

# Mariken Wessels

Mariken Wessels (1963, the Netherlands) creates artist's books, photo series, film works, sculptures, and installations. Her multilayered projects interweave appropriated imagery and self-produced images to reimagine the boundaries of the public and private spheres and the role of bodily expression. Prior to her visual practice, Wessels studied acting at the Amsterdam Theater School and, after a decade-long acting career, visual arts at the Gerrit Rietveld Academy. Wessels held solo exhibitions at the Fotomuseum Antwerp (2016) and the Fotomuseum Den Haag (2017). Works from *Nude – Arising from the Ground* were included in the group exhibition *Human After All: Ceramic Reflections in Contemporary Art* at Museum Princessehof, Leeuwarden (2021). Wessels has published multiple books, amongst which *Taking Off. Henry my Neighbor* (Art Paper Editions, 2015), *Miss Cox* (Fw:Books, 2020) and *Fruits of Labor* (Van Zoetendaal, 2023). Her art works and artist's books have been acquired by numerous collections around the world, such as Stedelijk Museum (Amsterdam), Fotomuseum Antwerpen, Kunstmuseum Den Haag, International Center of Photography (New York), Museum of Modern Art library (New York), Bayerische Staatsbibliothek (Munich), and Ampersand Foundation (Johannesburg). In 2018–2019 she worked as artist-in-residence at the European Ceramic Work Center in Oisterwijk (NL).

Mariken Wessels is represented by The Ravestijn Gallery, Amsterdam.

## Biography

Born in Vlaardingen, The Netherlands, 1963  
Raised in Breda, lives and works in Amsterdam

[www.marikenwessels.com](http://www.marikenwessels.com)

## Education

2004-2008 Gerrit Rietveld Academie, Dogtime, fine art (Graduated)  
1996-1997 Actors studio New York - The Lee Strasberg Theatre Institute  
1995-1996 Writers school 't Colofon A'dam, Writing scenario's  
1990-1991 Camera/acting course with NOB  
1985-1989 Theatre School Amsterdam (Graduated)

## Galleries, Memberships & Selection of Bookshops

Johan Deumens Gallery ( [link](#) )  
Ravestijn Gallery ( [link](#) )  
Kominek Gallery ( [link](#) )  
Member of the ABC Artists' Books Cooperative till 2012, together with Joachim Schmidt and Elisabeth Tonnard ( [link](#) )  
Artist Talks ( [link](#) )

Deichtor Hallen Im Haus der Photographie Hamburg, Germany / Kominek Gallery Berlin, Germany / Motto Distribution Berlin, Germany / Schaden.com Cologne, Germany / Dashwood Books New York, USA / Indie Photobook Library Washington, USA / International Center of Photography New York, USA / Le Bal Books Paris, France / Photo Eye Santa Fe, USA / Libreria Martincigh, Udine , Italy / Foam Fotografiemuseum Amsterdam, The

Netherlands / Athenaeum Boekhandel The Netherlands / Buro Rietveld Amsterdam, The Netherlands / Groundmagazine, Online

