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## CHRISTIAN RONCEA

"My work is characterized by a fluid and versatile approach to painting which results in intricate and colorful representations of a fantastical underworld. The seemingly nonchalant, "goopy" formal qualities, mark my underlying critical view on art history's notions of artistic value or quality. I aim to question these notions and embody the boundary-crossing nature of the trickster, along with its representation. The integrated references to art history represent for me, a pretext for building new narratives, as a form of coping with the blurry prognosis of society's future."

Christian Roncea (b.1998) is a Romanian artist and curator living and working in The Hague, NL who graduated from the Royal Academy of Art in The Hague (KABK) in 2020. Christian Roncea constructs worlds reflecting the history of art, thus speculating a dystopic future. The themes revolving around his work are part of an ever-growing research on trickster archetypes and their role in society. His interest in these subjects derives from a desire to demystify the perception on art, to disrupt outdated narratives and to question the Status Quo within the artworld. In 2020 he founded a collaborative curatorial project "Dharma Initiatives" which takes place in off-site locations globally and is presented online through narrative short films and staged documentation. This project questions the very structure of presenting art and blurs the line between curation, design, film-making, photography and art.

### WEBSITES

[dharmainitiatives.net](http://dharmainitiatives.net)

### SOCIAL MEDIA

[www.instagram.com/christianroncea/](https://www.instagram.com/christianroncea/)  
[www.instagram.com/dharma\\_initiatives/](https://www.instagram.com/dharma_initiatives/)

### PLATFORM

Dharma Initiatives

## OPLEIDINGEN

2016 - Fine Arts Den Haag, Koninklijke Academie  
 2020 van Beeldende Kunsten Diploma behaald

## TENTOONSTELLINGEN

- 2023 "Ghosts Whisper Loud and Clear" Zina Gallery Cluj-Napoca, Roemenië [zinagallery.com/ghosts-whisper-loud-and-clear-exhibition-opening/](http://zinagallery.com/ghosts-whisper-loud-and-clear-exhibition-opening/)  
Groep
- 2023 Nothing Sacred 0.5 Gradina Arthub Curated by Christian Roncea  
Groep
- 2022 "Credit history" KEIV Athens, Griekenland [www.ofluxo.net/dirty-laundry-group-show-at-keiv-athens/](http://www.ofluxo.net/dirty-laundry-group-show-at-keiv-athens/)  
Groep
- 2021 Episode 7: "Un soffio pestifero nel cielo nero della notte, una candela brucia" The Hague, Nederland Curated by Dharma Initiatives and Essenza Club [www.essenzaclub.com/episode-7/](http://www.essenzaclub.com/episode-7/)  
Groep
- 2021 "Nothing Sacred" superweakness The Hague, Nederland Curated by Christian Roncea [kubaparis.com/nothing-sacred-at-superweakness/](http://kubaparis.com/nothing-sacred-at-superweakness/)  
Groep
- 2021 "Case Study: The Corporate Stoner" Quartair The Hague, Nederland [www.ofluxo.net/case-study-the-corporate-stoner-group-exhibition-curated-by-christian-roncea-at-quartair-the-hague/](http://www.ofluxo.net/case-study-the-corporate-stoner-group-exhibition-curated-by-christian-roncea-at-quartair-the-hague/)  
Groep
- 2021 "2121 time capsule" Goodbuy Gallery Bucharest, Roemenië  
Groep
- 2021 "I don't know if I'll ever be able to leave this place again."  
Undisclosed Location curatorial project presenting a solo show by David Pricob [tzvetnik.online/article/i-don-t-know-if-i-ll-ever-be-able-to-leave-this-place-again-off-site-presentation-by-david-pricob-at-undisclosed-location-dharma-initiatives?fbclid=IwAR0I8wztwhvv8qe2rT5LLMMvO-BsUTHTFFS2LObVPGfxvTMc54CZ9WL-pc](http://tzvetnik.online/article/i-don-t-know-if-i-ll-ever-be-able-to-leave-this-place-again-off-site-presentation-by-david-pricob-at-undisclosed-location-dharma-initiatives?fbclid=IwAR0I8wztwhvv8qe2rT5LLMMvO-BsUTHTFFS2LObVPGfxvTMc54CZ9WL-pc)  
Solo
- 2021 De sterrentuin II Ketelstraat 32 The Hague, Nederland Curated by Shani Leseman & Caroline Straver [www.instagram.com/p/CTo380Bl-Pd/](https://www.instagram.com/p/CTo380Bl-Pd/)  
Groep
- 2021 "Real Life Shoes" Atelierhaus Klingental Groundfloor Basel, Zwitserland Curated by Jeronim Horvat [kubaparis.com/real-life-](http://kubaparis.com/real-life-)

