## BENI LÜBCKE



Sleeping dogs, billowing fog, thieving mice and monsters made out of branches and sticks - images and moments from our lives that combine the everyday with the fantastic and the overlooked with the familiar. The precise observation, dismantling and humorous reconnection of these images and moments runs through my artistic exploration and forms its starting point. This humorous de-/recontextualisation, the blurring of the boundaries between everyday life, fantasy and nightmare, is unifying element and thematic bracket. My works are spatial explorations, immerse themselves in strange sites, alienate those, distort existing contexts and form new dimensions. They have their origin in both dark horror film scenarios and the usual everyday curiosities, which are often strangely similar. My works celebrate materials and animals, assemble themselves from scraps of reality and allow surreal and yet real islands to emerge, just as they do in dreams. Walk-in dystopias are created, places that humorously embrace the dark, the strange, the beautiful and the disgusting.

Robart Sovery Liectbenstein Bouquot, 1612



Recordings from a surveillance camera system can be viewed via three small TV monitors. A bedroom, kitchen, hallway, and living room collectively form a house, moving shadows can be identified in the noisy images captured by the cameras. A mouse has gained access to the house, exploring the rooms and moving from screen to screen — disappearing only to reappear in another corner.





2023







wooden stakes, sticky tape, soil, debris, roots, tent fabric, fly screens, gratings, steel, foil, latex, silicone, bricks, wax, polylactic acid, LED tubes, cables, grass

340 x 520 x 620 cm

grub

2023

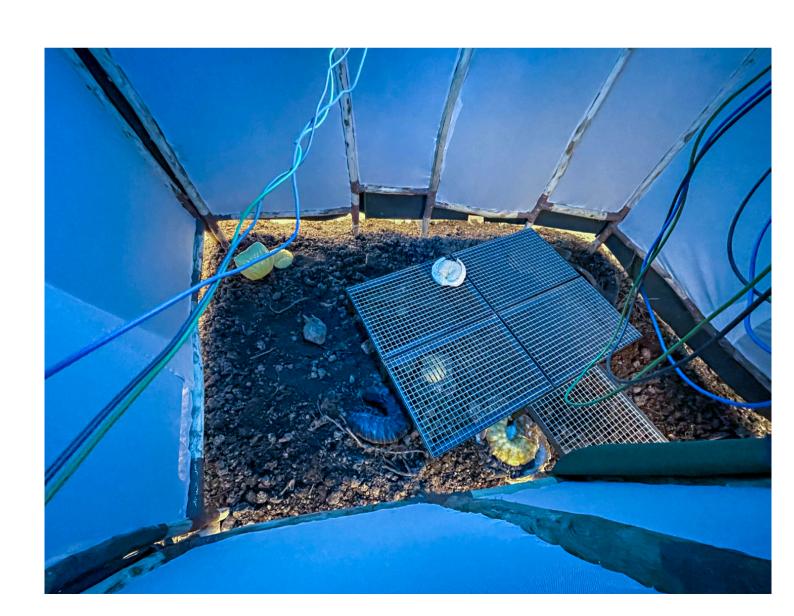
Wooden stakes are joined together with sticky tape, forming a rudementary tent that blocks the passage through the exhibition space. The floor appears to be opened, exposing enlargements of beetle larvae, so-called grubs casted in various materials.

The installation can be entered via a footbdrige made of gratings, where the enlargements of the grubs can be viewed under one's own feet.













The Bölleratz lives in dark corners, it likes it cool, it likes to stays there, where only a few people notice it. The Bölleratz nests and gropes in an empty, timeless space. Long-fingered and many-armed like a thick hairy caterpillar, the Bölleratz, consisting of countless branches, conquers the cold concrete walls of its surroundings. Hair is caught on its fingertips, possibly providing clues as to where the giant branch monster once crawled. Inside the monstrously lively pile of branches, things are rumbling. Like a boiling emotion, the Bölleratz boils up, turning it into a force of nature, a petulant source of fire.



