Haas, Berlin, Germany
Weird and Wonderful, From the Olbricht Collection, Museum Folkwang, Essen, Germany

2015

Salviamo la pelle, Galleria Claudio Poleschi Arte Contemporanea, Lucca, Italy
Sueurs Froides, ENAC - Leonard de Vinci Cultural Centre, Toulouse, France
Modell Mittelholzer – Die Afrikaflüge als Anlass, Kulturraum am Klosterhof, St. Gallen, Switzerland
NGORONGORO – Artist Weekend Berlin, Lehderstrasse 34, Berlin, Germany
Humble Me, Aeroplastics Contemporary Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
Press Art, Galerie Pascal Polar, Brussels, Belgium
But do we know exactly where it breaks? Galerie Suzanne Tarasieve Paris, Loft 19, Paris, France
Playing Pool with a Rope, Metropol Park, Berlin, Germany
Kunstenfestival Watou 2015, Watou, Belgium
Arcadia Unbound, Funkhaus Berlin, Germany
Tous pour Tous, Centre culturel Les Chiroux, Liège, France
Hospice Thousand Thighs, CAN, Art Centre Neuchatel, Switzerland
Falling Fictions, me Collectors Room, Berlin, Germany
Imago Mundi - Map of the new Art, Luciano Benetton Collection, Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Venice, Italy
Absurd builders, handymen utopia, Abbaye Saint André, Centre d'art contemporain, Meymac, France
Forgiveness and Reconciliation, Musei Vaticani, Rome, Italy
About trees, Zentrum Paul Klee, Bern, Switzerland
Dark Ages, Aeroplastics Contemporary Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
2050. A Brief History of the Future, Royal Museums of Fine Arts of Belgium, Brussels
Fleischeslust, Museum Villa Rot, Burgrieden-Rot, Germany

2014

Freedom not Genius, Works from Damien Hirst's Murderme Collection, Multimedia Art Museum, Moscow, Russia
Kunst und Alchemie – Das Geheimnis der Verwandlung, Museum Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf, Germany
Full House: 100 Artists, Aeroplastics Contemporary Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
Aus dem Fundus der botanischen Semantik, Cruise & Callas, Berlin, Germany
Touch, Galerie Hartwich, Sellin, Germany
Le Mur, Works from the Collection of Antoine de Galbert, La Maison Rouge, Paris, France
Ideal Standard, Oficina de Proyectos Culturales, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico
Schwarze Sauberei, Tete, Berlin, Germany
The Remarkable Lightness of Being, Aeroplastics Contemporary Gallery, Brussels, Belgium

2013

Glasstress: White Light/White Heat, Collateral Event of the 55th International Art Exhibition
La Biennale di Venezia, Italy
Babel, Botanique, Brussels, Belgium
C'est la vie – Das ganze Leben, Deutsches Hygiene Museum, Dresden, Germany
Signs of the Times, Carré Sainte-Anne, Montpellier, France
Flesh Reality, Point Zero, London, UK
The name is Burroughs – Expanded Media, Sammlung Falckenberg, Deichtorhallen Hamburg,
Germany
Wonderful – Humboldt, Krokodil & Polke, Die Olbricht Collection, Me Collectors Room, Berlin,
Germany
UndeREALisme, Centre d'Art Contemporain, Perpignan, France
Kaboom!, Weserburg, Museum für moderne Kunst, Bremen, Germany
Viewing Room, All Visual Arts, London, UK
Body Wars, Bargehouse, Oxo Tower Wharf, London, UK
Highlights from the Collection II, The Goss-Michael Foundation, Dallas, US

2012

Morbid Curiosity: The Richard Harris Collection, Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, US
Metamorphosis: The Transformation of Being, All Visual Arts, London, UK
Freedom not Genius, Works from Damien Hirst's Murderme Collection, Pinacoteca Giovanni e Marella
Agnelli, Turin, Italy
Death: A Self-Portrait, The Richard Harris Collection, Wellcome Collection, London, UK
Sculptors' Drawings and Works on Paper, Pangolin London, UK
Alice im Wunderland der Kunst, Hamburger Kunsthalle, Hamburg, Germany
The Aspiration Factory, Aeroplastics Contemporary Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
Friends & Family, Kenny Schachter, Rove, London, UK
Het Gewichtige Lichaam, Museum Boerhaave, The Netherlands
Documenta 13, The Worldly House, Kassel, Germany
Face Off, Galerie Gebr. Lehmann, Berlin, Germany
The name is Burroughs – Expanded Media, ZKM, Museum für Neue Kunst, Karlsruhe, Germany
The End, Jacob's Island Gallery, London, UK
Voyage Voyage, Maison de l'Amerique Latine, Paris, France
Artist's Merchandising Art, Wonderloch Kellerland, Berlin, Germany / LA, US
Kunstenfestival Watou, Watou, Belgium

The End of Everything / A New Beginning, Larm Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark

