MIKE RIJNIERSE

'So, in your work you are also interested in improving the environment rather than creating an artwork for its own sake? Absolutely, I want to share my joy.'
Mike Rijnierse (1974) is an artist, performer and educator working in the fields of light, sound and architecture. He is intrigued by sensory experience, whether visual, acoustic, spatial, cross-sensory and synesthesia, creating sculptures, installations, performances and public interventions, Rijnierse has exhibited his works internationally throughout various contexts, from media art festivals, to galleries, museums and interventions in the public space. As a docent since 2009 at Design Art Technology department of ArtEZ, Arnhem, Rijnierse has devised the course Design of Instruments, where students research and create instruments that transcend technological domains, exploring new and obsolete media. Over decades Rijnierse has developed a meticulous study on the interaction between light, pigment and the retina. He gave concrete form to his discoveries in installations, projections and light designs with the series CYMRGB and the luminous sculptures such as Lumokinese and Cube. These works allude to optical instruments and devices such as the Laterna magica, kaleidoscopes and the zoetrope that are considered to be precursors of film, animation and digital media. Mike Rijnierse is not guided by nostalgia, his interest is in questioning the current production of image and examining visual experience, since devices and instruments of today no longer show their process and therefore work as 'black boxes'. By showing the process of production of light, color, source and shadow, he illustrates how illusion and vision are intertwined. Rijnierse's works Relief, Soundman and Piano / Forte explore the acoustic domain. In fact, the phenomenon of echo and reflection is a recurring theme in the work of Mike Rijnierse. As architect Juhani Pallasmaa wrote in 'The Eyes of the Skin': "Sight isolates, whereas sound incorporates; vision is directional, sound is omni-directional. The sense of sight implies exteriority, whereas sound creates an experience of interiority. I regard an object, but sound approaches me; the eye reaches, but the ear receives. Buildings do not react to our gaze, but they do return our sound back to our ears." Another facet of Rijnierse's work are his major interventions in public space. Through his works THX: INT'L (landing strip), Station to Station, KLOK, And 5,4,3,2,1...Lift-Off, Rijnierse evokes attention towards perceptive experience, 'using the city as a vast playground and field for sound experiments.' (Regina Debatty)

WEBSITES

www.mikerijnierse.nl

SOCIAL MEDIA

www.instagram.com/mikerijnierse/
www.linkedin.com/in/mike-rijnierse-05b2267/
vimeo.com/user844265

MEMBER OF ARTISTS' INITIATIVE/COLLECTIVE/INCUBATOR

Quartair

EDUCATION

2013 - 2015 Media Technology (MSc) Leiden University

2001 - 2002 New Media (MA)) Groningen, Frank Mohr Instituut

1997 - 2001 Interfaculteit Beeld & Geluid / ArtScience Interfaculty (BA) Den Haag, Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten diploma

EXHIBITIONS

2026 Kerkmeester #4 Grote Kerk Veere Veere, Netherlands Buoyants, site specific kinetic sculpture
mikerijnierse.nl/buoyants/
Solo

2026 |indeterminate)(apparatus| Belvedere 21 Vienna, Austria Quantum Mirror, light sculpture
civa.at/en#exhibition#write-no-history
Group

2026 Sunset in Madurodam Madurodam The Hague, Netherlands Sunset in Madurodam, light sculpture
mikerijnierse.nl/sunset-in-madurodam/

PROJECTS

2019 Valley The Göteborg Opera Göteborg, Sweden
en.opera.se/forestallningar/lifes-a-show-2018-2019/
dance theater

2018 Do Not Disturb Quartair The Hague, Netherlands
www.quartair.nl/ artist initiative

2018 Golf Festival 37PK, Nieuwe Vide, Pletterij Haarlem, Netherlands golf-festival.nl/ new media event

2017 Sound Shades Tu Delft Delft, Netherlands
mikerijnierse.nl/tu-delft/ residency

Group

2026 Fragile Resonances Fiber Festival Amsterdam, Netherlands Piano / Forte, sonic sculpture 2026.fiberfestival.nl/mike-rijnierse-rob-bothof-present-piano-/-forte-2018
Group

2025 Rites of Decay Conflux Festival Rotterdam, Netherlands Piano / Forte performance mikerijnierse.nl/piano-forte-performance/
Group

2025 (Un)monumenting NDSM Amsterdam, Netherlands Sunset in Amsterdam, light sculpture mikerijnierse.nl/sunset-in-amsterdam/
Duo

2024 Ritual Rhythms: Modern Practices, Ancient Echoes St Hippolyt Chapel Narano, Italy Sino, sonic sculpture mikerijnierse.nl/sino-at-st-hippolyt-chapel-in-narano/
Group

2024 Quantum Mirror Kunstfort bij Vijfhuizen Vijfhuizen, Netherlands Quantum Mirror, light sculpture mikerijnierse.nl/quantum-mirror/
Group