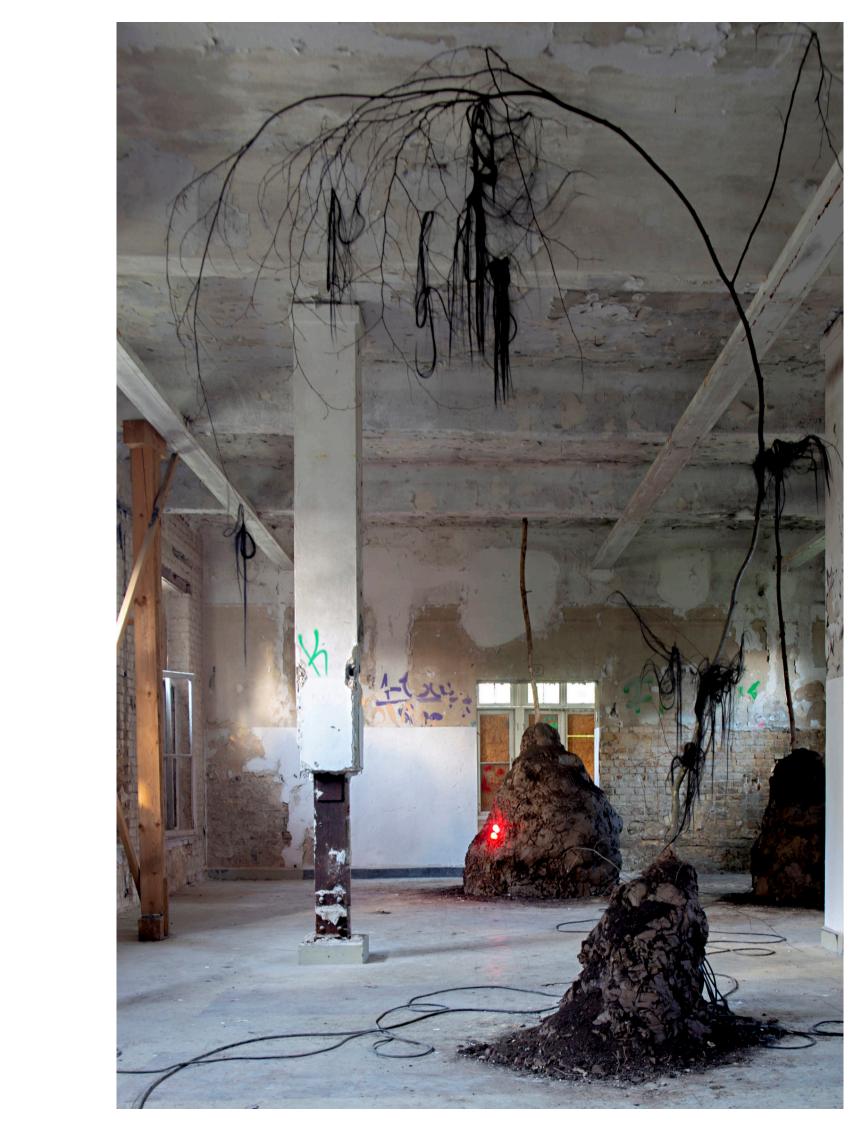




Several branches make their way through the holes in the crumbling ceiling of an abandoned hospital. They grow from the damp clay like trunks and vertically pierce the space. In a play with space and temporality, the work Von den Prinzipien: Generierung & Kreierung not only questions the gutting of the exhibition space and forms a formal counterpart with the bare branches, but equally questions the past and future use of the building.











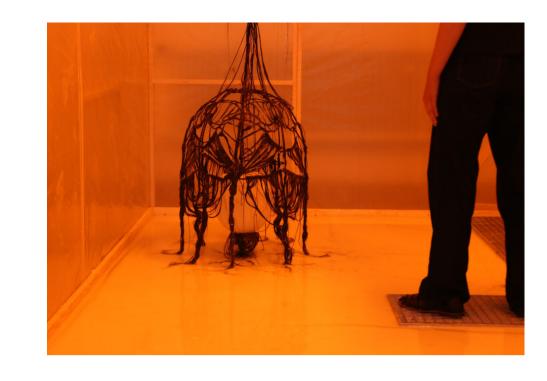


At a distance of 80cm from the walls of the exhibition space, a second room made of construction wood and foil has been installed. A warm, orange light shines out from inside the room and gives a shadowy hint of what is hidden behind the foil: dripping wet hair has formed into a dome and encloses whitish cores of wax inside it. The hair grows towards the ceiling, squeezing through gaps and openings into the outside of the room.



















Alguss Engating inductes

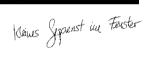




Versude in Koilos



Olaf Brennings Apres, 2001







Fusilis Nachtmer, 1790/91









Engerting 3D-Druck

Combover or comb-over is a typical men's haircut in cases of hair loss. The longer hair is combed or styled in such a way that bald patches on the head are concealed. This principle of styling or disguising is also used in the work of Combover. Individual strands are styled or modelled in such a way that the boundary between hairstyle and furry animal becomes blurred.



2022







Dry ice and water are brought together in several cardboard boxes. The sudden change in temperature causes the ice to sublimate and creates a dense, billowing mist. The three physical states of aggregation, liquid, solid and gaseous, occur simultaneously and coexist. The resulting fog condenses within the tub, finds a form and is briefly held in place.





