

brandt

Johan *De Wit*

b. 1960, Ghent, Belgium
Lives and works in Ghent, Belgium

Shape and color are the starting points for Johan De Wit's varied oeuvre that largely consists of sculptures, videos and picturesque objects. His works evoke all kinds of associations, such as childhood memories, but also those of vanity and melancholy. In evoking an atmosphere of poetic stillness, the artist combines his love for aesthetic objects with everyday life: ranging from a pot, a table or a ladder to abstract objects – sometimes even with religious or archaeological connotations – as in those conjured up by a disc or a triptich.

De Wit is inspired by the paintings of the Flemish Primitives and the Flemish and Dutch masters of the Golden Age, but there are also clear echoes of the work of Giorgio Morandi, for example. De Wit recognizes a kind of the restless openness in both the still lifes and the landscapes of the old masters, but also the refined craftsmanship he seeks in his own work. This is reflected in his search for materiality, textures and color. Much like life itself, everything seems to be moving in De Wit's work.

De Wit's creations often refer to classics from art history from Antiquity to the present. His work evokes traditional themes such as landscapes, still lifes and genre pieces. In addition, they also play on the conventional philosophic and religious themes: the insignificance and fragility of human existence, the ephemeral, futile and ludicrous of power and flamboyance, the pleasure and fleetingness of earthly pleasures.

The artworks are made in paper, reinforced with resins and enriched with iron powders and pigments. The artist's technical mastery is astounding, is subservient, but does not want to overwhelm us. Most of the works seem to refer to something in reality and at the same time they don't, which confuses the viewer. There is melancholy and heaviness in the air, but also humor, comfort and care. De Wit leaves thinking open and exposes feeling.

Solo Exhibitions

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| 2024 | Rossicontemporary Brussels, Belgium
Huize St Bonaventura, Ghent, Belgium
Gallery Ramakers, The Hague, The Netherlands |
| 2022 | Expo Chicago, Brandt Gallery, Chicago
Folded Stories (Met Lien Buysens)
Hilde Vandaele Gallery, Wattou, Belgium
Rossi Contemporary, Brussels, Belgium
Poort 8 (Met Hillebrand van Kampen) Ghent, Belgium
Francis Maere Fine Arts Gallery Gent
<i>Kristof De Clercq gallery</i> , Ghent, Belgium |
| 2020 | <i>Classics</i> , Kristof De Clercq gallery, Ghent, Belgium |

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- 2019 *Affinity Art gallery*, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong
Solid Air, Brandt Gallery, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Comforting Stash, Kristof De Clercq gallery, Ghent, Belgium
- 2018 Art Rotterdam, solo show Kristof De Clercq gallery, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Volta14, solo show PRIVATEVIEW gallery, Basel, Switzerland
Code Art Fair, solo show PRIVATEVIEW gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark 2017 Moral Outlet,
Garage Neven, Ninove, Belgium
Kristof De Clercq gallery, Ghent, Belgium
- 2017 *Moral Outlet*, Garage Neven, Ninove, Belgium
Johan de Wit, Kristof De Clercq gallery, Ghent, Belgium
- 2016 *The End of the World for Beginners*, Valerie Traan, Antwerp, Belgium
- 2015 *In Den Bouw*, Kalken, Belgium
Kristof De Clercq gallery, Ghent, Belgium
- 2014 *Loods 12*, Wetteren, Belgium
- 2012 Kristof De Clercq gallery, Ghent, Belgium (with Honoré d'O)
- 1998 Galerie CD, Tielt, Belgium
- 1996 Voorkamer, Lier, Belgium
- 1994 Opus Operandi, Ghent, Belgium
- 1993 Galerie Christine & Isy Brachot, Brussels, Belgium
Huize St.-Jacobus, Ghent, Belgium
- 1992 Centrum Netwerk - Netwerk Galerij, Aalst, Belgium
- 1988 Centrum Netwerk - Netwerk Galerij, Aalst, Belgium

Group Exhibitions / Fairs

- 2025 Art Rotterdam, Galerie Ramakers
- 2024 PAN Art Fair Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Gallery Ramakers
BRAFA Art Fair, Francis Maere Fine Arts Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
De Rampe, Kluisbergen, Belgium
Ooidonk Art Festival, Ooidonk, Belgium, Francis Maere Art Gallery
Kunstkamer, Delft, The Netherlands
Kewenig Gallery, Berlin, Germany (with Johanna Dumet)
Rossicontemporary Brussels, Belgium
Huize St Bonaventura, Ghent, Belgium
30 Jaar Gallery Ramakers, Gallery Ramakers, The Hague, The Netherlands
- 2022 Francis Maere Fine Arts Gallery Gent
Diskus Aalst
Expo Chicago, Brandt Gallery, USA
Making Fun, De Warande
- 2020 *What We Do Not (want to) See*, Galerie Ramakers, The Hague, The Netherlands
Classics, Kristof De Clercq gallery, Ghent, Belgium
- 2019 *SQUARE*, Affinity Art gallery, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong
Kleur, lijn en vorm, een levendige dialoog. De verzameling Jos Knaepen, Luc Peire en Johan
De Wit, Stichting d'Ouwe Kerke, Retranchement, The Netherlands
Art Brussels, with Kristof De Clercq gallery, Belgium
Art Rotterdam, with Kristof De Clercq gallery, The Netherlands
- 2018 Art Rotterdam, solo show Kristof De Clercq gallery, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Volta14, solo show PRIVATEVIEW gallery, Basel, Switzerland