Till Rabus, Artiste Invité: John Isaacs, Gallery Une, Auvernier-Neuchâtel, Switzerland

Gromiam - Les 20 ans de Groland, Miam, France

Schriftuur/Scripture, De Bond, Bruges, Belgium

Babel, Palais des Beaux-Arts de Lille, France

2011

Wax – Sensation in Contemporary Sculpture, GL Strand, Copenhagen, Denmark

Verschwende deine Jugend, Wendt + Friedmann Galerie, Berlin, Germany

Tous Cannibales!, La Maison Rouge, Paris, France

La Vallée Patibulaire, kuratiert von C. Bittermann, Berlin, Germany

Human + The Future of our Species, Science Gallery, Dublin, Ireland

WAX – Sensation in Contemporary Sculpture, KUNSTEN Museum of Modern Art, Aalborg, Denmark

All Cannibals!, ME Collectors Room, Berlin, Germany

Zwei Sammler: Thomas Olbricht und Harald Falckenberg, Deichtorhallen, Hamburg, Germany

Berlin Klondyke, curated by Irmelin and Reinald Nohal, Odd Gallery, Dawson, Canada

Bulbus oculi – my precious, Kunstruimte deWILLEM3, Netherlands

The Dicks & Bonus Material, Teapot Gallery, Cologne, Germany

Sounds like Architecture, Castles of Poeke and Schuurlo, St Maria Aalter, Belgium

Portraits de Collectionneurs – Jocelyne et Fabrice Petignat, Muro, Geneva

Dead Lines, Von der Heydt Kunsthalle, Wuppertal-Barmen, Germany

Habiter / Collection Frac Midi-Pyrénées les Abattoirs, Toulouse, France

Mémoires du futur, la collection Olbricht, La Maison Rouge, Paris, France

Paradies, Wendt + Friedmann Gallery, Berlin, Germany

Wild Thing, Aberystwyth Arts Centre, Aberystwyth, UK

2010

Tier-Werden Mensch-Werden, NGBK, Berlin, Germany

Zaunkönig, Wendt+Friedmann Galerie, Berlin, Germany

Can birds fly?, Galerie Parisa Kind, Frankfurt, Germany

2008

Tell me, Witzenhausen Gallery, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Gravity, Artium, Centro Museo Vasco de Arte Contemporáneo, Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain

Deadly Serious, EXPRMNTL Galerie, Toulouse, France

12 – Works on paper, Gallery Bernd Kugler, Innsbruck, Austria

NéoFutur, Les Abattoirs, Museum of Modern Art, Toulouse, France

Evolution, Max Lang Gallery, New York, US

Paul Thek. Werkschau im Kontext zeitgenössischer Kunst, Collection Falckenberg, Hamburg, Germany

Holy Smoke, Cokkie Snoei, Rotterdam, Netherlands

Deadly Serious, Exprm´ntl Gallery, Toulouse, France

Go for it!, Olbricht Collection (a sequel), Neues Museum Weserburg, Bremen, Germany
Lustwarande 08 – Wanderland, Park de Oude Warande, Fundament Foundation, Tilburg, Netherlands
Everybody knows this is nowhere, Wendt+Friedmann Galerie, Berlin, Germany
When fears become form, CAN, Centre d'Art Neuchâtel, Switzerland
Nature is a Workshop, Turner Contemporary, Kent, UK

2007

Mutatis, mutandis - Collection d'Antoine de Galbert, La Maison Rouge, Paris, France
Say it isn't so, Neues Museum Weserburg, Bremen, Germany
Rocker's Island. Olbricht Collection, Museum Folkwang, Essen, Germany
Symbolism and Contemporary Art, Von der Heydt Museum, Wuppertal, Germany
Wellcome Collection, The Wellcome Trust, London, UK
Sick. Between body and mind, Dr. Guislain Museum, Ghent, Belgium
Fearful Objects, Kavi Gupta Gallery, Chicago, US
Rare Essence, Aeroplastics, Brussels, Belgium
Paul Thek. Werkschau im Kontext zeitgenössischer Kunst, ZKM, Karlsruhe, Germany

2006

Blessed are the Merciful, Kinz + Tillou Fine Art, New York, US
Assemblage III, Museum 52, London, UK
Global Tour, W139, Amsterdam, Netherlands
L'infinito dentro lo sguardo, Galleria d'Arte Moderna Palazzo Forti, Verona, Italy
Absolumental, Les Abattoires, Toulouse, France
Mankind. Story of a wound, S.M.A.K. Museum of Modern Art, Ghent, Belgium
L'Homme-Paysage, Palais des Beaux Arts, Lille, France
In the darkest hour there may be light, Serpentine Gallery, London, UK