Starschurben (ESG)









Knödelkolloid (Verruch)

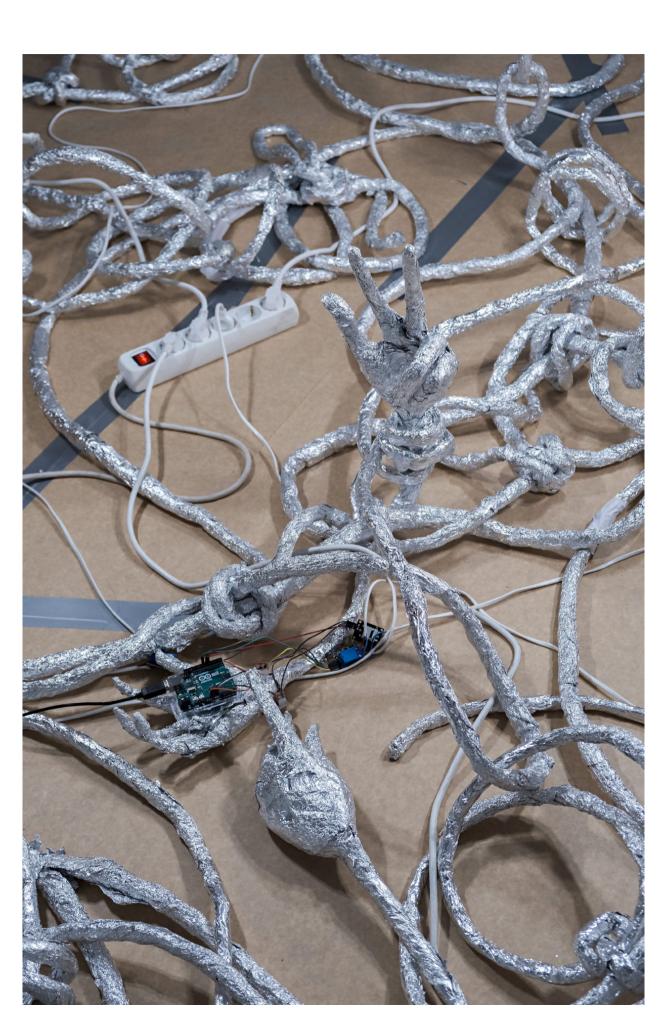








Polare Stratosphareuwolle auf Island



In an unknown future, three robots found the 42 Association in order to clarify existentialist questions about the extinction of humanity. Without the existence of mankind, the robots lack essence and find themselves confronted with a once human problem: What am I (still) here for? In a 35-minute conversation, the three robots discuss the question of where a pinch of salt starts and where it ends, when exactly one is considered to be bald-headed and where consciousness begins.

The robots have the conversation in English.

Robot #1 - was programmed to serve as a conversation partner for intellectuals. However, when its owner was left by his wife, the Intellect-o-bot had to write love letters exclusively to win back the runaway wife. The Intellect-o-bot is particularly distinguished by its profundity.

Robot #2 - was programmed to work in commercial kitchens of restaurants. People particularly appreciate the Chef-o-bot's accuracy in cooking. Over and over again, it cooked recipes with the same precision, ensuring continuous, never changing quality. The Chef-o-bot revolutionised the efficiency of enjoyment.

Robot #3 - was programmed to take over the chair of business administration at universities. This Educat-o-bot has supervised all modules, exams and doctoral students of business administration. The Educat-o-bot is particularly characterised by its nitpickyness and strictness.







No one could explain to me how much is much and how little is little. For example, what is a pinch?

I thought it was a unit of measurement.

A pinch would describe the amount equivalent to the volume between thumb and indexfinger.

But then there are other units of measurement such as tad or dash. These are comparably inaccurate.

Humans have even used such terms synonymously.

Yet one would have to be bigger than the other, otherwise it makes no sense.

And then humans do have to ask themselves from how many grains of salt a pinch becomes a dash.

And then it goes even further: when does the dash become a tad?

Add a tad of salt to your soup!

When does a little become a lot?

At some point, that moment must occur when one thing suddenly turns into another.

If you accumulate salt grain by grain, you must reach a point where you realize that this is now a pinch. If I remove a grain of salt, it is no longer a pinch, but an accumulation of individual grains of salt.