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- Code Art Fair, solo show PRIVATEVIEW gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark
KRASJ 4, Art Biennale, Ninove, Belgium
Tien Om Te Zien - Nu ook in Zottegem, Studio ARBOR, Zottegem, Belgium
LE SUD (50° 38' 28" N, 4° 40' 5" E), Twelve Twelve gallery, The Hague, The Netherlands
Untitled, Miami, US (with Rutger Brandt gallery)
Glorious (?) Failure, Third Triennale of Contemporary Art, Duffel, Belgium
Stage of Being, Museum Voorlinden, Wassenaar, The Netherlands
On Materiality, DASH, Kortrijk, Belgium
2017 Yugen#2, Ghent, Belgium
Mario De Brabandere, Johan De Wit, Peter Morrens, Kristof De Clercq gallery pop-up,
Antwerp, Belgium Art Brussels, with Valerie Traan, Brussels, Belgium
Art Rotterdam, with Kristof De Clercq gallery, The Netherlands
2016 De Laatste Show, Voorkamer, Lier, Belgium 2015 PASS, Mullem, Belgium
Enlightened Fountains (reasons to be cheerful), Jan Colle / Loods 12, Ghent, Belgium
Praetoria, Berchem, Belgium
2014 Art Rotterdam, Kristof De Clercq gallery, Rotterdam, The Netherlands Villa Nederloo,
Vlezenbeek, Belgium
2013 *Ik Wordt, Voorkamer*, Lier, Belgium
Dublin Doubles, Broadcast Gallery Dublin, Ireland
Hoge Horizon. Bruegelland, vroeg 21e eeuw, Voorkamer, Lier, Belgium Kunstenfestival
Watou, Watou, Belgium
Objects of Affection, Villa De Olmen, Wieze, Belgium
Videoroute, Netwerk Aalst, Aalst, Belgium
2006 *Heilige Geest*, Voorkamer, Lier, Belgium
Aanwinsten 2001 - 2005, collectie Provincie West-Vlaanderen, Ypres, Belgium
2005 *Basics #2, Crox 145*, Croxhapox, Ghent, Belgium
2000 *Weldra in uw stad*, Geen tijd, Lier, Belgium
1999 *Jonge Kunst in Vlaanderen, Ironie & Vergankelijkheid*, Cultureel Centrum De Werf, Aalst,
Belgium
3 Countries - 3 sites - 3 arts. Wim Delvoye, Carl De Keyzer, David Claerbout, Johan De Wit,
Espeel, Roeselare, Belgium
Happening: Proper Water. Een ceremonie van Johan De Wit, Villa Eksternest, Roeselare,
Belgium Argos, Brussels, Belgium
1997 *Anna komt zo, Provinciaal Centrum voor Beeldende Kunsten*, Provinciaal Museum Hasselt,
Hasselt, Belgium
Alom & hiernevens, Zwartzusters, Lier, Belgium
AXIS, Museum Affandi, Jakarta, Indonesia
National Gallery, Jakarta, Indonesia
LASALLE, College of the Arts, Singapore
Straatlopers, Actuele Kunst in de Gentse Papegaaiwijk, Ghent, Belgium
1996 *Aus dem gewöhnlichen - Vanuit het alledaagse*, Galerie In Situ, Aalst, Belgium On Line-
media, Capitole, Ghent, Belgium
Voorkamer, Lier, Belgium
Objects and Interaction, Performance, Voorkamer, Lier, Belgium
1994 *Choix de Bruxelles*, Anciens Etablissements Jacqmotte, Brussels, Belgium E.Hoorn, H.
Somers, F. Van Isacker, Stichting Logos, Ghent, Belgium
De Poulains, Kunstencentrum Vooruit, Ghent, Belgium
Opus Operandi, Ghent, Belgium

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1993 Galerie Christine & Isy Brachot, Brussels, Belgium Musée du petit format, MUHKA, Antwerp, Belgium Confrontaciones Europe - America, Madrid, Spain Oorzaak & Zn., Turnhout, Belgium
1992 Huize St.-Jacobus, Ghent, Belgium
1990 *Trait-d'union*, Beelden in de tuin van MB Graphics, Landegem, Belgium
Centrum Netwerk - Netwerk Galerij, Aalst, Belgium
1989 *Van stof tot Asse*, Galerij De Ziener, Asse, Belgium
1988 *Way of Life*, Centrum Netwerk - Netwerk Galerij, Aalst, Belgium
Johan Huys - improvisatieconcert op werk van W.Cuvelier, J.De Wit, L. D'hondt, Ch. Fink,
Centrum Netwerk - Netwerk Galerij, Aalst, Belgium
1986 *Antichambre*, Fabriek voor Entartete Kunst, Ex-fabriek Alsberghe-van Oost, Ghent, Belgium

Public Collections

Museum Voorlinde, Wassenaar, The Netherlands
SMAK, Gent, Belgium
Nationale Bank van België, Brussel, Belgium
Stichting Mu.Zee, Oostende, The Netherlands

Private Collections

Collectie Sanders