

Renato Nicolodi

Renato Nicolodi (*Brussels, 1980) seeks to evoke a universal sacrality in his work. His sculptures and paintings imagine spaces with corridors and stairs leading to closed-off passage-ways. Light and shade draw the gaze of the spectator to the inside of the construction, which remains invisible. The core of the work seems to conserve some sort of emptiness. The artist refers to archetypical buildings from past times and cultures, stripping them from their original function, ornament and dogma.

He creates monuments, relics, shrines that conserve both the memory and the thought of the maker as well as those of the spectator. Nicolodi's sculptures and paintings form mental beacons for people who live in an age where society has gone in overdrive; in a time where everything is questioned: science, technology, nature, culture and the position of man within all of this. The works are visual anchors that invite the spectator to meditate and reflect. They form the physical and mental access points through which the spectator can meander through his or her own mental space.

"From the moment a dimension is defined as a measure, it functions as a foundation and it defines the further development of the presupposed concept."

– Renato Nicolodi

Renato Nicolodi was born in 1980 in Anderlecht, a municipality of the Brussels-Capital Region. He obtained his Masters degree in Audiovisual and Fine Arts, at Sint-Lukas, also in Brussels. He completed the penultimate year of his studies in Rome, where he had the opportunity to study for a year at the Accademia di belli Arti di Roma. In 2007, Nicolodi was a laureate at the High Institute of Fine Arts (HISK) in Ghent. In 2012, Nicolodi enjoyed a working grant at FLACC, a workshop for the visual arts in Genk, the city where he realised a permanent sculpture four years earlier. In 2014, he received an honourable mention at the Grote Prijs Ernest Albert 2014, Prize for Sculpture of the City of Mechelen.

Today Nicolodi lives and works in Borchtlombeek, not far from Brussels.

In 2015, the book *Ni Co Lo Di* was published, which offers an overview of his ten years of art practice. The book, designed by Onno Hesselink, contains contributions by the Dutch architect Wim van den Bergh, philosopher Ben Overlaet, psychologist Joannes Késenne and art historian Marie-Pascale Gildemyn.

In addition to his sculptures and paintings, Nicolodi provided the scenography for the exhibition *Madame Grès - Sculptural Fashion* at the Antwerp Fashion Museum in 2012-2013. More recently he took care of the scenography of the opera *To Be Sung* in Flagey/La Monnaie in Brussels (2016, Pascal Dusapin) and of the theatre play *World Without Us*, performed by Ontroerend Goed on different locations between 2016 and 2018.

Selected recent exhibitions

Solo exhibitions are marked in bold; group exhibitions in light.
By year, the exhibitions are listed alphabetically

2025

Renato Nicolodi, Axel Vervoordt Gallery, Wijnegem, Belgium (Forthcoming this Fall)

Black is a Colour, Gallery Sofie Van den Bussche, Brussel, Belgium

Sketching for the basilica, Museum of Modern Religious Art, National Basilica, Brussels, Belgium

2024

Bridge, Axel Vervoordt, Wijnegem, Belgium

Concealment and Disclosure, Axel Vervoordt Gallery, Hong Kong

On Architecture, Bernhard Knau Gallery, Frankfurt am Main, Germany

Passio 2024 Il Cammino, Sint-Maartenskerk Kortrijk, Belgium

Tempus et Spatium I, Matthew Liu Fine Art Gallery, Shanghai, China

Positioning Space, Axel Vervoordt Gallery, Wijnegem, Belgium

This is my church, Parcours (Ferme du Rond-Chêne et Ferme de Wahenge), Tourinnes La Grosse, Belgium

2023

30 Jaar De Mijlpaal, Dromen – Denken – Doen, Galerie De Mijlpaal, Heusden-Zolder, Belgium

Between Emptiness and Form: Exploring Emotion and Essence, Axel Vervoordt Gallery, Hong Kong

Chosen, Zebrastraat, Gent, Belgium

GIST Triennial, Beersel, Belgium

Just Like Escher, Museum Escher, The Hague, Netherlands

Night is in the Shadow of the Earth, Wind H Art Center, Beijing, China

En Regard, Le Delta, Namur, Belgium

Van Gogh in Vlaanderen, Horebeke, Belgium

2022

Clair/Obscur, Axel Vervoordt Gallery, Wijnegem, Belgium

Inauguration exhibition, Het Leienpaleis, Antwerp, Belgium

Liturgie Colorée, Henro, Axel Vervoordt, Wijnegem, Belgium

Melancholy, Poetry of the Mind, Adornes Domain, Bruges, Belgium

Sint-Denis-City 2023, Sint-Denijs, Belgium

2021

Arché, Architecture of Universe, Pavilion 0/3 at GAD Giudecca Art District, Venice, Italy