## PROJECTEN

- 2020 "Dharma Initiatives" Dharma Initiatives Den Haag, Nederland [www.coeval-magazine.com/coeval/dharma-initiatives](http://www.coeval-magazine.com/coeval/dharma-initiatives)
- 2019 The Future Body Nest Den Haag Den Haag, Nederland [nestruimte.nl/en/exhibition/the-future-body/](http://nestruimte.nl/en/exhibition/the-future-body/)

[shoes/](#)  
Groep

- 2020 Episode 6: "Morning" Novorossiysk, Rusland Curated by Dharma Initiatives & Plague [tvetnik.online/article/episode-6-morning-by-plague-dharma-initiatives-at-novorossiysk-russia](https://tvetnik.online/article/episode-6-morning-by-plague-dharma-initiatives-at-novorossiysk-russia)  
Groep
- 2020 Episode 5: "Exmouth" Exmouth, Western-Australia and Texel Island, Nederland Curated by Dharma Initiatives and Underground Flower [tvetnik.online/article/episode-5-exmouth-by-underground-flower-dharma-initiatives-between-texel-island-nl-exmouth-we](https://tvetnik.online/article/episode-5-exmouth-by-underground-flower-dharma-initiatives-between-texel-island-nl-exmouth-we)  
Groep
- 2020 Episode 4: "Greenhouse" Vantaa, Finland Curated by Dharma Initiatives & Light-Harvesting Complex [tvetnik.online/article/episode-4-greenhouse-by-light-harvesting-complex-dharma-initiatives-at-vantaa-finland](https://tvetnik.online/article/episode-4-greenhouse-by-light-harvesting-complex-dharma-initiatives-at-vantaa-finland)  
Groep
- 2020 Episode 3: "Bird Song" Vogelsang, Duitsland Curated by Dharma Initiatives [tvetnik.online/article/episode-3-bird-song-by-christian-thomsen-fjorsk-at-vogelsang-germany](https://tvetnik.online/article/episode-3-bird-song-by-christian-thomsen-fjorsk-at-vogelsang-germany)  
Solo
- 2020 Episode 2: "Dunes" The Hague, Nederland Curated by Christian Roncea [tvetnik.online/article/episode-2-dunes-off-site-project-by-dharma-initiatives-the-hague](https://tvetnik.online/article/episode-2-dunes-off-site-project-by-dharma-initiatives-the-hague)  
Groep
- 2020 "Death Knocks Twice" Sedentary Enslavement Lahaina, Hawaii, Verenigde Staten [www.ofluxo.net/death-knocks-twice-christian-roncea-presented-by-sedentary-enslavement-lahaina-hawaii/](http://www.ofluxo.net/death-knocks-twice-christian-roncea-presented-by-sedentary-enslavement-lahaina-hawaii/)  
Solo
- 2020 Phantasmagoria Schloss Neuschwanstein, Bavaria, Duitsland [www.aqnb.com/2021/03/22/revisiting-the-wintery-imagination-fantasy-atmosphere-of-the-phantasmagoria-offsite-show-at-a-snowcapped-bavarian-castle/](http://www.aqnb.com/2021/03/22/revisiting-the-wintery-imagination-fantasy-atmosphere-of-the-phantasmagoria-offsite-show-at-a-snowcapped-bavarian-castle/)  
Groep
- 2020 "Stendhal Syndrome" Kabk, Gipsenzaal The Hague, Nederland [www.ofluxo.net/stendhal-syndrome-christian-roncea-at-gipsenzaal-kabk-the-hague-nl/](http://www.ofluxo.net/stendhal-syndrome-christian-roncea-at-gipsenzaal-kabk-the-hague-nl/)  
Solo
- 2020 "Best of Graduates 2020" Galerie Ron Mandos Amsterdam, Nederland [ronmandos.nl/exhibition/best-of-graduates-2020/](http://ronmandos.nl/exhibition/best-of-graduates-2020/)  
Groep
- 2020 MY SOLO GROUP SHOW 4 CAV Gallery Bucharest, Roemenië [merg.in/bucuresti/de-facut/avancronici/my-solo-group-show-4-centrul-artelor-vizuale-multimedia-7113.html](http://merg.in/bucuresti/de-facut/avancronici/my-solo-group-show-4-centrul-artelor-vizuale-multimedia-7113.html)  
Groep
- 2019 Episode 1: "Tunnel" The Hague Curated by Christian Roncea [tvetnik.online/article/episode-1-tunnel-off-site-project-by-dharma-initiatives](https://tvetnik.online/article/episode-1-tunnel-off-site-project-by-dharma-initiatives)
- 2019 "Mythocracy" Nest The Hague, Nederland [nestruimte.nl/en/exhibition/mythocracy/](http://nestruimte.nl/en/exhibition/mythocracy/)  
Groep
- 2019 HOT LAGOON - POP-UP SHOWROOM #2 MNAC Bucharest, Roemenië [www.mnac.ro/event/253/Hot\\_Lagoon\\_-\\_Pop-Up\\_Showroom\\_2](http://www.mnac.ro/event/253/Hot_Lagoon_-_Pop-Up_Showroom_2)  
Groep
- 2019 „Dî i b î z â i b â z g â i d î z b â l” CAV Gallery Bucharest, Roemenië  
Solo

