

Curriculum Vitae Madelief van de Beek



EDUCATION

- Secondary education at Eerste Christelijke Lyceum in Haarlem. Double profile with focus on culture, society and economics. Graduated in 2013.
- Dutch School of Popular Music, preliminary program Conservatorium Amsterdam: pop music vocals and songwriting. 2013 – 2015 based in Amsterdam.
- Willem de Kooning Academy, University of Applied Sciences: Fine Art major, Critical Studies minor. 2016 – 2020 based in Rotterdam.
- Central Saint Martins, University of Applied Sciences: Erasmus Exchange with the Fine Art major, 4D-program with 'performance and text'-class. 2019 based in London.
- HKU, University of Applied Sciences: Fine Art & Design (Scenography) Master. 2021 – 2023 based in Utrecht.

Projects

I actively search for projects that are interdisciplinary. I get very inspired by working in groups, at new places, and, with different art disciplines.

- Project 'Power Up Amsterdam', organised by Piet Mondriaan fonds, 2023
- Project/research week at Terschelling with MA Scenography, under guidance of Marin de Boer (festival Oerol) and artist Maurice Bogaert (Het Atelier), 2022.
- Guest artist during the open studio of art collective: 'De Bovenburen', a collective of documentary makers and artists in Amsterdam, 2019.
- Project 'Genderosity': a collaboration between the Fine Art classes of WDKA, TENT and KABK. 2017, in Rotterdam and The Hague.
- Project 'Blinddate': the making of theater performance between the dance/composing/fashion and fine art students. A collaboration between WDKA and Codarts. 2018, in Rotterdam.

I also played in two bands: **Yes Miss No Miss** and **The Cinema Escape**. Noticeable performances were Festival **Transmusicales** in Rennes, France

and festival **Jazz in Duketown** in Den Bosch, The Netherlands. I made multiple videoclips with **Chaper.Amsterdam**. Together with **Chaper.Amsterdam** I collaborated before, working as an assistant during the making of the videoclip 'Hands Down' from the Dutch band **Birth of Joy** and, working as leader of the art department during the making of the clip 'Elevate me' from **The Cinema Escape**.

Publications and talks

- **MA thesis** published on the *Scriptiebank* of *De Funeraire Academy* on website *Tot Zover*. <https://www.totzover.nl/scripties/>, 2023
 - I published research about dealing with the fragile mortality of my mother - during my first year of the MA Scenography - on the 'Research Catalogue' site (2022). <https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/1597044/1597045>, 2022
 - I published a book together with my mother and brothers called 'Het Huishouden van een ontaarde moeder' in 2017 about our family dynamics. The book was published by 'plint media' in Amsterdam.
 - I wrote blogs prior to this book, about my experience during puberty, for the Dutch television program: 'Koffietijd' in 2014 - 2015, Amsterdam.
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- I was asked to do an artist talk at Generatiehuis Akademie, to talk about my video work and the importance of female makers in 2021 at theater 'De Bres' in Leeuwarden.

WORK/EXHIBITIONS

- Writer for the research group *Expanding Artistic Practices* (HKU) in 2023
- Graphic Designer for emerging artist Willem Abelen (this includes the design of his debut album *FLUX* and single *Sky High*) in 2023
- Student assistant for the research group *Expanding Artistic Practices* (HKU) during the project 'In Search of Other Stories' in 2022
- Hostess during 'ArtZaanstad' in Zaandam, 2019
- Sound technician for *Popscene Haarlem* in 2019
- Volunteer work for art festival *Parksessies* in Haarlem 2015

My graduation work from the Master Scenography consist of the research paper '**Koud en wit en bleek: How to perceive time in times of grief**'. This resulted in multiple works that delve into the notion of the post-self, death culture and grief:

- HKU exposure show¹ 2023 at 2e Daalsedijk, Exhibited work: '**Object Mori**' and '**Memento Object**'. Curated by Trudy Hekman. Utrecht, 2023. <https://exposure.hku.nl/schools/28-theater>
- *Havenfestival IJmuiden*. Exhibited work: '**Yours, Death**'. IJmuiden, 2023. <https://havenfestivalijmuiden.nl/>
- Group exhibition² 'In Limbo' by first year Scenography students. Exhibited work: '**In a Second**'. Utrecht, 2022.