Colors, etc. Couleurs et sens dans le design, Tripostal, Lille, France

Correspondances, Musée Fenaille, Rodez, France

Han san, W.ONE Space, Shenzhen, China

Krasj, Ninove, Belgium

Seoul Biennale of Architecture and Urbanism 2021, Dongdaemun Design Plaza, Seoul, South Korea

2020

Changez ! Art Brussels in Amsterdam, Ron Mandos, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Kleureyck – Van Eyck's Colours in Design, Design Museum Gent, Gent, Belgium

Menage à Deux, Het Stadsmus, Hasselt, Belgium

2019

Genesis, L.A.C., Narbonne, France

Proximi Mei Meum Fundamentum, Axel Vervoordt Gallery, Wijnegem, Belgium

The Gulf Between. About black, white and everything in between, Cultuurhuis de Warande, Turnhout, Belgium

2018

Art Autun #2018, "Ce qui pèse et ce qui nourrit", Hôpital Saint-Gabriel in collaboration with Musée Rolin - Musée Lapidaire Saint-Nicolas, Autun, France

Emines - 18. Occupation artistique d'un fort, Fort d'Emines, Namur, Belgium

Het Gouden Paviljoen, CC De Warande, Turnhout, Belgium

Ibant Obscuri, Axel Vervoordt Gallery, Hong Kong

Liquid City, Triënnale van Brugge, several locations in the city of Bruges, Belgium

Terra Incognita, Galerie Ron Mandos, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

2017

Architect@work, Barcelona, Spain

Bastion 10 Kunstenproject, Menen, Belgium

Celibataire Divas. Hedendaagse kunst in Herkenrode Refuge, Herkenrode Refuge, Hasselt, Belgium

El Camino – The Way Between Two Points, KADOC, Leuven, Belgium

Fear in a Handful of Dust, Mariondecannière, Antwerp, Belgium

2016

Architect@work, Rome, Italy

DYSTOTAL, Ludwig Forum Museum, Aachen, Germany

El Huis, Experimental Intermedia House Window Gallery, Ghent, Belgium

El Camino – The Way Between Two Points, Lieu D'art Contemporain, Sigean, France

El Camino – The Way Between Two Points, Provinciaal Hof, Bruges, Belgium

Genius Loci, Ieper, Belgium

In Love with Beauty, Transfo Zwevegem, Belgium

In Situ 2016 – Patrimoine et art contemporain, Abbaye de Gellone, Saint-Guilhem-le-Désert, France

Kunstpark Soestdijk 2016, Paleis Soestdijk, Baarn, The Netherlands

Menin Road-Ypernstrasse, Geluveld, Belgium

OMNIUM MEMORIA II, Axel Vervoordt Gallery, Antwerp, Belgium

To Be Sung, scenography for opera, Flagey, Brussels, Belgium

World Without Us, scenography for theater, different places and dates

2015

#inoffice, Galerie De Mijlpaal, Heusden Zolder, Belgium

#outoffice, Zeedijk 816, Knokke, Belgium

A touch of Steel, Design Vlaanderen Galerie, Brussel, Belgium

A touch of Steel, RECIPROCITY Design Liège, Belgium

Architect@work, Copenhagen, Denmark

Architect@work, London, United Kingdom

Architect@work, Vienna, Austria

ART-Traces Across the Western front, Poelkapelle, Belgium

Bunker Archeologie, Broelmuseum, Kortrijk, Belgium

Horror Vacui, with Filip Vervaet, 38CC, Delft, The Netherlands
Kunst@Rodekruis, Klooster Sancta Maria, Ronse, Belgium
Monumentum, Galerie Van De Weghe, Antwerp, Belgium
No Walls, Fenix Loods, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
PROPORTIO, Palazzo Fortuny, Venetië, Italy
R.I.P. – 200 jaar begrafenis cultuur in Vlaanderen, Caermersklooster, Ghent, Belgium
So Let's Retread Memory Lane, Villa De Olmen, Wieze, Belgium
Vormidable – Hedendaagse Vlaamse Beeldhouwkunst, Museum Beelden aan Zee, Den Haag, The Netherlands

