



RESEARCH & PROCESS

The Fluidity of the Eternal: Decoding the Hermaphrodite Endormi

Published: 2 February 2026

The Hermaphrodite Endormi is a second-century Roman masterpiece that challenges traditional gender binaries through its depiction of the mythological child of Hermes and Aphrodite. Enhanced by a realistic marble mattress carved by Gian Lorenzo Bernini in 1620, the sculpture has journeyed from the Borghese collection to the Louvre, and recently to the Rijksmuseum. It serves as an essential cultural touchstone, proving that gender fluidity has been a recognised and celebrated aspect of human history and art for thousands of years.

SUMMARY

The Hermaphrodite Endormi is a second-century Roman masterpiece that challenges traditional gender binaries through its depiction of the mythological child of Hermes and Aphrodite. Enhanced by a realistic marble mattress carved by Gian Lorenzo Bernini in 1620, the sculpture has journeyed from the Borghese collection to the Louvre, and recently to the Rijksmuseum. It serves as an essential cultural touchstone, proving that gender fluidity has been a recognised and celebrated aspect of human history and art for thousands of years. The silent corridors of the Louvre house a figure that has transcended time, culture, and the rigid structures of...

More Info <https://www.artthatmatters.gallery/en-HK/journal/the-fluidity-of-the-eternal-decoding-the-hermaphrodite-endormi>

ART THAT MATTERS

by Spannenburg.Art

artthatmatters.gallery | management@spannenburg.art | +31621892151

ONLINE GALLERY



ART EXPANDS HORIZONS AND PERSPECTIVES.

Art should have an impact

The Silent Power of Vulnerability

Arjan Spannenburg (1978) is a Dutch contemporary artist who works in various media, including photography, video, and sculpture. His work often explores themes of vulnerability, connection, and the human condition.

His work has been exhibited internationally, including at the ZERP Galerie in Rotterdam, the Schwules Museum in Berlin, and the Paratissima in Italia.

Gallery Representation & Exhibitions In addition to permanent representation by ZERP Galerie (Rotterdam), Spannenburg's oeuvre has been selected for prestigious international platforms and events, including:

- PAN Amsterdam
- Kunstlinie, Almere
- Schwules Museum, Berlin
- Paratissima, Italia
- Tongerlohuys, Roosendaal

His works are held in diverse private collections and are often seen in prominent public locations, including the City Hall of The Hague.

QUICK LINKS

[Artworks](#)
[Buying Art](#)
[Venues](#)
[Categories](#)
[Categories](#)
[Artists](#)
[Shipping & returns](#)
[Terms & Conditions](#)
[Privacy Policy](#)
[Login for Authors](#)

ART THAT MATTERS



© 2026 Arjan Spanenburg



Share your experience on Google

ABOUT US

ART THAT MATTERS

Sole Proprietorship
Hendrik Werkmanstraat 79
1328DK, Almere
Flevoland
The Netherlands
CoC: 52015661 (NLD)
VAT: NL001419428B24