

## **Andrej Babenko**

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I think of emotion as material [Andrej Babenko](#) after [Dana Schutz](#)

Я современный художник, моя работа находится на грани желания быть вместе в поисках свободы и мира.

Ik ben een hedendaagse kunstenaar; mijn werk manoeuvreert op de rand van verlangens om samen te zijn op zoek naar vrijheid en vrede.

I am a contemporary artist; my work maneuvers on the edge of desires to be together in search of freedom & peace.

### **Fellow artists and art workers on my work**

[Recommendation](#) by Dirk De Wachter

[Recommendation](#) by Mauro Pawlowski

*Как у тебя весело в твоих страхах - Wat is het vrolijk in je angsten - How merry it is in your fears*

[Oksana Mas](#)

*Het is niet 'of-of': we blijven elk bij onze leest. Ik bij het conceptuele, met de steen, en jij, als rasschilder, zou een eigen versie kunnen schilderen van het 'David en Goliath' verhaal. Beide werken verwijzen dan duidelijk naar Oekraïne en Rusland. En versterken elkaar wanneer ze samen worden gepresenteerd, door de actualisering van een 3000 jaar oude legende.*

*Wat denk jij?*

*Groeten!!!!*

[Kris Martin](#)

*Babenko!*

*Ik heb met stijgend enthousiasme je tekst gelezen!*

*Prachtig. [...] Bij deze nodig ik je uit bij mij thuis voor een verder gesprek. Ik ben als Belg tijdens de Perestrojka-jaren / punk-jaren in Moskou en Leningrad geweest, en ik vond dat een fantastische ervaring!*

Hans Willemse

Curator Muhka & auteur

*Dag Andrej,*

*het leven gaat zijn gang, hopelijk gaat alles goed in dat van u?*

*OK om die twee gesprekken te voeren. Ik zeg dit na enige aarzeling zoals je wel gevoeld hebt. Uw werk schrikt me namelijk wat af, het chaotische ervan overweldigt mij danig. Ik heb zelf heel veel last van chaotisme, na al die jaren kan ik dat enigszins bedwingen met mijn dagelijkse arbeid, hier in mijn ateliers.*

*Ik heb uw portfolio bekeken, uw statement en intenties gelezen. Ondertussen ben ik benieuwd naar wat we elkaar te zeggen zullen hebben.*

[Anne-Mie Van Kerckhoven](#)

### **Biographical information**

2008	Erasmus, Master in Visual Arts University of the West of England, Bristol, UK
2004-2008	Master in Visual Arts, Karel de Grote Hogeschool, Antwerp, Belgium
2002-2008	Painting & Drawing, Royal Academy for Fine Arts, Antwerp, Belgium
2001 – 2002	De Kunsthumaniora, Antwerp, Belgium
1991 – 1992	Kyiv National University of Culture and Arts, Kyiv, Ukraina

[Kunstendatabank](#): beeldende-kunsten/kunstenaars/Andrej Babenko

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## 1. Exhibitions

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### 2024

- **Andrej Babenko's art works at NATO Kyiv - mirroring exhibition at NATO HQ**  
Solo Display of works by HQ NATO Brussels
- Exhibition *Roots*, kasteel Cortewalle te Beveren, Belgium
- Display of works by [NATO Kyiv](#)
- Residence video recording with Aleksy Gorbunov and Mauro Pawlowski, Overijse, Belgium

### 2023

- [Art Armor](#), art charity project for Ukraine. [Supported by president Zelensky and Ukrainian embassy](#). Displayed in **S.M.A.K. Ghent**. Collaboration with Kris Martin.
- Andrej Babenko & Aleksey Gorbunov, postcards & paintings charity event for Ukraine, Antwerp, Belgium
- [Postcards for Ukraine](#), **Sperling gallery, Munich** - invited by Kris Martin. Other participants include Jonathan Meese, David Claerbout and others

### 2022

- **De Wereld Brandt**, Mol, Belgium. Supported and attended by Ukrainian embassy. Visited by over 2000 people.
- Andrej Babenko & Aleksey Gorbunov, auction of five paintings for Ukraine, Antwerp, Belgium.
- Andrej Babenko & Aleksey Gorbunov, auction of postcards & paintings for Ukraine, Antwerp, Belgium

