

VITA SOUL WILMERING

What makes Wilmering's films special is that, thanks to her cross-border approach, she manages to make the fallibility of memory visible, without losing any empathy for the protagonist of her films. (NRC, Lucette ter Borg)

I make films and work with performance, installation, music and other media, always starting from a documentary basis. I consider the performative space that a camera evokes as an instrument to start friendships and to communicate on an intimate level with the people I work with. For this, I integrate the making process into the work itself. In many of my projects I play with fictional elements and let people switch between role-playing and reality. I use this method to visualise questions about how one reclaims a personal or familial history, embedded in an environment that is constantly under (re)construction. In recent years I have made both narrative films, experimental films, and video installations. Through individual stories, many of my works touch upon universal and sometimes major socio-political themes, even though these broader themes are never the starting point of the work. Usually, my attention is drawn to specific people in the way they deal with impactful events in their lives, and the question on how close I can get to them. In the intimate contact that arises from these encounters, I examine our relationship to past or present with them, using all kinds of reconstruction methods to create a playful space of reflection. Using elements such as music and performance, I challenge the people I work with to go beyond a documentary approach and translate factual events into fictional spaces. This gives them the opportunity to reflect in a fresh, sometimes funny or painful way. Film itself becomes a way of dealing with absence, without becoming sentimental, because reconstructing real situations and personal memories always creates a certain discomfort. Every scene is an attempt, rather than a finished act. I am by no means attempting to show an objective picture of something or someone. Moreover, I am interested in contradictions and conflicting truths, which makes me aware of the power that a camera gives me. By making myself and the construction of filming or narrating visible, the illusion of a universal truth disappears, while revealing a great complexity and the mechanisms of storytelling.

WEBSITES

Personal website

www.vitasoulwilmering.nl

SOCIAL MEDIA

www.instagram.com/vitasoulwilmering/

MEMBER OF ARTISTS' INITIATIVE/COLLECTIVE/INCUBATOR

Billytown

EDUCATION

- 2019 - Amsterdam, De Ateliers diploma
- 2021
- 2017 - Audiovisual Arts (film) Master
- 2018 Audiovisual Arts, KASK School of Arts, Gent (BE) diploma
- 2014 - Audiovisual Artis (film) Bachelor
- 2017 Audiovisual Arts, KASK School of Arts, Gent (BE) diploma

EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 The Divorce Chair Cité des Arts Paris Paris, France
Performative film screening, Open Studios 2025
[Solo](#)
- 2024 Another Grand Day Out KiekenCentrale Antwerp, Belgium
Group exhibition with artists from Billytown
[Group](#)
- 2024 The Failed Holiday Galerie Block C Groningen, Netherlands
[Solo](#)
- 2024 EYE on Art EYE Filmmuseum Amsterdam, Netherlands
Screening 'Lake Bottom Cinema'
[Group](#)
- 2024 Prospects ArtRotterdam Rotterdam, Netherlands
'(un)scripted' in exhibition Prospects
[Group](#)
- 2023 ROZENSTRAAT a rose is a rose is a rose Amsterdam, Netherlands
Performance night and conversations, connected with the exhibition Carriers, kunsthuis SYB
[Group](#)

- 2023 Sarajevo Film Festival Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina World premiere 'Lake Bottom Cinema' [Solo](#)
- 2023 don't look a gift horse in the mouth Woonhuis De Ateliers (Amsterdam Art) Amsterdam, Netherlands 'Lake Bottom Cinema' in exhibition, and artist talk, moderated by Kris Petrasova (The Netherlands Institute Sound & Vision) [Group](#)
- 2022 Carriers Kunsthuis SYB Beetsterzwaag, Netherlands Sybren Hellinga Art Prize, nomination [Group](#)
- 2022 Out of time Helicopter Artist Collective Den Haag, Netherlands Group show, organisation and participation [Group](#)
- 2022 Spiegl Kino Muranow Warsaw, Poland Screening, Dutch Film Week Warsaw [Solo](#)
- 2022 parallel relocations // relocated parallels KCTrebinje Trebinje, Bosnia and Herzegovina [Duo](#)
- 2022 Lake Bottom Cinema On site: old village of Orah Orah, Bosnia and Herzegovina Site-specific installation [Solo](#)
- 2022 Limburg Biennale #2 Marres Maastricht, Netherlands [Group](#)
- 2022 Construire, déconstruire, reconstruire OFF Biennale Dakar Dakar, Senegal, Senegal Group show in Maison Toubab Malo, Off Biennale Dakar [Group](#)
- 2022 IFFR, International Film Festival Rotterdam Rotterdam, Netherlands Official selection 'Spiegl', mid-length section iffr.com/en/expanded/2022/films/spiegl [Solo](#)
- 2022 R.S.V.P. Billytown Den Haag BAÄL, in collaboration with Sam Hersbach, group show billytown.org/ [Group](#)
- 2021 Always Hallways De Ateliers Amsterdam, Netherlands Offspring, final show at De Ateliers de-ateliers.nl [Solo](#)
- 2020 BAÄL De Ateliers Amsterdam, Netherlands Online radio play and broadcasting, in collaboration with Sam Hersbach, Offspring 2020 jajaneeneenee.nl [Duo](#)
- 2019 Houtnacht & Houtfestival Haarlem, Netherlands Film screenings 'Oyfn veg shteyt a boym'
- 2019 Doculab De Pletterij Haarlem, Netherlands Screening 'Oyfn veg shteyt a boym' and