## Collections

FOMU - FotoMuseum provincie Antwerpen, Antwerpen, Belgium  
Verbeke Foundation, Kemzeke, Belgium  
Art Institute of Chicago Ryerson & Burnham Libraries, Chicago  
Auraria Library, Denver, USA  
Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library - Yale University, Yale, USA  
Brooklyn Museum: Libraries and Archives, New York, USA  
Columbia College Chicago, Chicago, USA  
Getty Research Institute library, Los Angeles, USA  
International Center of Photography Library, New York, USA  
Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Minneapolis, USA  
Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) Library, New York, USA  
New York Public Library, New York, USA  
Princeton University Library, Princeton, USA  
Rhode Island School of Design Library, Providence, USA  
SAIC - John M. Flaxman Library, Chicago, USA  
Syracuse University Libraries, Syracuse, USA  
Texas State University, San Marcos, USA  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art Library, New York, USA  
The University of Tulsa, Tulsa, USA  
UC Berkeley Library, Berkeley, USA  
University of California, Los Angeles, USA  
Indie Photobook Library, USA  
YBP Library Services, Contoocook, USA  
Art collection UMC, University Medical Center, Utrecht, The Netherlands  
Erasmus Antiquariaat en Boekhandel, Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Gerrit Rietveld Academie Library, Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Kunstmuseum Den Haag, The Hague, Netherlands  
Fotomuseum Den Haag, The Hague, Netherlands  
Koninklijke Bibliotheek, National Library of The Netherlands, The Hague, The Netherlands  
RKD Netherlands Institute for Art History, The Hague, The Netherlands  
Special Collections Libraries, Leiden University, The Netherlands  
Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam Library, Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Bibliothèque Kandinsky Centre Pompidou, Paris, France  
Florence Loewy, Paris, France  
Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, Munich, Germany  
Kunstabibliothek - Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, Berlin, Germany  
Kunst-Und Museumsbibliothek / Rheinisches Bildarchiv, Köln, Germany  
Sächsische Landesbibliothek – Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Dresden, Dresden, Germany  
Zentralinstitut für Kunstgeschichte, München, Germany  
Ampersand Foundation, Johannesburg, South Africa  
Camberwell College of Arts London, UK  
Chelsea College of Art & Design Library, London, UK  
Martin Parr Collection, UK  
The University of Edinburgh Library, Edinburgh, UK  
University Of The Arts London, London, UK  
MACBA Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain  
The San Telmo Museum, San Sebastian, Spain / as part of the Gabriela Cendoya Bergareche collection who is also the curator  
Leitung Bibliothek Albentina, Vienna, Austria  
Universität für angewandte Kunst Wien, Vienna, Austria

University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada  
Private collections

## Grants & Awards

2016 Portrait-Photography Of The Year LeadAwards bronze award for a series of 8 photos from Taking Off. Henry My Neighbor in Vice/N°11/2015  
2016 The Author Book Award in Arles for artist book Taking Off. Henry my Neighbor  
2016 Honorary Appreciation For Taking Off. Henry My Neighbor At Schönste Bücher Aus Aller Welt  
2016 The Best Dutch and Flemish Book Designs award for artist book Taking Off. Henry my Neighbor  
2014 Stipendium Program for Established Artists, Mondriaan Fund, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
2011 Second starter stipend from The Netherlands Foundation for Visual Arts, Design and Architecture (Fonds BKVB)  
2009 'Fotofestival di Roma' Book Award: Silver Medal Award for the book 'Elisabeth - I want to eat-'  
2009 Starter stipend from The Netherlands Foundation for Visual Arts, Design and Architecture (Fonds BKVB)  
2009 Flexible working budget from The Netherlands Foundation for Visual Arts, Design and Architecture (Fonds BKVB)

## Teachings & Residencies

2024 Residency at Printmaking Barcelona under guidance of Ignacio Aguirre / Barcelona, Spain  
2021 Residency at Le Maupas A.R. / Le Maupas, France  
2018 Residency at EKWC / Oisterwijk, The Netherlands  
2016 Masterclass Vincent Delbrouck at Foam Museum with guest artists Paul Bogaers & Mariken Wessels / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
2013 Fine Arts guest teacher at ArtEZ Institute of the Arts / Arnhem, The Netherlands  
2011 Fine Arts Teacher in Dogtime Department at Gerrit Rietveld Academie/Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
2010 Guest teaching at the Nola Hatterman Art Academy Suriname in collaboration with Gerrit Rietveld Academie  
2009 Guest teaching in collaboration with Gerrit Rietveld Academie of Art at 'Ateliers '89' Oranjestad, Aruba