2005

New Sculpture, Museum 52, London, UK
Les Grands Spectacles, Museum of Modern Art, Salzburg, Austria
Boost in the Shell, De Bond, Bruges, Belgium
FRAKTALE IV, Palast der Republik, Berlin, Germany
Oracle of Truth, Aeroplastics Contemporary Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
Chronic Epoch, Beaconsfield, London, UK

2004

Without fear or reproach, Aeroplastics Contemporary Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
Blickverbindung, Produzentengalerie, Hamburg, Germany
Mike Kelley – The Uncanny, Tate Liverpool, Liverpool & Museum Moderner Kunst Ludwig, Vienna, Austria
Bad Behaviour, Arts Council Collection, National touring exhibition, UK
Pretty World, Aeroplastics Contemporary, Brussels, Belgium
Extended horizons, Galleria d'Arte Moderna Palazzo Forti, Verona, Italy
The Ten Commandments, Stiftung Deutsches Hygiene-Museum, Dresden, Germany

Terror, Beaconsfield, London, UK
L'intime, Behind closed doors, La Maison Rouge, Paris, France
Animals, Haunch of Venison, London, UK
De leur temps. Collections privées Françaises, Musée des Beaux-Arts, Tourcoing, France
Dreamscapes, Aeroplastics Contemporary Gallery, Brussels, Belgium

2003

Melodrama, MARCO, Vigo, Spain
STOP!, South Bank, London, UK
Moving Energies # 01, Museum Folkwang, Essen, Germany
The Human Zoo, Hatton Gallery, Newcastle, UK
Entranced, VTO, London, UK
Bad Behaviour, Arts Council Collection National touring exhibition, various locations, UK
Without fear or reproach, Witte Zaal, Ghent, Belgium
Opzij van het kijken, Watou, Belgium
Female Turbulence, Aeroplastics Contemporary Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
Real by Reel, Wouter van Leeuwen Gallery, Amsterdam, Netherlands
Einblicke in Privatsammlungen, Museum Folkwang, Essen, Germany
Rancho Notorious, Pearl, London, U

2002

Melodrama, Centro Museo Vasco de Arte Contemporáneo, Vitoria-Gasteiz & Palacio de los Condes de Gabia/Centro José Guerrero, Granada, Spain
Ebenbilder, Ruhrlandmuseum, Essen, Germany
Iconoclash, ZKM, Karlsruhe, Germany
Kunst nach Kunst, Neues Museum Weserburg, Bremen, Germany
Magic, VTO, London, UK
Wächserne Identitäten, Georg Kolbe Museum, Berlin, Germany

2001

Big Blue – Century City, Tate Modern, London, UK
Ohne Zögern – Without Hesitation – Sammlung Olbricht, Neues Museum Weserburg, Bremen, Germany
Interaktionen – Natur & Architektur, S.M.A.K., Stadt Borken, Germany
Minimal – Maximal, Chiba City Museum of Art, Chiba, National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto, Japan
The Tattoo Show, Modern Art, London, UK

2000

Katastrophen und Desaster, Museum Folkwang, Essen, Germany
Spectacular Bodies, Hayward Gallery, London, UK
Disasters of War, KW, Berlin, Germany
Front, Bilis, London, UK

1999

Minimal – Maximal, Neues Museum Weserburg, Bremen, Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden, CGAC, Spain

Bad Bad, Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden, Center for Contemporary Visual Arts, Bilbao, Spain

Nerve Systems, ICA, London, UK

Unsichere Grenzen, Kunsthalle zu Kiel, Kiel, Germany

Wohin kein Auge reicht, Deichtorhallen, Hamburg, Germany

A mountain and a valley, Cubitt Street Gallery, London, UK

1998

Post Naturam – Nach der Natur, Ausstellungshalle zeitgenössische Kunst Münster, Germany

Passage, Kunsthaus Hamburg, Germany

Host, Tramway, Glasgow, UK

Plaats / The Kindness of Strangers, W139, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Post Naturam – Nach der Natur, Hessisches Landesmuseum, Darmstadt, Germany

Project 8, Total Museum of Contemporary Art, Seoul, Korea

Near, Sharjah Art Museum, United Arab Emirates

1997

Urbane Legenden – London, Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden, Germany

Genetic Choices, Science Museum, London, UK

Crash, Camden Arts Centre, London, UK

Volume I, Meyer Riegger Galerie, Karlsruhe, Germany

1996

Young British Artists VI, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK

Road Works, Camden mix, London, UK

1995

Lost Property, W139 Gallery, Amsterdam & Great Western Studios, London, UK

Ideal Standard Summertime, Lisson Gallery, London, UK

Sick, 152c Brick Lane, London, UK

Postscript, Lisson Gallery, London, UK

1994

Dirty Holes, Modern Art, London, UK

2B&I, Centro Cultural Salmerón, Madrid, Spain

Something's Wrong, Tannery Arts, London, UK

1993

Wonderful Life, Lisson Gallery, London, UK

Outpost, multiple sites, Edinburgh, UK

Wish you were here, Kings Cross, London, UK