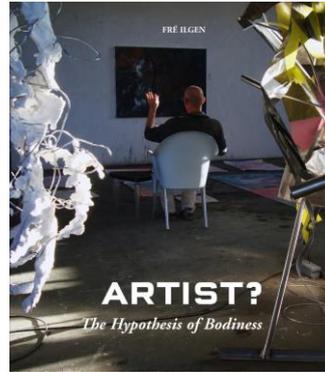




Photo by Danny Croucher, 2011



Cover book, 2014

“My broad range of activities, including my writing, lecturing, stimulating dialogue, collaborations with scientists and art professionals, are all straightforwardly linked to my focus and work in the studio, wishing art in general and my own artworks in particular to offer other persons deep and profound experiences on living their own individual lives in the world.”
Fré Ilgen

Fré Ilgen (1956, the Netherlands), based in Berlin, is a sculptor, painter and a theorist and curator.

His work is exhibited and owned widely in the United States, Europe, Asia, the Middle East and Australia. Works vary in size from small paintings and sculptures up to monumental size works. His largest work is H5 x W7 x 40 meters, in the main lobby of Heungkuk Life Insurance Building, a prominent office building, downtown Seoul.

Main interest: Why do humans need creating art, why do we need artworks in our own daily environment?

ART + THEORY

Ilgen’s paintings, sculptures and mobiles depict a reality that is not a solid mass but a swirling movement of shifting relationships, using abstract as well as figurative forms. Ilgen combines features from Western and Eastern cultures and philosophies, like from the Baroque and Indian sunyata. His extensive interest in visual perception and his interest in neuroscience motivate him exploring artworks that are visually powerful, appealing in dynamic compositions, defying gravity and simulating continuous change. These purposely cause a pleasant bewilderment in the viewer, because his works do not offer any singular narrative besides a fusion of the positive and negative in life. His interests and knowledge span across times and cultures.

EXPOSURE

Exhibitions include more than 45 solo exhibitions (incl. 5 in New York) and more than 150 group exhibitions in galleries, museums, corporations, foundations and numerous art fairs around the world, and various biennials, including exhibition “Frontiers Reimagined” (Tagore Foundation), part of the official Collaterale Program of **the 56th Venice Biennial**. He moderates the award winning “**Checkpoint Ilgen**”- series, the idealistic art salon, which he and his wife Jacqueline host at their private apartment in Berlin. In 2011 Ilgen curated *Mirrors of Continuous Change*, a large exhibition of global art, for the Ilju and Seonhwa Foundations in Seoul. He lectures widely at universities, fine art academies, galleries, international conferences, like in Europe, USA, East Asia.

PUBLICATIONS

Monographies, published in Europe, USA and Asia, cover his creative output, including “Fré Ilgen: The Search”, a retrospective book, 2001, and “To Be Free”, 2012. His works and activities have been covered by many art magazines, newspapers, blogs and TV programs in various parts of the world.

He also published the widely acknowledged major books “Art? No Thing! Analogies between Art, Science and Philosophy”, 2004, and “ARTIST? The Hypothesis of Bodiness”, Wasmuth Verlag, 2014 – available at Amazon.com

See www.freilgen.com - including more information on his range of activities, works, lectures, books.