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RESEARCH

# The Fluidity of the Eternal: Decoding the Hermaphrodite Endormi

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> *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…

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GALLERY



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## The Silent Power of Vulnerability

The autonomous creation of Arjan Spannenburg (born Texel, 1978) resonates internationally with curators and private collectors alike. Central to his photography is the search for identity and self-expression. Through powerful, predominantly monochrome compositions, Spannenburg portrays youth standing on the threshold of adulthood.

We observe adolescents in a transient, uncertain phase of life. These sensitive portraits capture subjects alone with their thoughts, yet they simultaneously radiate a profound need for communication with the outside world, a search for support, understanding, and love.

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

• PAN Amsterdam

• Kunstlinie, Almere

• Schwules Museum, Berlin

• Paratissima, Italy

• Tongerlohuys, Roosendaal

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




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