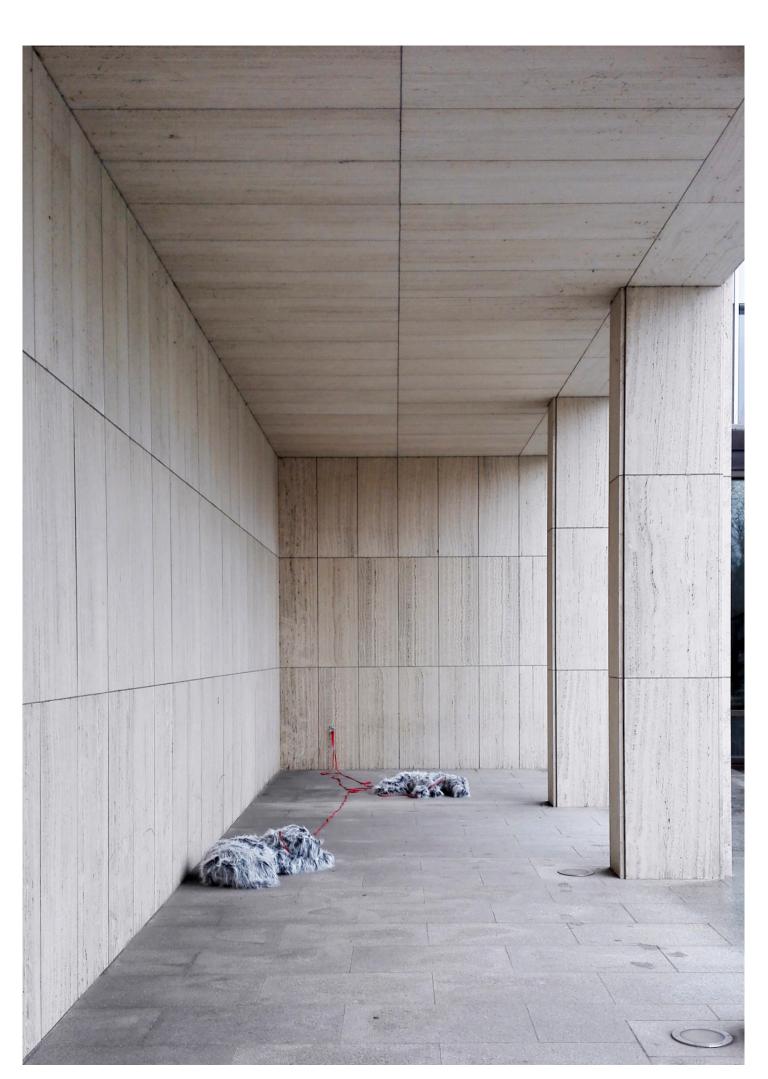
But if I now add more and more grains of salt, I must also reach the point at which a pinch suddenly becomes a dash. And how a dash finally becomes a tad.

But humans could never find that moment. They could never agree on that.

...



Plaster, aritificial fur dimensions variable



## Aushaaren 2019

The dog - a faithful companion to humankind for thousands of years. Its affection for its owner seems inexhaustible. The work Aushaaren addresses the absence of the human from the animal. Left alone, the dog becomes a projection surface - without moving, it remains in one position and becomes a living sculpture. The work makes use of this image and creates absurd moments with sculptures that only reveal themselves as fakes at second glance, giving rise to new visual realities.

The sculptures were on display at the Kiel health authority and were positioned in the corridors as well as in the foyer.







Henk Visch Noch einmal, 1992

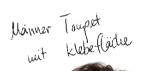




Roboter-Treffen



Peter Poul Rubeus & Jan Bruginel oler Altere Allegorie der fünf Sime. Der Sehsynn, 1617

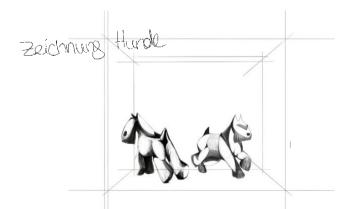






Nebel in histen Ulm 2022





Springerder Hund



Kabelhaufen Schrottplatz Berlin





## Beni Lübcke

luebckebenedikt@web.de +49 (0) 176 53 66 01 32

## **Exhibitions**

Plateau NEO, Nantes (FR)

Grottengrubenstube (Black Lagoon) 2023 born in Hamburg 1998 Projektraum, Kiel lives and works in Kiel, Germany Irrlichter Flämische Straße, Kiel 2016 -Bachelor of Arts Art and economics/politics as teacher training programme 2021 Galerie Drewes, Hamburg Christian-Albrechts-University Kiel 2022 lose Enden binden 2021 -Bachelor of Fine Arts Atelier Umraum, Kiel Muthesius University of Fine Arts and Design Kiel Prof. Elisabeth Wagner Talking to strangers Prof. Jenny Kropp & Prof. Alberta Niemann (FORT) Alte Bank, Gartenstraße Kiel Para – Reality 2022 Guestsemester Raum für aktuelle Kunst, Ulm Kunsthogskolen i Oslo Prof. Saskia Holmkvist waiting to go upstairs Akademitrommet – Kunsternes Hus, Oslo (NOR) 42 e.V. Asiatisk Garden - KHiO, Oslo (NOR) Awards and scholarships 2021 love your surface Automat Space, Saarbrücken Unverborgenheiten Haus 3 – Anscharpark, Kiel 2019 Admission to the Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes Spechte am Meisenknödel scholarship program Ernst Barlach Haus, Hamburg 2024 Guest scholarship at the Künstlerhaus Bremen, Germany 2020 Trains and boats and planes September - October