### 2021

- **‘Full House’ – solo-exhibition**, Antwerp, Belgium. Curated by Hans Willemse, curator of Panamarenko and collection editor at Museum of Contemporary Art Antwerp
- ‘Babenko Elentric’ graffiti on electrical box, Tervuren, Belgium
- Babenko and Nik Rock N Roll live on Ostankino Channel One TV, Moscow, Russia
- ‘Babenko Nik Rock N Roll’ - Painting gifted by Babenko to Nik, Moscow, Russia
- **Babenko exhibition of works on paper, Valencia, Spain**
- Participation in exhibition **Spuutwater, M HKA**, Antwerp, Belgium
- Livestream Performance, Andrej Babenko, Utrecht, Nederland
- ‘Solo’ – exhibition and live action painting, with Vancoillie (violin) and De Wachter (poems)
- Group exhibition at church of Duisburg, Belgium

### 2020

- **Solo exhibition**, [Martin van Blerk Gallery](#), Antwerp, Belgium
- [“Babenko/Panamarenko”](#), Campo & Campo, Antwerp, Belgium
- Babenko Graffiti workshop & solo exhibition, Zomerfabriek, Antwerp, Belgium
- [Le Garage lab](#), supporting Italy during the Corona Crisis, Trento city, Italy (supported by Massive Attack)

- Babenko graffiti workshop & solo exhibition by **Andrej Babenko, Museum Dr. Guislain**, Ghent, Belgium

## 2019

- **Babenko, De Wachter & Pawlowski, Museum Dr. Guislain**, Ghent, Belgium
- [Babenko graffiti workshop & installation](#) in honour of Raoul De Keyser, exhibition with Marcel Broodthaers, S.M.A.K., Ghent, Belgium
- Andrej Babenko [meets Robert del Naja](#) (Massive Attack), Brussels, Belgium

## 2018

- **Babenko, De Wachter & Pawlowski, S.M.A.K. & Stu Bru**, Art Marathon , Ghent, Belgium
- [Sven Gatz](#) in front of Babenko's paintings Pukkelpop18Art  
[BABENKO: FRI: 9.45 pm - 10.35 pm | THINK TANK](#)  
[M HKA © Bram Goots](#) — with [Mauro Pawlowski](#) and [Andrej Babenko](#).  
[Babenko, De Wachter & Pawlowski](#), Pukkelpop, Hasselt, Belgium  
[www.pukkelpop](#)
- Andrej Babenko & Mauro Pawlowski, Kunstvestdagen, Mechelen, Belgium
- **Babenko, De Wachter & Pawlowski, Kunsthal Extra City**, Antwerp, Belgium
- Luciano Benetton, BOZAR, Brussels, Belgium Curated by Marianne Van Boxelaere
- Join The Dots / Unire le distanze, Italy
- “Wall of fame” exhibition of portraits in Art at **Galerie Ecole d'Olargue**, France
- Exhibition, Vrijzinnig Centrum De Geus, Harelbeke, Belgium

## 2017

- Performance Andrej Babenko & Vyacheslav Butusov, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- **Solo exhibition** ‘An Artist’s wife’s hallucination’, SD Worx, Antwerp, Belgium
- **Art project signposts, Flemish government**, Brussels, Belgium

## 2016

- **Solo exhibition** ‘An Artist’s wife’s hallucination’, Gallery Campo & Campo, Antwerp, Belgium
- Portrait of Luciano Benetton ‘Imago Mundi’, Venice Biennale

## 2015

- **Solo exhibition** ‘Between Dream and Reality’, Madou Atrium, European Commission, Brussels, Belgium
- **Solo exhibition** ‘Between Dream and Reality’ & performance with Mauro Pawlowski, Gallery Campo & Campo, Antwerp, Belgium

## 2014

- [Exhibition Galery Van Campen & Roctus](#), Antwerp, Belgium
- **Solo exhibition** ‘Portraits’, University of Leiden, Leiden, the Netherlands
- **Solo exhibition** Gallery Campo & Campo, Antwerp, Belgium
- **Exhibition and video performance ‘Museumnacht’**, Volksmuseum, Antwerp, Belgium

## 2013

- Street Art Action - Free Pussy Riot commissioned by Pussy Riot & Banksy, Antwerp, Belgium
- **Performance ‘Occupy Atelier’, Ruimte Morguen**, Antwerp, Belgium with music by first violinist of Flanders Opera
- Performance at Museum of Contemporary Art, Antwerp, Belgium
- Exhibition Gallery Van Campen & Rochtus, Antwerp, Belgium
- Performance at Tate Modern, London, UK
- **Exhibition ‘Night at the Museum’, Moscow, Russia**

## 2012

- ‘Contemporary Art Sucks’, an art project organised by Babenko bringing together art works of various international artists among which of Pure Evil, Designcenter De Winkelhaak, Antwerp, Belgium
- **Exhibition ‘Art 4 peace’, Cut Up Galery**, Germany
- Exhibition ‘Into the White’, Secondroom, Antwerp, Belgium

