MARIE CIVIKOV

Marie Civikov's work merges her grandmother's written memoirs with archival photographs and bright interjections of dream-like images. Civikov's grandmother was an indischwoman; born to a native Javanese mother named Painem and a Belgian father. The pastiche of visuals and text brings the past into the present, critically reflecting on the oftentimes privileged existence of indischpeople in the archipelago while bringing attention to current forms of colonial oppression. This series reflects on different aspects of the colonial economy: the import of colonially produced goods into the local economy (including Mauser rifles which are still used by the Israeli Occupation Forces on Palestinian soil today), the feudal systems of pay and usury on European-owned land, and the weighted use of the derogatory word koelie to describe informal and indentured physical labourers. The words used by Civikov's grandmother illustrate colonial attitudes towards labour, and the alienation of native workers and peasants from the European bourgeois sensibility. Civikov's artistic interpretation of her complicated family history represents the entanglements of the personal and the political. It carefully reveals the subtle ways in which social and economic class division permeate into perceptions of one's surroundings; urging a reflection on the ways these legacies continue to obscure the systems of oppression operating before our own eyes. Text: Dewi Sofia Laurente for 'It smells of sweat and jasmine' at CBK Zuidoost, 2025

WEBSITES

www.mariecivikov.nl

SOCIAL MEDIA

www.instagram.com/marie.civikov/

MEMBER OF ARTISTS' INITIATIVE/COLLECTIVE/INCUBATOR

Æther Haga, a sister and satelite of Æther Sofia (BG)

PLATFORM

jegensentevens.nl

EDUCATION

1998 - 2002	Autonoom Rotterdam, Willem de Kooning Academie diploma

EXHIBITIONS

2025	Something Else IV Citadel of Saladin Cairo, Egypt Something Else is an annual all-out exhibition organised by

PROJECTS

2015	De Torenkamer Opium op radio 4 (AVRO) werkperiode van 1 week in de Torenkamer van VondelCS met live verslaggeving in

the team of Darb1718, with the direction of artistic director Simon Njami and director Moataz Nasr. Each year, a selection of international and Egyptian curators brings a proposal to the historic Citadel of Salah-el-Din on a promontory in Cairo. The mission of this exhibition is to create a significant moment of gathering of local and international artists around a month-long exhibition and a full programme of public events. International artists meet and congregate with the dynamic artistic circles of Egypt.
somethingelse.art/
Group

2025 It smells of sweat and jasmine CBK Zuidoost Amsterdam, Netherlands It smells of sweat and jasmine - CBK Zuidoost Curated by Dewi Laurente (& friends :) It smells of sweat and jasmine addresses labour issues in colonial, contemporary, and diasporic Indonesia through the lens of women and genderqueer artists. Through collecting the artists' personal histories, experiences, and research, the exhibition traces the complex intersections of patriarchal violence, capitalist labour exploitation, and (neo)colonial plunder. Essentialist ideas of gendered labour in the archipelago were introduced by both native feudal and Dutch colonial systems, further enshrined in the 20th century by the fascist New Order in their policies of ibuisme negara (state motherhood). Throughout shifts in power, gender became consolidated within the binary of the male worker and female homemaker, condemning all those who exist in the margins—trans* and genderqueer (informal) workers, women farmers and factory workers—to deviant existences. This effectively erased their struggles and concerns in governmental development policies, while continuing to reap the economic benefits of their productive labour. The exhibition is modelled after Indonesia's street-side second-hand bookstores, as an ode to its desire to recirculate epistemologies of gendered labour. Through both artistic works and a curated selection of publications, the

Opium op radio 4.

2011 Groot Grafiek CBK Rotterdam Opdracht tot onderzoek naar grafische technieken om uiteindelijk tot prints te komen van groot formaat in Grafisch Atelier Daglicht, Eindhoven.

2009 "Open atelier" als onderdeel van randprogrammering Ro Theater weken RO Theater Randprogrammering Ro-weken in de Rotterdamse Schouwburg

2009 Op zoek naar het Noordgevoel n.a.v. een project van Nynke Deinema en Caroline de Roy Kortste artist in residence ter wereld in Amsterdam-Noord

exhibition urges visitors to examine their own relationship to gender and labour through their engagement with different forms of knowledge. Part art exhibition, part archive, and part library, it smells of sweat and jasmine threads together a myriad of voices into a chorus that demands fair and just working conditions for those who hold up more than half the sky.
www.cbkzuidoost.nl/tentoonstellingen/nu-en-verwacht/it-smells-of-sweat-and-jasmine/?lang=en
Group

