

newsletter

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From October 13 until November 14, Ra Gallery will present new jewellery by **Tanel Veenre**.

You are cordially invited to the opening of the exhibition on **Saturday October 13**, from 4 till 6 p.m.

exhibition



Tanel Veenre

The Garden of Heavenly and Earthly Delights

13.10.18 – 14.11.18

In this jewellery collection, Tanel Veenre (Estonia) focuses on the concept of the 'primal scream', through expressing his feeling that human beings cannot exist without that scream. The work does not look rough or primitive, but one should not be misled by the beauty of the forms, inspired by the smooth aesthetics of automotive design. According to Veenre, religion and carnality are linked; depth can't exist without carnality. Thus, the image of the cross serves as a central motif in the collection.

The ambivalent title of the exhibition denotes the apparent opposites in Veenre's newest work: the engraved dark blossoms, simple and mournful, contrasting with shiny baroque erotic forms. The artist attempts to make sense of the opposites within himself, and says: 'In my work I don't hold back, I let as many things emerge to the surface as possible, I try to be impulsively honest. Come what may, this is my protest against the project-based life.'

The brighter part of the exhibition, the erotic jewellery series, started about five years ago. While synthesizing stereotypical masculinity and femininity in his jewellery, Veenre does not hide the characteristics of both sexes in



androgyny, but rather emphasizes their extremities. Through this he addresses superhumanity in an unnaturally stylized way, in order to create alienation from corporeality and make the forms end in themselves. He brings the flagrant aesthetics of the field of design into the context of art through using sensual materials such as silicones, that imitate human skin.

Veenre: 'I have no idea what masculinity means in the 21st century; yet I can play with the related clichés, with or without irony.'

The blossoms of sadness were created for practical reasons. After all, when we're walking towards the sunset, something has to decorate our lapels.



books

The book: **Tanel Veenre, Handful**, is available at Ra Gallery.

Ra Books will present again an up-to-date and rich collection of books at the SIERAAD art fair, at the Westergasfabriek fairgrounds, Amsterdam, 8-11 November.