

# PEQUOD CO.

## Malte Zenses Solingen, 1987

Lives and works in Berlin.

With ironic nonchalance, Malte Zenses' paintings and sculptures expand the vocabulary of abstract painting and new realism by incisively integrating the zeitgeist through autobiographical fragments. His inspiration often arises from a memory, a place, or a fleeting image. Rather than narrating himself directly, he conceals personal references within a system of signs, symbols, and texts that invite interpretation.

Far from imposing a fixed narrative, Zenses creates a space where viewers activate their own memories. In this way, his work becomes a diffuse mirror of the present—shaped by the interplay between the digital and the analog, between visual saturation and the search for meaning. His practice is a constant movement across formats, channeling the collective through personal experience. Each piece becomes a visual translation of the everyday—a way of recycling the world into code.

Malte Zenses was born in 1987 in Solingen and lives and works in Berlin, Germany. He studied in Düsseldorf and Frankfurt. Throughout his career, he has surrounded his work and his imaginary with many other disciplines in a collaborative way, through personal and professional relationships he has developed with musicians, tattoo artists, photographers, writers, scientists, and other members of one of the world's most active cultural ecosystems in the German capital.

His work evolves rapidly, adapting to the vertiginousness of contemporary life. He mimics establishing formal, conceptual and material links with the sites where Zenses develops his research and projects, among which stand out, above all, presentations in Germany at the G2 Kunsthalle Leipzig, Kunstsammlungen Chemnitz and an experimental project he carried out with the Valentino haute couture house, in which he developed a series of garments in dialogue with his pictorial work.

During 2025, Zenses executed a three-part project based on a four-month research in Mexico City. During this time, his language found new stimuli in a city of enormous complexity. The result of his experience and the affective networks he developed in the capital of our country was a trio of exhibitions of "Mexican paintings" that were presented at Pequod, Sperling and LISTE in a period of 4 months. This series of exhibitions opened up a new strand in the never-ending conversation about painting, and its role as an ambassador between seemingly opposing regions that have built bridges and exchanges with each other throughout history.

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Malter Zenses  
Solingen, 1987

## STUDIES

HfG Offenbach am Main, Germany,  
Prof. Wolfgang Luy y Prof. Susanne Winterling

Kunstakademie Düsseldorf, Germany,  
Prof. Andreas Schulze

## SOLO SHOWS

### 2025

*Durchhalten galore! Pinturas para perros Pt.2*, Pequod Co., Mexico City, Mexico,  
May.10

*Pinturas para perros. Durchhalten galore! Pt.1*, Pequod Co., Mexico City, Mexico, March.11

### 2024

*ALTE EICHEN, NEUE BILDER*, G2 Kunsthalle, Leipzig, Germany, August.16 - December.08

### 2023

*Fetztage in der Villa*, Sperling, Munich,  
Germany, May.05 - June.16

*Im Kugelblitz (Teil II)*, JVDW, Düsseldorf, Germany, February.04 - February.28

*Im Kugelblitz (Teil I)*, Kunstverein Heppenheim, Germany, January.20 - February.07

### 2020

*Im Regio 3, totslr Verwirrung*, Sperling, Munich, Germany, May.28 - July.25

### 2019

*Various Others: Augustas Serapinas & Malte Zenses*, Sperling, Munich, Germany, September.14 - October.26

### 2018

*Have you heard about der Traum ist aus*, Damien & The Love Guru, Brussels, Belgium

### 2017

*IN TYRANNIS*, Kunsverein Nuremberg, Germany, December.01 - February.11.2018

*pay for rituals*, con Felix Kultau, Fiebach Minninger, Cologne, Germany, September.08 - October.14

*ABER*, Salon Kennedy, Frankfurt a. M. Germany, April.02 - May.13

### 2016

*Lips*, Studio Picknick, Berlin, Germany, September.15 - October.01

### 2015

*Pais, Krikrika & Fofi*, Kadel Willborn, Düsseldorf, Germany, October.30 - December.17

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## GROUP SHOWS

### 2025

*QUELLO CHE VEDETE NON È NÉ CIBO, NÉ ARTE*, Galleria Gaburro, Milan, Italy, curated by Matteo Scabeni October.30.2024 - February.28