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My graduation work from the Bachelor Fine Art '**fuck.volgens mij doe ik feminisme verkeerd**', is an art installation that consists of videos played on pink TVs. In these videos I play into feminist stereotypes and partake in improvised performances. With this work I research if there is perhaps a paradox between "super" feminism and misogyny. This work got exhibited at a few different places:

- Exhibition during 'IFA, International Film Festival Assen'. Assen, 2023. <https://filmfestivalassen.nl/>
- Group exhibition³ 'Hier en Nu' by *Media Art Festival (MAF)*. Curated by Irene Xochitl Urrutia. Leeuwarden, 2021. <https://www.mediaartfestival.nl/>
- Group exhibition⁴ 'ALL INN' in Het HEM. Curated by Joke Hoeven en Rieke Vos. Zaandam, 2021. <https://hethem.nl/nl/Het-Hem/Calendar/2021/03/ALL-INN>
- Group exhibition for festival 'Fem Fest' organized by WORM and curated by Kontra. March 3-8 2021, Rotterdam, 2021. <https://worm.org/production/fem-fest-2021-opening-night-feminist-cult-films-and-expo/>

After my graduation of Fine Art, I started working as a part-time florist and realised the potential in botanical art: • All-round florist at *Miss Bloem* in Haarlem, 2021 - 2023

How flowers and plants decay, interests my desire to make works that situate themselves in the here and now. There is an underlying urgency when

working with materials that have flaws, or end dates. The same goes for situating my work in a place that is momentary (eg site-specific). This inspired some of my works that were exhibited at the following places:

- *Boring Festival*. To be exhibited: '**Laatbloeiers**'. Curated by Maarten Claus. Haarlem, 2023. <https://boringfestival.nl/>
- Festival *Haarlem Overdrijft*. Exhibited work: '**Scream and Shout**', collaboration with Pauline Joris/Miss Bloem. Haarlem, 2022. <https://haarlemoverdrijft.nl/>
- *Havenfestival IJmuiden*. Exhibited work: '**Een afscheid gedragen door de wind**'. IJmuiden, 2022. <https://havenfestivalijmuiden.nl/>
- Willem de Kooning Academy graduation show 2020/2021, Exhibited work: '**Er komt een bui aan**', Rotterdam, 2021.

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Other exhibitions include:

- Exhibited during 'Lacuna Art Festivals'; Festival de Arte Lanzarote/ Lanzarote Arts Festival 2020 (digital edition due to Covid-19). Exhibited work: '**And I?**'. Lanzarote, Spain, 2020. <https://www.lacunafestivals.com/>
- Group exhibition 'Shifting Perspectives' organized by fourth year minor students of Critical Study in TENT (Witte de With museum). Exhibited work: '**Het Peperkoekhuis**'. Rotterdam, 2019. <https://www.tentrotterdam.nl/>
- Exhibition Arthallen curated by 'NOW' in the Foodhallen. Exhibited work: '**pictures of Transparency in History**' and '**Tulpen voor Nicolaes**'. Rotterdam, 2019.
- Group Exhibition in Café 'Dizzy' during 'North Sea Round Town'. Exhibited work: '**#beecat**'. Rotterdam, 2018. Exhibition in Café Dizzy during North Sea Round Town. Exhibited work: **#beecat**. Summer, 2018, Rotterdam.
- Festival 'Parksessies', Exhibited work: '**The North Korean Office of Tourism**'. Curated by Maarten Claus. Haarlem, 2017. <https://parksessies.nl/>

¹ Other artists exhibited: Thomas Coehoorn, Lieve Van Engelenburg, Florence Gommans, Hannelore Havelaar, Roos Jepma, Simon Michels, Vos Van der Noordt, Sofie Smits, Jasmijn Piek, Vita de Pater, Ilse van Boekhoven, Thijs Baselmans, Kate Young, Verena Wieland, Anna Zorzi.

