

Kim Hiorthøy is a man of principles. Kim reads. Kim has opinions. Kim thinks that contemporary art requires compromises to succeed. He might be right, but he may also opt out in favour of doing one or several other things instead. I can not. Kim is envious of me because I solely work in the field of contemporary art, and I am envious of Kim because he works with everything else.

I once helped Kim moving. Well, it was not moving as such; there were no boxes to be lifted and carried to the first floor and into the apartment in Kreuzberg that had a narrow corridor and four rooms of almost the same size, which resulted in a normally sized living room, a somewhat large bedroom, a really large kitchen and a gigantic bathroom. What was required of me was making a contribution so that this apartment felt like a home. I had to help with the first few choices, the first circles around the apartment, and the first discoveries that made up a map of spread out possibilities in the new hometown of Berlin. Among the few, but essential, things on our list was buying the essential things for the apartment. Which included a Bialetti coffee maker. Coffee is an essential thing, but since Kim is a man of principles it was also important that he did not drink too much coffee. He only needed a single cup each morning.

We spent a whole week searching for a coffee maker for one single coffee cup. We did not find it. But since there were two of us and we each needed a cup each morning, we were fine with the regular size. He found the coffee maker he wanted some weeks after I left. I knew that he would rather be continuing searching than changing his habits.

Kim Hiorthøy (b. 1973) lives and works in Oslo, Brussels and no longer in Berlin. Previous exhibitions include Bergen Kunsthall, Bergen, "14th Vilnius Painting Triennial: False Recognition", CAC, Vilnius; "Sonic Voices, Rocking Hard", Montevideo / Nederlands Instituut voor Mediakunst, Amsterdam; "The End of the Line: Attitudes in Drawing", Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh, Bristol's City Museum and Art Gallery, Bristol, Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art - MIMA, Middlesbrough; "The Line Is a Lonely Hunter", New Jerseyy, Basel. Kim Hiorthøy is also the director of the film "The Rules for Everything" that premiered in 2017 and also known for his work as a graphic designer, having been responsible for the majority of record covers for labels such as Rune Grammofon and Smalltown Supersound. An extensive monograph dedicated to his illustrations and graphic design will be released by Flamme Forlag during spring 2019.

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