2014

(ge)tijden[loos], Zeedijk 716, Knokke, Belgium
"C" in art, with Cindy Wright, Maurus Moreelshuis, Mechelen, Belgium
A touch of Steel, Goldschmiedehaus, Hanau, Germany
A Touch of Steel, Klingenmuseum, Solingen, Germany
Anthropocosmos –vue déplacées, Maison de la culture de Namur, Namur, Belgium
Architect@work, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Architect@work, Stuttgart, Germany
Architect@work, Zürich, Switzerland
Bloed, Landcommanderij Alden Biesen, Bilzen, Belgium
Breuk lijn, B-Mine, Beringen, Belgium
Citadel'arte, Citadel, Diest, Belgium
Grisaille, CC De Muse, Heusden-Zolder, Belgium
Grote prijs Ernest Albert 2014 (Eervolle vermelding) Prijs voor Beeldhouwkunst van de stad Mechelen, De Garage, Mechelen, Belgium
Midi et demi, Centre d'Art Neuchâtel, Neuchâtel, Switzerland
Omnium Memoria, Park ter Beuken, Lokeren, Belgium
Private Shelter, Provinciedomein Raversyde, Oostende, Belgium
Surveying, Rewind, Brussels, Belgium
The divided body, Predikherenkerk, Leuven, Belgium
The emptiness of the shadow (De leegte van de schaduw), Witte Nonnenstraat, Hasselt, Belgium
Umwelt II, Dommelhof, Neerpelt, Belgium
Umwelt, CC Westrand, Dilbeek, Belgium
Underneath, with Renie Spoelstra, Ron Mandos gallery, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

2013

Beeldhouwerstekeningen uit de collectie Tahon, Museum Beelden aan Zee, Den Haag, The Netherlands
Hortus conclusus sorrow mea, sponsa, hortus conclusus fons signatus, Hotel Mariakapel, Hoorn, The Netherlands
La joie de se perdre, Villa de Olmen and D'Apostrof, Wieze and Meigem, Belgium
Once more unto the breach, dear friends, once more, Lokaal 01, Breda, The Netherlands
Pavilion 0, Venice Biennale, Palazzo Dona, Campo San Polo, Venice, Italy
Pop-up Filiptackdesignoffice, Knokke, Belgium
Pop-up Mijlpaal, Knokke, Belgium
Renato Nicolodi, Camiel Van Breedam, Remco Roes, Eduardo Chilida, Galerie De Mijlpaal, Heusden Zolder, Belgium

Wonen in Utopia, LUMC Leiden, The Netherlands

YIA (Young International Artists), Paris, France

2012

artMRKT San Francisco, Highlight Gallery, San Francisco, United States

Façade 2012, curated by Thom Schaar, Kunstfestival Middelburg, The Netherlands

Fragments of Melancholy, Galerie Van De Weghe, Antwerp, Belgium

Hermetic City, Garage Rotterdam, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

Kanal – ondernemen is een kunst, Wielsbeke, Belgium

Madame Grès - Sculptural fashion, MoMu, Antwerp, Belgium

POP-UP artistic links, Museum of Elsene, Brussels, Belgium

Salon blanc VII, Ostend, Belgium

Strange Lands, Cindy Rucker Gallery, New York, United States

Total Area, Galeria AT, Poznan, Poland

Public collections

Collection of Flanders District of Creativity (Belgium)
Collection of the city of Genk (Belgium)
Collection of the city of Lokeren (Belgium)
Collection of the province of East Flanders (Belgium)
FelixArt Museum (Belgium)
Rockbund Art Museum, Shanghai (China)
San Francisco MoMA (USA)

Projects in public space

2023

Aedicula, permanent installation, Abdij van Perk, Leuven, Belgium
Monolith I, temporary installation, Domein Calmeyn, Drogenbos, Belgium

2022

Omium Memoria, 2016, placed in recognition of care staff and volunteers in the Josephine Charlottelpark, Lokeren, Belgium

2020

In Memoriam, permanent work in the Plinius Park in Tongeren, Belgium

2018

Acheron I, temporary installation 'Liquid city', Bruges Triennial, Bruges, Belgium

2015

Stoel des Erfgoeds, permanent work *Een Thuis voor een Beeld 2015*, Melle, Belgium

2014

Omnium Memoria (temporary), Park Ter Beuken, Lokeren, Belgium

2012

Façade 2012, (temporary) curated by Thom Schaar, Middelburg, The Netherlands
Kanal – ondernemen is een kunst, (temporary) curated by Christa Vyvey, Wielsbeke, Belgium

2008

Lustwarande '08 - Wanderland, (temporary) Park de Oude Warande, Tilburg, The Netherlands
Belvédère, inauguration of permanent work, Waterschei, Genk, Belgium

2003

Antrum IV – scale 1/3, provinciaal vormingscentrum Hanenbos, Beersel, Belgium

Middelburg, Façade 2012
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