## INTERNATIONALE UITWISSELINGEN / ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCIES

- 2019 Bjørn Melhus Berlin, Duitsland  
Production Intern for the experimental science fiction film SUGAR  
[melhus.de/sugar/](http://melhus.de/sugar/)

## RECENSIES

- 2021 De grote en dubbelzinnige grijns van de harlekijn – in gesprek met kunstenaar Christian Roncea Magazine Eline van der Haak The Hague, Nederland [www.metropolism.com/nl/features/43690-de-grote-en-dubbelzinnige-grijn](http://www.metropolism.com/nl/features/43690-de-grote-en-dubbelzinnige-grijn)  
"Ontregelen en middels ironie tegenstrijdigheden in de (kunst)wereld blootleggen: het staat aan de basis van Christian Roncea's praktijk. Eline van der Haak spreekt de kunstenaar over het experimentele collectief Dharma Initiatives dat hij opzette en de tentoonstellingen die hij aan het cureren is."

2020

Graduation Shows 2020 - KABK Den Haag  
Magazine Domeniek Ruyters Den Haag,  
Nederland

[www.metropolism.com/nl/reviews/41706\\_graduation\\_shows\\_2020\\_kabk\\_de](http://www.metropolism.com/nl/reviews/41706_graduation_shows_2020_kabk_de)

[..] Een werk dat blijft hangen is dat van Christian Roncea, die een tweeledige installatie wijdt aan een harlekijnachtige geest. De werken verzamelen een veelheid aan stijlen, aan de rand van totale ongreepbaarheid. Het plezier waarmee Roncea in deze politieke tijd de paljas in zichzelf blootlegt, biedt een prettige, subtiel gecultiveerde en licht-nostalgisch getoonzette relativering van de ernst waar veel kunst (op deze academie en elders in de kunstwereld) zich recentelijk mee opzadelt, bukkend onder een aan zichzelf opgelegde moraal. Roncea laat zien dat we er ons niet altijd in hoeven te laten meevoeren, de zwaarte van de tijd, maar dat het ook helpt de harlekijn in onszelf wat vaker de ruimte te geven. Ook dada bloeide op tijdens een wereldoorlog en een dramatische pandemie. [..]

2019

Krant Den Haag, Nederland

[www.volkskrant.nl/cultuur-media/haagse-kunststudenten-maken-trippy-kunstvideo-s-voor-tijdens-het-sporten~b22b73d4/](http://www.volkskrant.nl/cultuur-media/haagse-kunststudenten-maken-trippy-kunstvideo-s-voor-tijdens-het-sporten~b22b73d4/)

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'Stendhal Syndrome' by Christian Roncea at Gipsenzaal, KABK, The Hague Blog/Vlog  
Tzvetnik Moscow, Rusland

[tzvetnik.online/article/stendhal-syndrome-by-christian-roncea-at-gipsenzaal-kabk-the-hague](http://tzvetnik.online/article/stendhal-syndrome-by-christian-roncea-at-gipsenzaal-kabk-the-hague)

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STENDHAL SYNDROME: Christian Roncea at Gipsenzaal, KABK The Hague, NL, May, 2020 Blog/Vlog O-fluxo Lisbon, Portugal

[www.ofluxo.net/stendhal-syndrome-christian-roncea-at-gipsenzaal-kabk-the-hague-nl/](http://www.ofluxo.net/stendhal-syndrome-christian-roncea-at-gipsenzaal-kabk-the-hague-nl/)



, 2023  
plaster cast, epoxy, pigments



"Guardians (universitate)", 2023  
oil on linen



, 2023  
self-made earthenware, cherry plums tree sticks, varied dimensions



, 2022  
oil on canvas, 40 X 30 cm



"The fox(follow-up email)", 2021  
Harlequin Droppings, acrylic on canvas, 40 X 50 cm



"Ode to the cliff", 2021  
"Harlequin Droppings", latex



"Night Terror", 2020  
digital collage, A3



"Four Flies On Grey Velvet", 2020  
oil on canvas, 79,5 X 99,5 cm



"Atlantis", 2020  
EPISODE 2: "Dunes", Off-Site Project by Dharma Initiatives, The Hague



"Mask", 2020  
Plaster, confetti, wax crayon, epoxy