### 2024

*Seymour*, Max-Joseph Str. 7, Munich, Germany, September.06 - September.08

*Two To Tango (3)*, Sperling, Munich, Germany, February.23 - April.06

### 2023

*New Acquisitions II*, G2 Kunsthalle, Leipzig, Germany, September.22 - January.14.2024

*Bite the Hand*, Grove, London, United Kingdom, June.02 - July.08

### 2022

*present perfect*, Kunstsammlung Chemnitz, Germany, November.13 - February.12.2023

*Identität nicht nachgewiesen*, Bundeskunsthalle, Bonn, Germany, May.07 - October.03

*Grassroots*, JVDW, Düsseldorf, Germany, October.15 - October.29

### 2021

*Valentino Des Ateliers. Haute couture Fall/Winter*, Gaggiandre, Arsenale, Venice, Italy

*Gropshow X*, Backyard Ehrenfeld, Cologne, Germany, November.17 - November.21

### 2020

*Four Little Stories*, Studiolo, Milan, Italy, Curated by Maria Chiara Valacchi

*Future Forms Fiction*, SchauFenster, Berlin, Germany, January.18 - February.20

### 2019

*Dusk and Dawn look just the same*, PIK, Cologne, Germany, September.26 - October.05

*on THE-NAME-OF-THE-FIGURE in painting*, Studiopicknick, Berlin, Germany, April.27 - May.18

### 2018

*bataillon d'amour*, Galerie Kleindienst, Leipzig, Germany, August.04 - September.02

*Cheated Eyes, Seeing Tongues*, Studiopicknick, Berlin, Germany, April.28 - May.19

*UNLUST PRINZIP*, Kasseler Kunstverein, Germany, April.15 - June.02

*Goodhopehouse*, Galerie Kenilwortg, Milwaukee, USA

*High Ends*, Nassauischer Kunstverein, Wiesbaden, Germany, January.19 - February.25

### 2017

*Preshowritual*, Friedrich, Frankfurt a. M., Germany

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*quality of cuties*, Just Married One, Osaka, Japan

NOS. 66,7%, Kunstverein Wiesen, Germany, July.29 - September.30

*representative*, representative, Rod Barton, London, United Kingdom, June.15 - July.21

## 2016

*Scale, Scale, Scale / Run to the Hills*, Kressmann Halle, Offenbach am Main, Germany, December.02 - December.29

## 2015

*Habt ihr Bock auf Ibiza? (die neue offenbacher schule #4)*, Ruttowski 68, Cologne, Germany, July.23 - July.29

*Driveway 327*, 327 5th Ave, Los Angeles, USA

## 2014

*Erdloch verschluckt Kleinwagen (die neue offenbacher schule #3)*, M35, Lucerne, Switzerland

## PERFORMANCES

### 2024

*Jutta un die Chaos Kadetts*, G2 Kunsthalle, Leipzig, Germany

## RESIDENCIES

### 2024

Residency between Naucalpan and Mexico City, Mexico

### 2022

BLANK100 Residency, Craveiral, São Teotónio, Portugal

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

### 2023

Stiftung Kunstfonds, Bonn, Germany

### 2017

Marianne Defet Painting Scholarship, Nuremberg, Germany

## COLLECTIONS

Bundeskunstsammlung, Germany  
Kunstsammlung, NRW, Germany  
Sammlung LBBW, Stuttgart, Germany  
Sammlung Hildebrand, Leipzig, Germany  
Art Collection Valentino, Italy  
Monika Schnetkamp, Germany

## PRESS (selection) AND PUBLICATIONS

### 2025

Adnan Yildiz, Misal y Patrizia Dander. *Durchhalten galore! Pinturas para perros*. Sperling, Munich

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Giacobini, Alessandra. "In conversation with Malte Zenses." *émergent magazine. Durchhalten galore! Pinturas para perros*, Mexico City

## 2021

"Volume III, Christina Lehnert & Malte Zenses." Sperling's Online Magazine

Lehnert, Christina ed. *Malte Zenses*. Lubok Verlag, Leipzig

## 2018

Grebe, Judith, Joshua Groß y Anke Schlecht eds. *In tyrannis*. Nuremberg

## 2017

Zenses, Malte. *ABER*. Salon Kennedy, Frankfurt a. M.

## LECTURES

## 2022

Malte Zenses, 12'' Vinyl EP, EP Release, JUBG, Cologne, Germany

## 2019

*Diverse Privilegien*, Westfaelischer Kunstverein, Muenster, Germany