## Exhibitions

### 2021-2024 / upcoming

Oh Boy, It's A Girl! A Short History Of Artists' Books Made By Female Artists / Iasi / România  
Models - Of A Different Kind solo exhibition / DMW Gallery / Antwerp, Belgium  
Duo presentation with Ruth van Beek / The Ravestijn Gallery / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Duo presentation with Ruth van Beek / The Ravestijn Gallery / Art Rotterdam 2023 / Rotterdam, The Netherlands  
Solo exhibition / The Ravestijn Gallery / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Exhibition with The Ravestijn Gallery / Art Rotterdam 2023 / Rotterdam, The Netherlands  
Group exhibition / The Ravestijn Gallery / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
3x4=NOW exhibition curated by Jon Cazenave / San Telmo Museum / San Sebastian, Spain  
Ballarat International Foto Biennale / Ballarat, Australia

Re-Connect FOMU Aanwinsten Collectie 2010-2020 Expo, curated by Tamara Berghmans / FOMU - Fotomuseum Antwerp / Antwerp, Belgium

## **2020**

Human After All: Ceramic Reflections in Contemporary Art exhibition curated by Tanya Rumpff / Keramiekmuseum Princessehof / Leeuwarden, The Netherlands  
Group exhibition The Salon Show / The Ravestijn Gallery / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Solo exhibition Nude - Arising From The Ground / The Ravestijn Gallery / Amsterdam, The Netherlands

## **2019**

Pick Me! by We Like Art / Collectie DE.GROEN / Arnhem, The Netherlands  
The Photograph That Took the Place of a Mountain exhibition, curated by Taco Hidde Bakker / Vriend van Bavink / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
NO TODO - NIET ALLES, an exhibition in an archival box, curated by Inez piso / Johan Deumens Gallery / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Spread / Kunstverein Hildesheim / Hildesheim, Germany  
Solo exhibition with The Ravestijn Gallery / Art Rotterdam 2019 / Rotterdam, The Netherlands

## **2018**

Artist books selection / Pictura Groningen / Groningen, The Netherlands  
WKB18 artist books exhibition / Groninger Museum and others / Groningen, The Netherlands

## **2017**

Secret Postcard Sale by We Like Art / Westergasfabriek / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Je est un autre: the vernacular in photobooks / The ICP Library / USA  
PERFECT / IMPERFECT curated by David Evans / Galerie Andreas Schmidt / Berlin, Germany  
Photo Oxford 2017 curated by Tim Clark & Greg Hobson / Oxford, UK  
Fotoboekenprijs / FotoFestival Naarden 2017 / Naarden, The Netherlands  
Babe 2017: Bristol Artists Book Event / Arnolfini / Bristol, UK  
Solo exhibition I'M OK - YOU'RE OK / Fotomuseum Den Haag / The Hague, The Netherlands  
Johan Deumens Gallery / Art Rotterdam 2017 / Rotterdam, The Netherlands

## **2016**

De Best Verzorgde Boeken van Nederland en Vlaanderen 2015 awards / Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
The Best Book Designs from the Netherlands and Flanders 2015 / Design Week / Beijing, China  
The Best Book Designs from the Netherlands and Flanders 2015 / Russian National Book Festival 'Zhar-Kniga' / Moscow, Russia  
The Best Book Designs from the Netherlands and Flanders 2015 / Shanghai Book Fair / Shanghai, China  
Visual Leader, LeadAwards exhibition / Haus der Fotografie Deichtorhallen / Hamburg, Germany

Johan Deumens Gallery / Amsterdam Art Fair / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Gerard Petrus Fieret exhibition curated by Émilie Lauriola / Le Bal / Paris, France  
FLOWERBANK exhibition curated by Gijs Stork / X Bank / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Solo exhibition curated by Joachim Naudts / FOMU - FotoMuseum provincie Antwerpen / Antwerpen, Belgium  
De Obscure Kamer exhibition curated by Petra Noordkamp / Arti et Amicitiae / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
QUICKSCAN NL#2 curated by Frits Gierstberg / Nederlands Fotomuseum / Rotterdam, Netherlands  
Feminine Masculine exhibition for Photo50 curated by Federica Chiocchetti / London Art Fair / London, UK  
SIZE MATTERS exhibition with We Like Art / TETEM / Enschede, Netherlands

