

Martin Creed

born 1968 in Wakefield, England; lives in London, England

Biography

Visual Art

Music

In the Exhibition

1986–1990: Studies art at the Slade School of Art, London

2001: Winner of the Turner Prize


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Visual Art

Martin Creed approaches art making with humor, anxiety, and experimentation, and with the sensibility of a musician and composer, underpinning everything he does with his open ambiguity about what art is. Among Creed's best-known works is the installation *Work No. 200: Half the Air in a Given Space* from 1998. The title is also the work's instruction—the artist calculates and fills the volume of half of the room with white balloons, which the viewers are then invited into.

In 2001, Creed was awarded the Turner Prize for *Work No 227: The Lights Going On and Off*, which was exactly what its title describes, in an empty gallery. For the purpose, he left his exhibition space in London's Tate Gallery empty and merely manipulated the timer of the lighting, which meant that the visitors were not only in an empty room but also found themselves repeatedly in the dark.


Author: Lona Gaikis / Corinne Bannister



Martin Creed, »Work No. 200, Half the air in a given space«, 1998

White balloons, multiple parts, balloon Ø 12 inches each, overall dimensions variable. Photo: PR, Courtesy of the artist and Hauser & Wirth, New York; image via theguardian.com; © Martin Creed/Bildrecht, Vienna

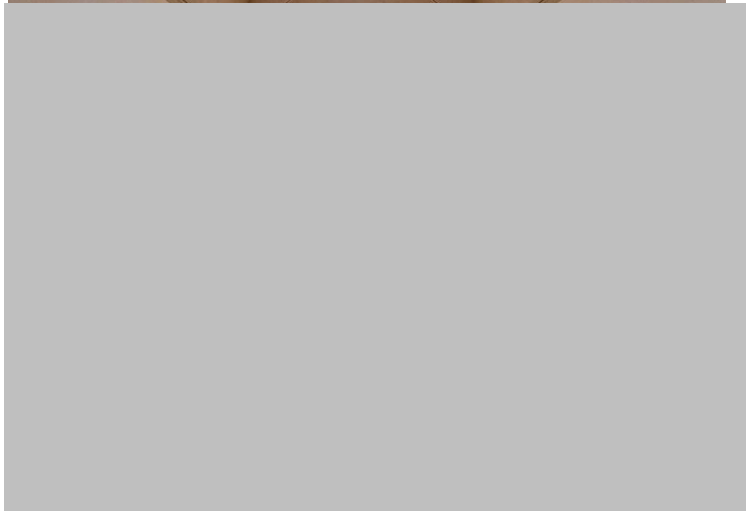
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Martin Creed, »Work No. 1092 – Mothers«, 2011

Installation view, Hauser & Wirth, London, 2011. Photo: Hugo Glendinning, courtesy Hauser & Wirth, New York; image via hauserwirth.com; © Martin Creed/Bildrecht, Vienna


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Martin Creed, »Work No. 267, The lights going on and off«, 2000

Installation view, »The lights going on and off «, Tate Britain 2014. Photo: Tate Photography; image via independent.co.uk; © Martin Creed/Bildrecht, Vienna

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Martin Creed, »Work No. 1698«, 2013
Lightbulbs and fixtures, 34 × 35 x 11.75 inches. Courtesy Hauser & Wirth, New York. Photo: Thomas Müller, Courtesy of the artist and Hauser &

Wirth, New York; Image via
dailyartfair.com; © Martin
Creed/Bildrecht, Vienna
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Martin Creed, Work No. 2692, 2016
Acrylic on canvas, 110.25 × 275.62
inches. Installation view, »Martin Creed.
What You Find,« Hauser & Wirth
Somerset, 2016. Photo: Jamie Woodley,
courtesy of the artist and Hauser &
Wirth, New York; image via
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Music

In 1994 Creed was a founding member of the band Owada. In 2001 he created his own music label »Telephone Records«. Between the repetition of chords and lyrics, Creed's music contrasts elements of punk style with country music, and musical improvisation with lo-fi aesthetics.

In the Exhibition

Martin Creed

How I wrote ... Thinking/Not Thinking, 2011, with Martin Creed (voc., git.)
and Band, 3:00 min.

Film: The Guardian

Hi, my name is Martin Creed and this is my band, Keiko, Be, Rob, and Genevieve, and this song that we are gonna play now, that we are gonna try to play, is called »Thinking / Not Thinking.«

I was trying to describe what living is like, and I was thinking that living consists of thinking, and not thinking, you know? And that's just about it. So I tried to put that in a song and it's got two chords in it: there's a chord for thinking, and a chord for not thinking, and that's the way it goes, thinking, and not thinking.

I don't know if it's better to think or not to think, but I think it's probably better not to think.

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Lona Gaikis / Corinne Bannister