

VANESSA BEECROFT

Born in Genoa, Italy, in 1969. Lives in Los Angeles, CA.

Vanessa Beecroft's work has been shown internationally since 1993, and has shaped performance art, the representation of the female body, and the sociopolitical discussions of art. Her performances (titled VB, followed by the number) have been an ongoing practice for over twenty-five years. Presented across some of the world's preeminent museums and major contemporary events, Beecroft's performances highlight the tensions between nakedness and clothing, constraint and freedom, the collective and the individual, and human strength and weakness.

Vanessa Beecroft was one of the first artists to collaborate with fashion brands, starting in the 1990s, and since 2009 has collaborated extensively with musician and producer Kanye West. Now belonging to popular culture as well as the contemporary art canon, her work also manifests a deep dialogue with the history of art and representations across the traditions of Europe and of many of the world's cultures. She is also a keen practitioner of photography, drawing, painting, and sculpture, using each medium to present perspectives on the body, as she brings Renaissance influences together with modern representation. Her art is a passionate field of experimentation, rooted in history, unraveling according to its own rules, and expanding into the world where it takes on many philosophical and political tones to in order to question the significance of our existence as human beings.

Selected Exhibitions and Performances:

Mary Opera, collaboration with Kanye West, Lincoln Center, New York (2019); Mary Opera, collaboration with Kanye West, Art Basel, Miami (2019); Vanessa Beecroft, Illustrated Editorial, Vogue Italia (2019); Nebuchadnezzar Opera, collaboration with Kanye West, Hollywood Bowl, Los Angeles (2019); VB88, Kappa, Lot 11 Skatepark, Miami (2019); VB87, Moncler, Galleria Vittorio Emanuele, Milan (2019); Vanessa Beecroft, Pio Pico, Los Angeles (2019); Fundacion de artistas, Merida, Mexico (2019); People, Jeffrey Deitch, Los Angeles. (2019); Eco e Narciso, MAXXI National Museum of 21-Century Arts, Rome (2014); Vanessa Beecroft, Pio Pico, Los Angeles (2017); VB84, Firenze Suona Contemporanea, Uffizi Gallery Museum, Florence (2017); VB83, Firenze Suona Contemporanea, Palazzo Strozzi, Florence (2017); VB82, Certosa di San Lorenzo, Padula, Italy (2017); Vanessa Beecroft Polaroids 1993 – 2016, Photo Vogue Festival, Palazzo Reale, Milan (2016); VB79, The New York Academy of Arts, New York (2016); VB78, PAC Padiglione d'Arte Contemporanea, Milan (2016); VB77, Yeezy 3, collaboration with Kanye West, Madison Square Garden, New York (2016); 56th Venice Biennale (2015); Expo 2015, Milan (2015); Art Basel, Miami (2014); VB74, MAXXI National Museum of 21-Century Arts, Rome (2014); VB72, Art Basel, Miami (2013); VB70, Galleria Lia Rumma, Milan (2011); VB68, MMK, Frankfurt (2010); VB66, Mercato Ittico, Naples (2010); VB65, PAC, Milan (2009); VB62, Spasimo, Palermo, Italy (2008); VB61, Pescheria di Rialto, Venice (2007); VB60, Gana Art Gallery, Seoul (2007); VB59, The National Gallery, London (2006); VB55, Neue Nationalgalerie, Berlin (2005); VB56, LVMH, Louis Vuitton Store, Champs-Élysées, Paris (2005); VB54, Terminal 5, JFK International Airport, New York; VB52, Castello di Rivoli Museo d'Arte Contemporanea, Turin, Italy (2003); VB50, 25a Biennial de São Paulo (2002);

VB48, Palazzo Ducale, Genoa (2001); VB47, Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Venice (2001); VB46, Gagosian Gallery, Beverly Hills (2001); VB42, Whitney Biennial, New York (2000); VB35, 391; Guggenheim Museum, New York (1998); VB33, ICA London (1997); VB28, 47th Venice Biennale (1997); VB26, Lia Rumma, Naples (1997); VB23, Museum Ludwig, Cologne (1996); VB19, The Renaissance Society, Chicago (1996); VB17, Deste Foundation, Athens (1996); VB16, Deitch Projects, New York (1996); VB11, Galerie Analix, Geneva (1995); VB09, Schipper & Krome, Cologne (1994); VB08, MoMA P.S.1, Long Island City (1994); VB07, Andrea Rosen, New York (1994); VB03, Galleria Massimo De Carlo, Milan (1994); VB01, Galleria Inga-Pin, Milan (1993).

Works by the Artist:

Vanessa Beecroft: Selected Polaroids 1993-2016 (Exhibition Catalog, Palazzo Reale, 2016);

Vanessa Beecroft, VB65 PAC, (Electa, 2009); VB62 Spasimo, Palermo (Electa, 2009);

Vanessa Beecroft Disegni e Pitture 1993–2007 (Electa, 2007)

Vanessa Beecroft: Photographs, Films, Drawings (Hatje Cantz, 2004);

Vanessa Beecroft Performances 1993–2003 (Skira, 2003); VB08–36 Vanessa Beecroft Performances (Hatje Cantz, 2000).

Beecroft, Vanessa, and Di Pietrantonio, Giacinto. Vanessa Beecroft – Drawings and paintings 1993 – 2007. Milan: Electa/GAMeC. 2007.

Beecroft, Vanessa, and Lapo Cianchi. VB53 Vanessa Beecroft.

Milan: Charta, 2005.