

AFRA EISMA

Afra Eisma (b. 1993, NL) lives and works in Den Haag, the Netherlands. She studied Fine Arts at the Royal Academy of Arts, the Hague, and Central Saint Martins, London. Eisma's work places a strong focus on emotions as an inner source of strength, highlighting the potential for trauma to be a catalyst for empowerment and change. The installation is characterised by its vibrant and colourful nature, serving as a strategy to address sensitive issues and illuminate the darker corners of personal experiences. It engages in a playful exchange between seduction and accessibility, inviting viewers to explore the surrounding subjects with curiosity. Recently, Afra Eisma has been dedicated to creating immersive installations that actively involve the viewer, turning the sanctuary into an extension of the body. Generosity becomes a form of resistance.

After *Feline Whispers*, Eisma's solo exhibition in 1646 in 2020, The Hague, she was invited to make a commissioned installation for Kunstinstituut Melly in Rotterdam that was on show for over two years. Ever since, Eisma has been led to international success such as Centro Internacional das Artes José de Guimarães, in Portugal, The Tetley Museum, Leeds and Wälhö Aaltosen Museo, Finland as well as a group exhibitions in the Textile Museum, Tilburg, The Netherlands, Fundació Joan Miró Museum Barcelona, Spain and participate in Dhaka Art Summit 2023 followed by a presentation in The Kiran Nadar Art Museum, New Delhi, India. Eisma's work is part of many private collection and institutional collections include: Kiran Nadar Museum, New Dehli, IN; De Vleeshal, Middelburg, NL; AkzoNobel Art Foundation, Amsterdam, NL; Fries Museum, Friesland, NL.

Recent and upcoming solo exhibitions include: *Hop to Hope*, Wälhö Aaltosen Museo, Turku, FN (2023); *Splashdown Tetley*, The Tetley, Leeds, UK (2023); *Your silence will not protect you*, Fries Museum, Leeuwarden, NL (2021); *Feline Whispers*, 1646, Den Haag, NL (2020); *Rooms of now #3*, Vleeshal, Middelburg, NL (2019). Recent group exhibitions include: *Duo show with Head Samir*, No Man's Art Gallery, Amsterdam, NL (2023); *Very small feelings*, Kiran Nadar Museum of Art, New Delhi, IN (2023); *Multiplied Voices*, CIAJG, Guimaraes, Portugal (2022), *De Scheffer Prijs*, Dordrechts Museum, Dordrecht, Netherlands (2022); *84 steps*, Kunstinstituut Melly, Rotterdam, Netherlands (2021); *Utsuro Bune*, garden lab, Kyoto, Japan (2020); *The sticky beaver show*, Parallel Vienna, Vienna, Austria (2019); *Royal Award for Modern Painting* exhibition at the Royal Palace, Amsterdam, NL (2018).



Afra Eisma in her Amsterdam studio, 2023. Courtesy No Man's Art Gallery