## **2015**

Offprint Paris Art Publishing Fair with APE / Beaux-arts de Paris / Paris, France  
Editions/Artists' Books Fair (E/AB) with Johan Deumens Gallery / The Tunnel / New York, USA  
FOTOGRAFIA Festival Internazionale di Roma with Little Big Press / Museo d'Arte Contemporanea / Rome, Italy  
10X10 Photobooks Salon organized by Matthew Carson, Russet Lederman, Olga Yatskevich and the International Center of Photography Library, moderated by Taco Hidde Bakker / New York, USA  
Printed Matter's THE NY ART BOOK FAIR with APE / MoMA PS1 / New York, USA  
Unseen Photo Fair with Johan Deumens Gallery / Westergasfabriek / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
WIELS Art Book Fair with Johan Deumens Gallery / WIELS, Centre d'Art Contemporain / Bruxelles, Belgium  
De Fotokopie exhibition with De Schans Gallery and Foam Fotografiemuseum / Rencontres de la Photographie / Arles, France  
THE EDITION SHOW / Riot-Ghent / Ghent, Belgium  
Veldwerk jubilee exhibition curated by Hanne Hagenaaers & Heske ten Cate / Kunstvereniging Diepenheim / Diepenheim, The Netherlands  
Book presentation Taking Off with Johan Deumens Gallery / Amsterdam Art Fair / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Book launch Taking Off at Offprint London / Tate Modern / London, UK  
Sequence 1 exhibition with Academie Minerva, Henk Woudsma and Groninger Museum / Academie Minerva / Groningen, The Netherlands  
Printed Matter's LAART BOOK FAIR with Johan Deumens Gallery / The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA / Los Angeles, USA  
Offprint Paris Art Publishing Fair with Johan Deumens Gallery / Beaux-arts de Paris / Paris, France  
On The Move book fair with Johan Deumens Gallery / Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam / Amsterdam, The Netherlands

## **2014**

START BUYING ART exhibition / We Like Art / Westerpark / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
UNSEEN Book Market with Johan Deumens Gallery / Westergasfabriek / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
I am not doing anything until I feel the need exhibition initiated by Joanneke Meester / Openbare Bibliotheek Amsterdam / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
I am not doing anything until I feel the need exhibition initiated by Joanneke Meester / De

Nederlandse Bank / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Dutch Photobooks at TIFF Festival 2014 curated by Erik Kessels / Studio BWA / Wroclaw, Poland  
DOGtime, Live / TNT building / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Artists' Publications / Johan Deumens Gallery / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Solo exhibition in collaboration with Rietveld Academy, organized by Castrum Peregrini / 8 cubic meters / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
BE CALM curated by Hanne Hagaraars / CBK Amsterdam / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Binding Image Second Edition curated by Aram Tanis and Lena Davidovich / M4 Gastatelier / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Art Rotterdam 2014 / We Like Art / Van Nellefabriek / Rotterdam, The Netherlands