² Thijs Baselmans, Maria Komarova, Kate Young, Verena Wieland, Anna Zorzi.

³ Other artists exhibited: Joris Bosma, Britt van den Boogaard, Martina dal Brollo, Tessa Langeveld, Dawid Lifting & Camilo Sandoval, George Mazari, Paula Nishijima, Haifa Ouerfelli, Elif Satanaya Özbay, Samantha Pellarini, Alcaeus Spyrou, Lan Hsin Tu, Samira Arrami

⁴ Multiple fine arts student from the following academies: Academie Minerva in Groningen, St. Joost School of Art & Design in Breda and Den Bosch, AKI ArtEZ University of the Arts in Enschede, Base for Experiment, Art and Research (BEAR), ArtEZ University of the Arts in Arnhem, Gerrit Rietveld Academie in Amsterdam, Hogeschool voor de Kunsten in Utrecht, Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten in Den Haag, Maastricht Institute of Arts en Willem de Kooning Academie in Rotterdam

SKILLS

• Microsoft Word • Microsoft Powerpoint	Expert knowledge
• Adobe Premiere • Adobe After Effects	Expert knowledge
• Adobe Lightroom • Adobe Photoshop	Expert knowledge
• Adobe Indesign	Basis knowledge design
• Resolume • Isadora	Video mapping en editing
• Programming 'Bare Conductive' and 'Arduino'	Basic programming
• Photography • Videography	Knowledge of Parasonic Lumix and Canon
• Audacity	Basic knowledge
• Wordpress • Hostnet	Basic Knowledge

Expert in painting and sketching both digital and traditional. Knowledge of bookbinding, silkscreen printing, sowing, knitting, embroidering, arranging flowers. Basic knowledge of renovating: construction, woodwork, plastering.

CONTACT

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Born in Overveen, The Netherlands, 22nd of April 1996. Currently works and lives in Haarlem.



<https://www.instagram.com/madeliefvandebeek/>



<https://www.facebook.com/madelief.vdbeek/>

'THE STORY'

When I grew up, our home was a place, open to anyone. Always in construction, my parents made the house feel as a living ever-changing beast. My mother, a journalist and writer, would cook lavish meals and tell beautiful stories under the dim light of - what seemed like - a million candles. My father, the engineer would in his turn, make those stories come to life with his big builder hands. We spend every summer in a rural village in Bretagne, France, where me and my two brothers devoured book after book. I collected cards of fairies and started to draw them with charcoal on the walls in our holiday home.

My parents always encouraged me to act on whatever urge I felt to create something new with my hands. It is because of that freedom that I find myself often switching between disciplines in my artistic work. I get easily inspired by different crafts and, feel encouraged to discover the limits of the many materials I work with. Especially since working as a florist at a small boutique in Haarlem, botanical material like flowers, peak my interest.

During my graduation year of Fine Art, my mother got diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer. Unfortunately, it got worse... Two years after her first diagnosis, they discovered tumors in her brain that changed her into a woman I didn't recognised as my mother anymore. Nine months later - my brothers, father and I held each others hands - when she took her last breath.

My mother learned me that what we do as creators, should always be in the service of 'the story' we are meaning to tell. Although I never expected my own story to become so grim at the age of 26, I do feel the urge to honour her by not hiding behind any facade. Instead, I lean into my grief. Losing my mother, changed the course of my artistic research and practice, because it has changed me as a person. I feel the need to share my experiences with my audience. Within my work I want to show how carefully curated symbolism and scenography translates into meaning and making sense of our life and, by that, our deaths.