2025 It smells of sweat and jasmine CBK Zuidoost Amsterdam, Netherlands It smells of sweat and jasmine - CBK Zuidoost Curated by Dewi Laurente (& friends :) It smells of sweat and jasmine addresses labour issues in colonial, contemporary, and diasporic Indonesia through the lens of women and genderqueer artists. Through collecting the artists' personal histories, experiences, and research, the exhibition traces the complex intersections of patriarchal violence, capitalist labour exploitation, and (neo)colonial plunder. Essentialist ideas of gendered labour in the archipelago were introduced by both native feudal and Dutch colonial systems, further enshrined in the 20th century by the fascist New Order in their policies of ibuisme negara (state motherhood). Throughout shifts in power, gender became consolidated within the binary of the male worker and female homemaker, condemning all those who exist in the margins—trans* and genderqueer (informal) workers, women farmers and factory workers—to deviant existences. This effectively erased their struggles and concerns in governmental development policies, while continuing to reap the economic benefits of their productive labour. The exhibition is modelled after Indonesia's street-side second-hand bookstores, as an ode to its desire to recirculate epistemologies of gendered labour. Through both artistic works and a curated selection of publications, the exhibition urges visitors to examine their own relationship to gender and

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www.cbkzuidoost.nl/tentoonstellingen/nu-en-verwacht/it-smells-of-sweat-and-jasmine/?lang=en
Group

2024 Being embedded in ulterior layers Odapark Venray, Netherlands Marie Civikov, Iver Uhre Dahl , Karla Paredes K, Fedrik Vaessen & Noa Zuidervaart met within the Apprentice/Master project of Kunstpodium T in Tilburg. At the end of this trajectory, they were awarded the Jan Naaijkens Prize 2023 as a collective. Part of the prize is this follow-up exhibition at Odapark. In 'Being embedded in ulterior layers' the artists collectively weave a layered landscape. Within this environment they reflect on (fictional) pasts, the turbulent present and possible futures. What is affected by the ravages of time, and what remains intact? Using artificial remains, the artists explore our understanding of temporality and permanence. Marie Civikov's sculptural paintings hang from the ceiling in this landscape like banners or shields, recounting a complex family history intertwined with the Dutch history of migration and colonialism. Translated with DeepL.com (free version)
www.odapark.nl/tentoonstelling/item/314-embedded-in-ulterior-layers
Group

2024 the head, the hat, the soul, the soil SEA Foundation Tilburg, Netherlands The exhibition is curated and accompanied with a text by Julia Fidder which you can read/download on my website.
www.seafoundation.eu/marie-civikov-artist-netherlands-wearables/
Solo

2022 Structura Gallery Sofia, Bulgaria
structura.gallery/en/
Solo

2020 #stateofexception Art Project Depot /

+359 Gallery Sofia / online, Bulgaria On March 13, 2020, a state of exception was stated in Bulgaria, as in many countries around the world, in connection with the declared pandemic of Covid 19 virus. The subsequent social isolation stopped not only the normal rhythm of life for every citizen from the affected countries, it rescheduled all over the world under completely new rules of conduct in the public arena unforseen for us all. Unexpectedly, we found ourselves in a situation of an unfamiliar form of government, which, according to Giorgio Agamben's definition, "is no one's land between public law and political fact, and between law and order." In his book Homo Sacer 2: The State of Exception Agamben explores this "temporary and extraordinary" measure of emergency management from the time of the Roman Empire to the present day. At the heart of this analysis is Agamben's observation that such a government technique is "increasingly presented as the dominant paradigm of government in the contemporary politics", and threatens to radically transform the structure and meaning of the traditional distinction between the constitutionally established forms of power (legislative, executive, judiciary). Or, as Agamben describes it, "the state of exception“ is “the threshold between democracy and absolutism." In this sense, he examines the difference between the political and the legal, and between the law and the living being, while trying to answer a fundamental question for our time: What does it mean to act politically? The #stateofexception project launches on April 5, 2020 with an online exhibition hosted by +359 Gallery www.plus359gallery.com and Art Project Depot association www.artprojectdepot.com, in partnership with KX - Critique & Humanism Publishing House www.kx-publishing.org. Our goal was to start a discussion on the state of exception involving contemporary visual artists, publishers, philosophers and cultural scientists. The exhibition is a constant dialogue between the artists, the

artistic platforms on which the event takes place and the publishing house, which adds book quotes from books, published by Critique & Humanism, to the works prepared by the artists for the project.
plus359gallery.com/en/stateofexception/
Group