## 2013

Documentaria organized by 3/3 / Little Big Press / Bari, Italy  
Offprint Paris Art Publishing Fair with Johan Deumens Gallery / Beaux-arts de Paris / Paris, France  
Lishui International Photography Festival / Little Big Press / Lishui, China  
Offprint Amsterdam photography fair UNSEEN with Johan Deumens Gallery / Westerpark / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
TOKYO Art Book Fair / Public Rietveld Shop / GAIEN CAMPUS / Tokyo, Japan  
START BUYING ART exhibition / We Like Art / Westerpark / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
IFEST Italian Photo Festival / Savignano, Italy  
We Like Art Pop-Up show / De Bijenkorf / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
flowerCASTLE curated by Gijs Stork / Castle Keukenhof / Lisse, The Netherlands  
Ed Ruscha book with ABC Artists' books cooperative / Gagosian Gallery / New York, USA  
The Little Big Press Exhibition / Treterzi / Rome, Italy  
Codex International Book Fair with Johan Deumens Gallery / Craneway Pavilion / Carlsifornia, USA  
Prospects & Concepts organized by the Mondriaan Fund and curated by Wim Waelput / Lantaren/Venster / Rotterdam, The Netherlands  
New Members / Arti et Amicitiae / Amsterdam, The Netherlands

## 2012

Athenaeum & Van Zoetendaal exhibition curated by Petra Noordkamp / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
We Like Art Walls / VOUS ETES ICI / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
01. Binding Image Pop-Up Gallery / muzyQ / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
GuatePhoto / Indie Photobook Library / Guatemala City, Guatemala  
Evolution of PhotoBookmaking with Mercantile Library / FOTOFOCUS / Cincinnati, USA  
ABC&ED project / Offprint Paris / Paris, France  
ABC&ED project / The New York Art Book Fair / New York, USA  
ABC&ED project / The London Art Book Fair / Mews Project Space / London, UK  
Offprint Amsterdam 2012 at Unseen Photo Fair with Johan Deumens Gallery / Westergasfabriek / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Salon II / Arti et Amicitiae / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
We Like Art show / ING Headquarters / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Presentation in display window / Athenaeum Boekhandel / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
We Like Art show / Open Garden Days / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
C/O Berlin Bookdays . 2012 with ABC Artists' Book Cooperative / Berlin, Germany  
Talk at The Future of Artist Books / PrintRoom / Rotterdam, The Netherlands

SLIDELUCK POTSHOW AMS2 curated by Paul Kooiker / Pakhuis De Zwijger / Amsterdam, The Netherlands

## 2011

Indie Photobook Library Exhibition curated by Loret de Mola / Society for Photographic Education / New York, USA

Indie Photobook Library Exhibition curated by Larissa Leclair / Lishui Photography Festival / China

Group show Dutch and Belgian Photo Books / Kominek Gallery / Berlin, Germany

Amsterdam Art and Design Book Fair / Pakhuis de Zwijger / Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Indie Photobook Library Exhibition curated by Muriel Hasbun and Susan Sterne / Corcoran Gallery of Art / Washington DC, USA

Group show Do you wanna date? / BERM / Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Indie Photobook Library Exhibition / Photographic Resource Center / Boston, USA

Little Big Press Second Edition / Fotoleggend-ISA / Rome, Italy

Third Sheffield International Artist's Book Prize / Bank Street Arts / Sheffield, United Kingdom

Offprint Paris with ABC Artists' Book Cooperative / Paris, France

Hamburger Fototage with ABC Artists' Books Cooperative / Haus der Photographie / Hamburg, Germany

Selection Fonds BKVB / 1st Beijing International Design Fair / Beijing, China

Solo exhibition / Kominek Gallery / Berlin, Germany

Wat zijn mij wolken nog en wegen, curated by Hanne Hagedaars en Gijs Assmann /

Kunstvereniging Diepenheim / Diepenheim, The Netherlands

International Photobook Festival Kassel with ABC Artists' Books Cooperative / Documenta-Halle / Kassel, Germany

The shortcut / Arti et Amicitiae / Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Groundmagazine / PrintRoom / Rotterdam, The Netherlands

Amsterdam Art/Book Fair 2011 with ABC Artists' Books Cooperative / De brakke Grond / Amsterdam, The Netherlands

## 2010

We like 6%! / Nieuw Dakota / Amsterdam, The Netherlands

EAB Editions and Artists' Book Fair / Former X Initiative / New York City, USA

NY Art Book Fair / MoMA PS1 / New York City, USA

London Art Book Fair / Whitechapel Gallery / London, United Kingdom

Offprint Paris / Kiron Espace / Paris, France

Fotoboekenmarathon / Huis Marseille / Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Fotoleggend festival / Little Big Press / Rome, Italy