- discussion pletterij.nl
- 2018 DocLisboa Lisbon, Portugal Official selection 'lboyah', green years section doclisboa.org
- 2018 Sphinx cinema & KASK cinema Ghent, Belgium Master graduation show, screenings 'lboyah' kask.be
- 2018 Levens//weg Radboud University Nijmegen, Netherlands 'Oyfn veg shteyt a boym', screening and artist talk
- 2018 Since I see myself over there Ostadetheater Amsterdam, Netherlands Theatre performance in collaboration with Simone van der Steen
- 2017 KASK cinema Ghent, Belgium Bachelor graduation show, screenings 'Oyfn veg shteyt a boym'
- 2017 Visions du Réel Nyon, Switzerland Official selection 'Oyfn veg shteyt a boym', media library www.visionsdureel.ch/en
- 2017 Cinema_plek Ghent, Belgium Screening 'Diary'
- 2016 De Donkere Materie Roest Amsterdam, Netherlands 'We are here', installation in group show [Group](#)
- 2016 Het Nieuwe Dromen ABC Architectuurcentrum Haarlem, Netherlands Screenings 'Zonder'
- 2015 Bewegend Beeld Bewegend Beeld Brussels, Belgium Screening 'Diary'
- 2014 De Nieuwe Vide Haarlem, Netherlands Screening 'Zonder'

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES/RESIDENCIES

- 2024 Artist in Residence, CITE des arts internationale, Paris, FR Paris, France
- 2023 ArtMessiamé Bandjoun Station Bandjoun, Cameroon Group project and residency
- 2022 KAMEN Artist Residency Orah, Bosnia and Herzegovina

PUBLICATIONS

- 2021 Always Hallways Catalog De Ateliers Amsterdam, Netherlands de-ateliers.nl Exhibition catalogue

SALES/WORKS IN COLLECTIONS

- 2024 Lake Bottom Cinema Distribution Collection EYE Film Museum Amsterdam, Nederland

REVIEWS

- 2022 Laag voor laag Magazine Nadeche Remst Netherlands 'De films van Vita Soul Wilmering', article in Metropolis M, no1

2018	DocLisboa Catalog DocLisboa Lisbon, Portugal doclisboa.org Festival catalogue	2022	
2018	Graduation Catalog KASK School of Arts Ghent, Belgium kask.be Graduation catalogue	2021	Knappe acrobatiek tussen docu en fictie tijdens open huis in De Ateliers Newspaper Lucette ter Borg Netherlands www.nrc.nl/nieuws/2021/10/11/knappe-acrobatiek-tussen-documentaire-en-fictie-tijdens-open-huis-van-de-ateliers-a4061406 Review of the show 'Always Hallways' (De Ateliers) in NRC Handelsblad
2017	Visions du Réel Catalog Visions du Réel Nyon, Switzerland www.visionsdureel.ch Festival catalogue (online)	2021	Deze jonge kunstenaars gaan hun eigen gang Newspaper Sarah van Binsbergen Netherlands www.volkskrant.nl/cultuur-media/dit-is-de-nieuwe-lichting-van-kunstwerkplaats-de-ateliers~b30a6d63/ Review of the show 'Always Hallways' (De Ateliers) in De Volkskrant
2016	De Donkere Materie Catalog De Donkere Materie Amsterdam, Netherlands Exhibition catalogue, Roest	2021	De Ateliers Offspring 2021 - De gang als uitgangspunt Magazine Lotte van Geijn Netherlands www.metropolism.com/nl/reviews/44868_de_ateliers_off Review of the show 'Always Hallways' (De Ateliers) in Metropolis M

AWARDS AND GRANTS

2024	Mondriaan Fonds (voorheen Fonds BKVB) Paris, France Residency Atelier Holsboer Paris
2023	Mondriaan Fonds (voorheen Fonds BKVB) Amsterdam, Netherlands Project grant 'Insomnia'
2023	(sinds 2004) Stroom, Den Haag The Hague, Netherlands Project grant
2023	(sinds 2004) Stroom, Den Haag The Hague, Netherlands PRO Invest
2022	Artist Start Fonds BKVB, Amsterdam (Mondriaan Fonds) Netherlands Stipend
2022	Project grant Stichting Dommering Fonds Netherlands Project grant 'Insomnia'
2022	Project grant Stichting Niemeijer Fonds Netherlands Projectsubsidie for project 'Lake bottom cinema'
2021	AFK, Amsterdam Amsterdam, Netherlands Project grant 'Spiegel'
2020	Stichting AMMODO Amsterdam, Netherlands Work budget, via De Ateliers
2020	NORMA Fonds Netherlands Project grant 'Spiegel'
2019	Prins Bernard Cultuurfonds

SECONDARY ART-RELATED ACTIVITIES

2022 - 2024	Workshops with highschool students at De Ateliers, Amsterdam On-going
2021 - 2021	HKU Fine Art, seminar teaching
2016 - 2019	Film operator (digital & analogue) at several film festivals and cinemas

Netherlands Project grant 'Spiegel',
Josine de Bruijn Kops Fund (via Prins
Bernhard Culture Fund)

2019 Cultuurstimuleringsfonds Gemeente
Haarlem Haarlem, Netherlands
Stipend



(un)scripted, 2024
Film, 16 min.



(un)scripted, 2024
Film, 16 min.



Lake Bottom Cinema (teaser), 2023
01:32



Lake Bottom Cinema, 2023
Film, 25 min.



Lake Bottom Cinema, 2023
Film, 25 min.



Flowers, 2022
Film, loop, 7 min.



Flowers, 2022
Film, loop, 7 min.



Flowers, 2022
Film, loop, 7 min.



Spiegl, 2021
Film, 54 min.



Spiegl (teaser), 2021
01:58