

**William Knies (1997)**

**Hikikomori**

**2020**

The notion of hikikomori, which means 'turning inwards', is familiar in Japan, and also in China, Hong Kong, South Korea and Singapore. Young people withdraw from society by voluntarily isolating themselves in a small apartment. In this 3D animation William Knies shows the world of these modern-day hermits in the big city.

The work presents a fictional view of the future, comprising three images. Each image shows part of the reality of the main character. The outside world, their world, and the virtual world. The main character is obsessed with a fictional VR friend, thanks to whom he no longer has any need of social contact.

William Knies is one of the new generation of 3D artists.