## 2010

- Auction of three art works of Babenko at fundraising gala of Flanders Opera. **‘Onegin’ sold as top piece**. Antwerp, Belgium
- **Solo exhibition ‘Tegen de Stroom’** Flanders Opera, Antwerp, Belgium

## 2009

- Exhibition at Gallery Campo & Campo, Antwerp, Belgium

## 2. Awards

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- Talent Prize Award at 6<sup>th</sup> portrait art competition. International Juried art Competition – Teravarna Art Show International. 2023.
- Honorable mention award at 5<sup>th</sup> figurative art competition. International Juried Art Competition – Teravarna Art Show International. 2023.

## 3. Publications

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### Books

- Babenko’s illustrations made for Flanders Opera feature in 24 different program booklets

- Works made by Babenko during his time at Opera Flanders are featured in *Opera Out of the Box 2009-2019, The Cahn Years at Opera Vlaanderen*, ISBN 9789077207666
- Babenko's portrait of Luciano Benetton features in [Barbarians and Poets](#). *Contemporary Artists from Belgium*. Imago Mundi Collection 2016
- Babenko's paintings 'Between Dream and Reality' feature in 'Reflections' - *Art in the European Commission Buildings*, 2010 – 2015, ISBN: 978-92-79-39851-3

## Press

- *Oekraïense kunstenaar Andrej Babenko: 'We willen terug naar een land waar vrede heerst'*. [Gazet van Antwerpen](#), 2022
- *Interview met Andrej Babenko*. [De Morgen](#), 2019
- *Kunstenaar Andrej Babenko: 'Het gaat niet om schoonheid, je moet iets voelen als je mijn werk ziet'*. [Knack Weekend](#), 2018
- [Raoul De Keyser & Andrej Babenko](#) / *Graffiti workshop voor jongeren*. 2018
- *De intensiteit van het schilderen - Andrej Babenko*. 100% expo, 2017
- Art04, Vrijzinnig Centrum DE GEUS, 2017
- *Werken van Babenko en Performance van Mauro Pawlowski bij Campo & Campo*; [Gazet van Antwerpen](#), 2015.
- Interview with Andrej Babenko. [Gazet van Antwerpen](#), 2012
- Babenko's art work featured in *In Belgium, Samson gets a makeover*. [The New York Times](#), 2009

## 4. Radio, TV & videos

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- [RADIO MEMORANDUM](#), NICC, Art & Money. De Studio, Antwerpen, 2023. Interview with Andrej Babenko, Stella Lohaus, Els Vanheusden. Moderator: Rens Cools.
- Dirk De Wachter over 'fantastische schilder Andrej Babenko' [Touché op Radio1](#), 2022
- Interview with Babenko on project Carte de Visite. [Live on radio BRUZZ](#)
- [Babenko, De Wachter, Pawlowski](#). **Performance at S.M.A.K.**, Ghent, Belgium. 2018

- [Babenko, De Wachter, Pawlowski](#). **Performance at ExtraCity**, Antwerp, Belgium. 2018, 10 min  
([Short version 2 min](#))
- [Raoul De Keyser & Andrej Babenko](#) | Graffiti workshop voor jongeren. 2018
- [Contemporary Art Sucks](#). Interview with Babenko on **ATV**, 2012

## 5. Events

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- **Private exhibition** organised at Babenko's home atelier. Attendees included Kris Martin, Aleksey Gorbunov, Mauro Pawlowski, Peter Bernaerts, Danny Ilegems, Nadya Kotova among others, 2023. [Andrej Babenko Paintings](#)

## 6. Photos studio

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- [The artist at work](#)
- Nigel Dubois Korte [reportage](#) over kunstenaar Andrej Babenko en diens atelier
- [Portrait](#) atelier Andrej Babenko
- <https://www.marleendaniels.com/painters-in-the-studio>

## 7. Grants (selection)

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- Sabam for Culture, grant for development of website [babenkobelgium.com](http://babenkobelgium.com), Brussels, Belgium, 2022
- 'Solo' – exhibition and action painting with Vancoillie (violin) and De Wachter (poetry), 2021
- Graffiti workshop, Brussel, Belgium, 2020
- Graffiti workshop, Museum Dr Guislain, Gent, Belgium, 2020
- Graffiti workshop, Raoul De Keyser & Andrej Babenko: graffiti workshop voor jongeren S.M.A.K. Gent, Belgium, 2019

## 8. Jury

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- [Academie Genk - Schilderkunst, 2023](#)