2019 Digital Ecologies Ancient Bath Sofia, Bulgaria Digital Ecologies 2018-2019, Plovdiv, Bulgaria: an international exhibition project in two folds Fold II, 2019. Digital Dramatizations: Ecologies from the Future (04 May - 30 June 2019; symposium 05/06 May 2019) Fold I, 2018. Operaismo Naturale: Ecology of the Event (27 July - 05 September 2018) Curated by Dimitrina Sevova Digital Ecologies is part of the program of Plovdiv 2019, European Capital of Culture. digital-ecologies.arttoday.org/
Group

2018 Soft Power Palace Kunstgebäude Stuttgart Stuttgart , Germany with Æther Sofia, an initiative by a.o. Akademie Schloss Solitude, ifa - Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen
www.softpowerpalace.de/#participation
Group

2018 The Revolution will not die with Us #2, Robotic Thought Sofia City Art Gallery Sofia, Bulgaria performance and installation in collaboration with Voin de Voin
jegensentevens.nl/2018/03/the-revolution-will-not-die-with-us/
Group

2018 The Revolution will not die with Us #3, You have seen me in your Sleep Ruimtevaart The Hague, Netherlands performance and installation with Voin de Voin and Andrew Fremont-Smith
mariecivikov.nl/trwndwu.html
Duo

2017 Willem Twee Kunstruimte Encounter with the unknown
Solo

2017 Revealing Galerie Nouvelles Images The Hague, Netherlands
jegensentevens.nl/2017/11/nouvelles-

images-legt-bloot-koubaa-heeken-van-den-toorn-civikov/
Group

2016 TETEM Kunstruimte, Enschede Size Matters - We Like Art - groepstentoonstelling
Group

2013 Galerie Maurits van de Laar Bad Times New Religion
Group

2012 Novosibirsk State Art Museum (Russia) International Triennial of Contemporary Graphic Arts
Group

2012 Kunsthal Rotterdam AANWINST Collectie Hogeschool Rotterdam
Group

2011 Every picture tells a story TENT Rotterdam
Group

2011 Koninklijke Paleis Amsterdam Koninklijke Prijs voor Vrije Schilderkunst
Group

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES/RESIDENCIES

2024 Elias Canetti House Ruse, Bulgaria With the generous support of The Artist in Residence grant „Sharing Future“ of the International Elias Canetti Society, sponsored by the Danube Rectors' Conference, I have spent the month of September in my father's hometown Ruse (Bulgaria) in the Elias Canetti House to explore some more of the family archives.
eliascanetti.org/2024/07/04/sharing-future-scholarship-holder-2024/

2018 Akademie Schloss Solitude Stuttgart, Germany Soft Power Palace, uitwisselingsproject Europese kunstinitiatieven

COMMISSIONS

2011 CBK Rotterdam Rotterdam Groot grafiek, zie finished

2010 DGS Harderwijk tekeningen finished

2010 diverse Rotterdam/Den Haag portretten finished

2007 eye2eye media Hilversum portret finished

SALES/WORKS IN COLLECTIONS

2017 Diverse particuliere aankopen 2003 - 2017 NL schilderijen

2016 Stroom Den Haag, Stroom Pro Premium Den Haag

2012 Hogeschool Rotterdam Rotterdam schilderij

2012 Ploum Lodder Princen Rotterdam schilderij

2012 Collectie Hugo & Carla Brown Den Haag Schilderij

2011 CBK Rotterdam Rotterdam grafiek

PUBLICATIONS

2016 Terugblik op De Torenkamer AvroTros online interview

2015 Dichtkunstkrant Efrat Zehavi en Florimond Wassenaar mariecivikov.nl/press.html a magazine about poetry, art and current eveJaarlijks magazine over poëzie en beeldende kunst.e

2014 Een Kritische Positie. Over schilderijen van Marie Civikov Philip Peters mariecivikov.nl/about-press/index.html Essay

2012 Aanwinst / ACQUISITION Kunstcollectie Hogeschool Rotterdam UitgAanwinst / Aave Hogeschool Rotterdam Catalogus bij de gelijknamige tentoonstelling in de Kunsthal

2011 Signalement "Genadeloos binnenkomen" Kunstbeeld, Sandra Spijkerman mariecivikov.nl/about-press/Kunstbeeld%20jan.%202012%20-%20tekst%20Sandra%20Spijkerman.html 6 pagina's in woord en beeld.

2011 Koninklijke prijzen vrije schilderkunst uitgereikt NRC Handelsblad recensiel over de Koninklijke Prijs 2011

2011 Tegen de pixeladepten, schilderen anno 2011 De Groene Amsterdammer, Paul Kempers recensie van Every Picture Tells A Story, tentoonstelling in TENT Rotterdam

2011 Geen titel, Radio interview VPRO Radio, De Avonden interview in een reportage over Every Picture Tells A Story, tentoonstelling in TENT Rotterdam

2011 Catalogus Koninklijke Prijs voor Vrije Schilderkunst 2011 Stichting Koninklijk Paleis Amsterdam Catalogus bij de gelijknamige prijs en tentoonstelling

REVIEWS

2018 Towards Possible Futures - Schloss-Post Blog/Vlog The interview was conducted by Denise Helene Sumi Germany schloss-post.com/towards-possible-futures/?

