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Isamo *Thissen*

b. 1998, Nijmegen, NL

Isamo Thissen (b. 1998, Nijmegen) approaches the landscape as an archive of human activity. The traces that we humans leave behind in our environment, whether directly or indirectly, serve as both the impetus and the foundation for her work. From this core idea, she explores the vulnerable beauty of nature in contrast to the clean lines and strange patterns that emerge from the restructuring and optimization of the landscape. Her work forms a series of snapshots of our constant urge to organize our surroundings, while also focusing on the labor process itself: the repetitive actions and systems required to manage an environment. The work reveals the hand that creates, yet simultaneously alters it irreversibly.

Thissen brings these themes to life using embroidery and quilting techniques. The slow, meticulous creation process reflects the structure of human labor and offers a subtle critique of the haste that characterizes our time. Because craftsmanship cannot be rushed, investing time and manual labor forms the core of her work: a conscious act of appreciation for the subject matter

Education

2023 Masterclass hidden colours by nature, Textielmuseum Tilburg, the Netherlands.
2021 BA Fine Art, AKV St.Joost, 's-Hertogenbosch, the Netherlands.
2015 Foundation, ArtEZ, Arnhem, the Netherlands.

Residencies

2026 Residentie Watersnoodmuseum, Watersnoodmuseum Ouwekerk, the Netherlands.
2024 Van Gogh AIR, Gastatelier, Zundert, the Netherlands.

Solo exhibitions

2026 A Landscape in Everything, De Melkfabriek, s-'Hertogenbosch, the Netherlands.
2024 Textiele Werken in de Kosterwoning, Van Gogh Galerie, Zundert.
2021 Expo Isamo Thissen, Gelderland Fabriek, Culemborg, the Netherlands.

Group Exhibitions & Art Fairs

2026 PROSPECTS, Art Rotterdam, Rotterdam, the Netherlands.
Grondwerk, Broedplaats Bossche School, Rosmalen, the Netherlands.
Ruimte Maken, Broedplaats Bossche School, Rosmalen, the Netherlands.
2025 Nieuwe Laden, Galerie Phoebus, Rotterdam, the Netherlands.
2024 Bon Vivant, ZutMonSac, Pier15, Breda, the Netherlands.
Vakantiegeld voor Kunstenaars, Galerie Ecker, Breda, the Netherlands.
Abstracte Narratieve Vormen, Gallery Ecker, Breda, the Netherlands.
ART The Hague, Fokker Terminal, Den Haag, the Netherlands.
Nock Nock Art Fair, Westergas Fabriek, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

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- 2023 Sacred Mud, Interdisciplinary maker days, Kruisruimte, Eindhoven, the Netherlands.
Under Soft Construction, De Fabriek, Eindhoven, the Netherlands.
Kunstcamping de Chloorie, Kunstpodium, Tilburg, the Netherlands.
The Tiny Golf & Big Art Disco Exhibition, Stadsgalerij de Oude Vest, Breda, the Netherlands.
Proud to be soft, MOYA, Oosterhout, the Netherlands.
- 2022 Mirror – face to face, Stichting Grafein, Villa Caldogno, Vicenza, Italy.
Mirror – face to face, Stichting Grafein, Kunstliefde, Utrecht, the Netherlands.
Mirror – face to face, Stichting Grafein, Amstelkerk, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
MIRROR, MIRROR, Spiegelzaal Willem Twee, 's-Hertogenbosch, the Netherlands.
Begane Grond, Pennings Foundation, Eindhoven, the Netherlands.
BIJ/NA, Stads Galerij, Breda, the Netherlands.
Nominees Sluifsters Prijs, KUNSTRAI, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
- 2021 Pop Ronde, De Melkfabriek, 's-Hertogenbosch, the Netherlands.
Shaped and Outgrown, 5 jaar St.Joost, Willem Twee kunstruimte, 's-Hertogenbosch, the Netherlands.
Niets is tweemaal, AKV St.Joost, 's-Hertogenbosch, the Netherlands.
Art Festival Heusden, Stadhuis, Heusden, the Netherlands.
- 2020 CNTRL ALT Interact, TAC, Eindhoven, the Netherlands
- 2019 Nu we wij zijn geworden, AKV St.Joost, 's-Hertogenbosch, the Netherlands.

Publications

- 2023 Talenthub Inversie, "Omkering van de gewone orde", Lenneke Heeren.
Witte Rook, Interview, Esther van Rosmalen.
- 2022 Mister Motley, Article/Interview, "Het "uitstudeertraject" van BIJ NA in StadsGalerij Breda"
Nadia de Vries.
Witte Rock, Article/Interview, "BIJ/NA 2022 – Deel 1", Joe Gillisen.
Witte Rock, Interview, "BIJ/NA 2022 – Deel 2", Roeliena Aukema.
Witte Rock, Video, "BIJ/NA in de Stads Galerij Breda", Paul Braspenning.
"Een vliegende start voor Isamo Thissen", Masha van Vliet.
TxP (Textiel Plus Magazine nr. 256), interview, "De kleurrijke, wondere wereld van Isamo Thissen", Florence Husen
- 2021 Mister Motley, "Niemandslaan, iemandsland, achterland - Lichting 2021", Persis Bekkering
Metropolis M, "Graduation Shows 2021 - St. Joost school of Art & Design Breda en Den Bosch", Liza Voetman en Linda Köke
Brabants Dagblad, "Kersvers beeldend kunstenaars Isamo Thissen mag zich een jaar lang uitleven in atelier Willem Twee kunstruimte", Annemiek Steenbekkers.

Awards & Nominations

- 2021 Jheronimus Atelier Prijs (JAP), Willem Twee Ateliers, Gemeente 's-Hertogenbosch & AKV St. Joost 's-Hertogenbosch, the Netherlands.
Nominatie de Sluifster Prijs, Stichting Kunst aan de Dijk te Kortenhoeve.