To the Limit / Johan Deumens Gallery at Spinnerei / Leipzig, Germany

Exhibition / Johan Deumens Gallery / Haarlem, The Netherlands

Book presentation / Foam Fotografiemuseum / Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Guest teaching / Nola Hatterman Art Academy / Paramaribo, Suriname

Solo exhibition / De Zwarte Ruyter / Rotterdam, The Netherlands

Book presentation Johan Deumens gallery / Art Amsterdam / Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Sugary Photographs by Time to meet / FotoMuseum / Antwerpen, Belgium

## 2009

Book marathon / Huis van Marseille / Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Book presentations / Johan Deumens Gallery / Haarlem, The Netherlands

Guest teaching / 'Ateliers '89' / Oranjestad, Aruba  
Constructures / Souterrain Amsterdam / Amsterdam, The Netherlands

## **2008**

Vision in motion - motion in vision / Verbeke Foundation / Kemzeke, Belgium  
Graduation Rietveld Academie / Rietveld Academie / Dogtime / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Kunstvlaai in co-orporation with 'Het Kattenbakcollectief' / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Graduation Selection Rietveld Academie / De Oude Kerk / Amsterdam, The Netherlands

## **2007**

Nominated by 'Nederland Leest' for the design of the book cover of 'Kees de jongen' by Theo Thijssen  
Short film 'Sleep, little child' / National Museum of Women in the Arts / Washington D.C, USA  
Wallensalon / Het Kattenbak Collectief / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
One minute film 'lucht' / Sandberg Instituut broadcast on Dutch television  
Zwever / Chiellerie / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Cinema de Bricolage / Horse Move Projects Space & Art et Amicitiae / Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Photo exhibition / Chiellerie / Amsterdam, The Netherlands

## **2006**

four.ten.five.eleven.new.art.education / Kunsthuis SYB / Beetsterzwaag, The Netherlands  
Grid06 - Nominated for Holland Casino Award with photo  
Dogtime / Deiska / Amsterdam, The Netherlands

## **2005**

Art fair / Stichting Cokevanjou with Kattenbak collectief / Amsterdam, The Netherlands

## **Acting**

Het Nationale Toneel, 'De Perzen' of Aischylos  
directed by: Hans Croiset  
Het Nationale Toneel

'Moortje' of Bredero  
Het Nationale Toneel

'Bouwmeester Solness' of H. Ibsen  
directed by: Colin McColl  
Het Nationale Toneel

Ibsen Festival / Norway / Oslo  
'Slotkoor' of Botho Strauss  
Het Nationale Toneel

'Een ideale echtgenoot' of Oscar Wilde  
Het Nationale Toneel



'Jane Eyre' of Charlotte Brönte  
directed by: Brigitte Odett  
Grote zaal productie of Michel Boersma Theaterproducties

'De Kersentuin' of A. Tsjechow  
assisted direction by: Paul Binnerts  
Theaterschool-regieafdeling Amsterdam, The Netherlands

'Bezoekers' of Botho Strauss  
directed by: Hans Croiset  
Het Nationale Toneel

'Overlijdensbericht' of Heiner Müller  
directed by: Leon van der Sanden  
Frascatie produktion

'Schrijf' of theatergroep Hollandia  
directed by: Johan Simons, Paul Koek

'Wienerwald' of Ö. van Horvath  
directed by: Marcelle Meulemans  
Theatergroep Persona

Theatergroep Persona, Toneelgroep Hollandia, Vrije producties.

### **Television-Film:**

among others: 'We zijn weer thuis' W.T. Schippers, 'Van Speijk',  
'Zes Minuten', 'Dertien steden, twaalf ongelukken'