AWARDS AND GRANTS

2021 PRO Onderzoek, Stroom Den Haag

2017 Werkbijdrage Bewezen Talent mondriaan fonds

fbclid=IwAR1jZHYDk7VhZzW8sm3BhtK_wZqe6loZ-qBGghZjtWZPxxw9_ONg6TabfK4 Interview About Becoming The Other, Our contribution to Schloss-Post, the open platform of Akademie Schloss Solitude in the run-up to the Soft Power Palace Festival where we will be present with Æther. with Æther: Voin de Voin, Marie Civikov, and Andrew Fremont Smith — Oct 15, 2018

2018 Revolutia TV Sofia, Bulgaria www.youtube.com/watch?v=fd9u4dpfdBg "Revolutia", Tele-doc by Silviya Stanoeva and Andrey Volkashin on The Revolution will not die with Us, during the making of episode 2, Robotic thought, a long term project in collaboration with Voin de Voin. Part of the series "Atelié" broadcasted on (BNT) by Alma Mater tv. (EN/BG) 2018

2016 PRO Premium, Stroom Den Haag

2011 Koninklijke Prijs voor Vrije Schilderkunst St. Koninklijk Paleis Amsterdam

2010 Koninklijke Prijs voor Vrije Schilderkunst (nominatie) St. Koninklijk Paleis Amsterdam

2009 Koninklijke Prijs voor Vrije Schilderkunst (nominatie) St. Koninklijk Paleis Amsterdam

2006 Basissubsidie (Productiesubsidie) Fonds BKVB

2004 Buning Brongersprijs Buning Brongersstichting

SECONDARY ART-RELATED ACTIVITIES

2024 - -- Advisor Mondriaan Fund On-going

2021 - -- Educator Kunstmuseum On-going

2020 - -- Adviescommissie Cultuur Alkmaar On-going

2018 - 2021 Commissie Broedplaatsensubsidies

2013 - 2024 redacteur Jegens&Tevens On-going

2012 - 2012 Gastdocent Willem de Koning Academie Rotterdam

2009 - 2009 Docent tekenen en schilderen TU Delft

2006 - 2011 Museumdocent Gemeentemuseum Den Haag



It's not the eyes that can't see, but the hearts that are blind - Pray for us (left), Children of God - Anak Tuan Allah (right), 2025
acrylic and oil on artificial Javanese waxblock print fabric, ±115 x 245 (double-sided)



For that amount, he bowed like a penknife + Sewing fee: One guilder, 2024
oil/acrylics on artificial/factory java wax print, 180 x 120 cm. (double-sided)



Dearest mom, 2024
Oil/acrylic/canvas, 140 x 40 + 200 x 45, double-sided



Resistance, 2024
oil/acrylic/canvas, ± 200 x 80 cm. double sided



In roosters we trust, 2024
oil/acrylic/canvas, ± 200 x 50 cm. double sided



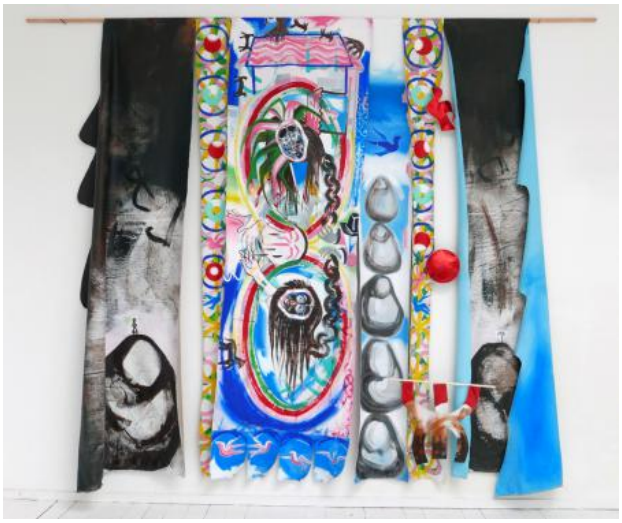
Head, 2022
2020-2022, canvas/oil/acrylic, 210 x 145



Dreaming of Home, 2022
Oil/acrylicv/table cloth, 67 x 67



In search of, 2021
oil/acrylic/table cloth, 50 x 50



A Roof, 2021
Canvas/acrylic/oil/artificial leather, 220 x 220



BÆsties, 2020
2:22