

OPERA GALLERY



Cloud (big), 2024, Corten steel, 592 x 800 x 248 cm | 233.1 x 315 x 97.6 in

FRED EERDEKENS

9-30 October, 2026
GENEVA

Opera Gallery Geneva is pleased to present a new solo exhibition dedicated to Belgian artist Fred Eerdekens, marking his return to the gallery eight years after his first Geneva exhibition in 2018. Bringing together over twenty works, the exhibition explores the relationship between sculpture, language, light and perception.

Nothing in Eerdekens' work is quite as it first appears. Lines of metal, folded forms and seemingly abstract constructions gradually disclose another dimension, as words and meanings emerge through shadow or perspective.

The origins of this approach date back to 1987, when the shadow cast by a fragment of twisted metal unexpectedly formed a letter. This accidental discovery became the starting point for a distinctive artistic language in which material, language and immaterial projection are closely intertwined.

Eerdekens' practice unfolds through two principal approaches. His wall-mounted and suspended sculptures use projected shadow to transform abstract forms into something legible, while his freestanding works rely on perspective, revealing their meaning only from a precise viewpoint. In both, what initially appears abstract can suddenly become clear, only to dissolve again with a shift in light or position.

Behind this apparent simplicity lies remarkable precision. Every curve, distance and angle is carefully considered, yet the technical complexity remains secondary to the experience itself. Eerdekens transforms language into a visual and spatial experience, allowing words to emerge from abstract form with subtlety, wit and poetic ambiguity.

The words and phrases he chooses are often concise and suggestive, resisting fixed interpretation. Recognition becomes only the beginning, opening the work to association, memory and imagination.

Eerdekens' work reminds us that seeing and understanding are not quite the same thing. What becomes visible is not always fully resolved. The object is only the beginning; what follows depends on how we look.

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About Opera Gallery

Founded in Singapore in 1994, Opera Gallery has spent the past 30 years building a global presence, with 14 locations across major cities including London, Paris, New York, Geneva, Singapore, and Madrid. Under the leadership of Gilles Dyan, the gallery has become a key player in the international art market, with a strong focus on Modern, Postwar, and Contemporary art.

Opera Gallery also champions a new generation of artists, representing rising talents such as Andy Denzler, Pieter Obels, and Gustavo Nazareno, alongside more established contemporary figures like Ron Arad, Manolo Valdés, and Anselm Reyle. Situated in the heart of the city, the Geneva location spans over 200 square meters of exhibition space and is directed by Jordan Lahmi.

For over three decades, the gallery's mission has been to highlight the richness and diversity of modern and contemporary art through a dynamic annual exhibition program, while actively engaging with cultural institutions and supporting both private collections and major public initiatives.

About Fred Eerdekens

Fred Eerdekens (b. 1951, Heusden- Zolder, Belgium) lives and works in Hasselt, Belgium. Since the late 1980s, he has developed a singular sculptural language in which words and phrases emerge from carefully constructed forms, most often through projected shadow or from a precise point of view.

Eerdekens transforms language into a visual and spatial experience, allowing words to emerge from abstract form with subtlety, wit and poetic ambiguity. His works invite viewers to move between abstraction and legibility, continually questioning the relationship between what is seen, what is read and what is understood.

His work has been presented in numerous solo and group exhibitions throughout Europe, the United States and Asia, including at the Musée d'Art Moderne in Brussels, the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam, The Courtauld Institute of Art in London, the Musée d'Art moderne et contemporain in Strasbourg, the Royal Museums of Fine Arts of Belgium in Brussels and the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes in Havana.

Eerdekens' work is represented in many prominent public, corporate and private collections, including the Norton Collection, USA; FRAC Languedoc-Roussillon, France; the Museum of Modern Art, Bolzano; the National Bank of Belgium, Brussels; MuHKA – Museum of Contemporary Art Antwerp; and the Perlstein Collection. In 2024, he also collaborated with Cartier, creating installations for Cartier boutiques and window displays internationally.

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