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## DIMITRI VAN DEN WITTENBOER

### Site-specific participatory Performance

I work with site-specific performance exploring possible varieties of participation and how they can contribute to our society. What excites me about participation is the commitment which is required from the audience. I believe that this makes the work less consumable. In my recent projects, I was researching ritual in the studies of anthropology. I was curious to learn about the participatory quality of ritual performance and experimented with ways to integrate it into my work. Currently, I am interested in public space. I am looking for a performance practice which is embedded in the social world and has a direct effect. The work is produced in a collaborative back and forth between the participants and the artist.

### WEBSITES

personal

[dimitrivandenwittenboer.com](http://dimitrivandenwittenboer.com)

### MEMBER OF ARTISTS' INITIATIVE/COLLECTIVE/INCUBATOR

Hgitomi Rosa

### EDUCATION

2015 - Fine Arts Den Haag, Koninklijke Academie  
2019 van Beeldende Kunsten diploma

### EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 Graduation Show Royal Academy of Arts Den Haag, Netherlands  
[Group](#)
- 2019 The Handshake Hgtomi Rosa Den Haag, Netherlands Opening exhibition of our artist initiative based in The Hague. With works by Dimitri Van den Wittenboer, Caroline Straver, Constantijn Scholten, Jan Dirk Adams, Alex Webber, Yukari Nakamichi and Daniele Formica. [www.hgtomirosa.com](http://www.hgtomirosa.com)  
[Group](#)
- 2018 Locatie Z Den Haag, Netherlands Fine Arts Autonome Exhibition.  
[Group](#)

### PROJECTS

- 2020 Human interaction in Public Space Public Space The Hague, Netherlands  
[dimitrivandenwittenboer.com](http://dimitrivandenwittenboer.com) The public space is an interplay between various elements including architecture, laws, institutions, mental images and social behaviours. Henri Lefebvre explains that cities do not exist per se but are social products of relations of people and the environment. My performative research specifically looks into possible ways of transforming these relations in the context of the city.
- 2019 Thesis Performance Royal Academy of Art The Hague The Hague, Netherlands Dimitri van den Wittenboer questions the

- 2018 A foreign Affair Helena van  
doeverenplantsoen 3 The Hague,  
Netherlands The KABK Fine Art 4th  
Year Pre-End Exam Expo,  
[www.kabk.nl/agenda/beeldende-  
kunst-studenten-presenteren-pre-  
exam-expo-a-foreign-affair](http://www.kabk.nl/agenda/beeldende-kunst-studenten-presenteren-pre-exam-expo-a-foreign-affair)  
Group
- 2018 Come as you are Trixie Den Haag,  
Netherlands  
Group
- dominance of the written word in our  
culture. Instead of producing a regular  
written thesis, he decided to do his  
graduation thesis in the form of a two-hour  
theatrical performance. It took place on 8  
April 2019 in the Auditorium of the KABK in  
the attendance of around 25 people.  
Midway between a modernist theatre play, a  
workshop and an art performance, the  
performance was divided into three parts, in  
which the theories of three avant-garde  
theatre makers (Antonin Artaud, Jerzy  
Grotowsky and Augusto Boal) were  
presented, discussed and demonstrated.  
Together with two actors, Dimitri managed  
to raise questions on multiple issues, like  
the body of the performer, public  
participation and the political effectiveness  
of performances. All senses were activated  
in a total experience, to evoke these  
questions - seeing, hearing, tasting,  
touching, smelling. To this end, the  
auditorium was carefully adjusted. In line  
with the objective to challenge the  
dominance of the written word, no audio-  
visual recordings were made of the  
performance, nor has the script been made  
available in a written form. Instead, Dimitri  
has submitted a list of witnesses and  
participants in the performance. They can  
be approached for further information. Their  
memories document the event. As an  
example of this mnemonic documentation,  
Dimitri gave a lesson on 25 April 2019 to  
the propaedeutic students of the FA  
department of the KABK, in which he staged  
the memorising of his performance with his  
thesis supervisor - the start of an oral  
narrative.
- 2018 Giving Back Public Space New York, United  
States  
[dimitrivandenwittenboer.com/giving-  
back.html](http://dimitrivandenwittenboer.com/giving-back.html) During a visit in New York, I  
developed a public performance in  
collaboration with homeless people from  
the city centre. We were giving free 1 dollar  
bills to the passing people in the Union  
Square Park.

2020 Dhruvad Institute for Indian Music  
Bhopal, India Research of the effects of  
vocal sounds on the human body.  
[dhrupad.org/dhrupad-institute/](http://dhrupad.org/dhrupad-institute/)

2019 Cloud@Danslab Den Haag,  
Netherlands In collaboration with a  
dancer I developed I method which can  
bring the human body in a state of high  
excitement.  
[www.cloudatdanslab.nl/2019/11/residency-  
state-of-excitement-research-on-the-  
numinous-experience-dimitri-v-d-  
wittenboer/](http://www.cloudatdanslab.nl/2019/11/residency-state-of-excitement-research-on-the-numinous-experience-dimitri-v-d-wittenboer/)

2017 Cloud@Danslab Den Haag,  
Netherlands Research of participatory  
art through immersive games.  
[www.ludiccollective.com/1st-project](http://www.ludiccollective.com/1st-project)



Invisible Basketball, 2020  
Participatory Performance, ongoing



The Present , 2019  
Participatory Performance



The Present , 2019  
Participatory Performance, 30 min



Holy Mass, 2019  
Participatory Performance, 60 min, 7 days



Holy Mass, 2019  
Participatory Performance, 60 min, 7 days



"Would you like a free mandarine", 2018  
Participatory Performance, ongoing



Giving Back, 2018  
Participatory Performance, ongoing



Food, 2018  
Participatory Performance, 5 h



Food, 2018  
Participatory Performance, 5 h



Touch, 2018  
Participatory Performance, 5h, 3 days