

## **Joep van Lieshout/Atelier Van Lieshout**

Joep van Lieshout: sculptor, visionary, and enfant terrible. At sixteen, Van Lieshout got himself accepted at the Rotterdam Academy of the Arts. After graduating, he rose to fame quickly, with functional sculptures that raise questions about the society at large and nature of art.

In 1995 van Lieshout founded his studio, Atelier Van Lieshout; ever since, he has been working under the name of the studio to undermine the myth of the artistic genius. Over the past two decades, Atelier Van Lieshout has produced a veritable cornucopia of works which straddle art, design and architecture: sculpture and installations, buildings and furniture, utopias and dystopias.

What these works have in common are a number of recurring themes, motives and obsessions: systems, power, autarky, life, sex, death. The human individual in the face of a greater whole.

With this body of work, comprising both autonomous and commissioned artworks, he has gained a strong international reputation. The Atelier has exhibited at museums and galleries worldwide, with shows at PS1, New York, the Hayward Gallery, London, and Centre Pompidou, Paris. Additionally, the Atelier has worked on numerous commissions for both public and private clients