2023 Ostraka Oyfo Hengelo, Netherlands Ostraka, kinetic sounds sculpture mikerijnierse.nl/ostraka/
Solo

2023 Prendre le Solei (Seize the Sun) Hangar Y Paris, France Sunset in the Woods, light sculpture mikerijnierse.nl/sunset-in-the-woods/
Group

2023 Nuit Blanche River Seine Paris, France Sunset in Paris, light sculpture mikerijnierse.nl/sunset-in-paris/
Group

2022 Sunset in The Hague Hofvijver The Hague, Netherlands Sunset in The Hague, light sculpture mikerijnierse.nl/sunset-in-the-hague/
Group

2021 Sunset in Delft Highlight Delft Delft, Netherlands Sunset in Delft, light-sculpture www.highlightdelft.nl/program/in2021/sunset-in-delft/
Solo

2021 A State of Amplitude Quartair The Hague, Netherlands Sino, sonic sculpture www.quartair.nl/a-state-of-amplitude/
Group

2019 Locating ArtScience #2 TodaysArt The Hague, Netherlands Adaptation #1, sonic sculpture mikerijnierse.nl/adaptation-1/
Group

2018 Science of Sound DordtYart Dordrecht, Netherlands Piano / Forte, sound sculpture mikerijnierse.nl/piano-forte/
Group

2018 Talking with Hands Fusion Art Gallery Turin, Italy Soundman, kinetic sculpture mikerijnierse.nl/sonica-2017/
Group

2018 Cube Manifesta 12 Palermo, Italy Cube, light

2017 Locating ArtScience TodaysArt The Hague, Netherlands mikerijnierse.nl/todaysart_2017/ organization / curation exhibition

sculpture mikerijnierse.nl/cube/
Group

2018 Akasha Municipal Theater / Gaudeamus Utrecht, Netherlands Akasha, music theater
mikerijnierse.nl/akasha/
Group

2017 Locating ArtScience #1 TodaysArt The Hague, Netherlands Relief, echo sculpture
mikerijnierse.nl/todaysart_2017/
Group

2017 Scapes Sonica Ljubljana, Slovenia Soundman, kinetic, sound, light sculpture
mikerijnierse.nl/sonica-2017/
Group

2016 A Place Beyond Belief Van Abbemuseum Eindhoven, Netherlands Lumokinese, kinetic light sculpture
mikerijnierse.nl/a-place-beyond-belief/
Group

2016 Islamic Art Festival Islamic Art Museum Sharjah, United Arab Emirates Cube, light sculpture
mikerijnierse.nl/islamic-art-festival-sharjah/
Group

2016 Gem of Lives Space Media Festival Taipei, Taiwan Gem of Lives, light sculpture
mikerijnierse.nl/modern-body-festival-meets-dezact/
Group

2016 Novas Frequências Novas Frequências Rio de Janeiro, Brazil Relief, echo-sculpture
mikerijnierse.nl/relief/
Group

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES/RESIDENCIES

2019 The Göteborg Opera Göteborg, Sweden dance theater en.opera.se/forestallningar/lifes-a-show-2018-2019/

2018 Fusion Art Gallary Turin, Italy exchange
www.fusionartgallery.net/talking-with-hands.html

2017 SHAPE Europe Sound, Heterogeneous Art and Performance in Europe
shapeplatform.eu/artist/mike-rijnierse/

2017 Charlama Gallery Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina Sarajevska Zima mikerijnierse.nl/soundman-2017/

2017 Theater deSingel, Antwerpen, Belgium music theater
mikerijnierse.nl/akasha/

2017 Sonica Ljubljana, Slovenia residency www.sonica.si/

COMMISSIONS

2016 Mesh ECP congres, Fokker Terminal The Hague, Netherlands light sculpture mikerijnierse.nl/mesh/ finished

2016 Gem of Lives Space Media Festival Taipei, Taiwan light sculpture mikerijnierse.nl/modern-body-festival-meets-dezact/ finished

2015 5,4,3,2,1...Lift-Off TodaysArt Scheveningen, Netherlands light / sound sculpture
mikerijnierse.nl/54321-lift-off/ finished

2008 Station to Station TodaysArt The Hague, Netherlands sound intervention in public space
mikerijnierse.nl/station-to-station/ finished

2007 THX : INT'L TodaysArt The Hague, Netherlands sound and light intervention in public space mikerijnierse.nl/thx-intl-landing-strip/ finished

2005 Pan Kröller-Müller Museum Otterloo, Netherlands sound sculpture mikerijnierse.nl/works/pan/ finished

2003 De Longte De Longte Dordrecht, Netherlands light installation mikerijnierse.nl/works/de-longte/ finished

PUBLICATIONS

AWARDS AND GRANTS

2026 |indeterminate)(apparatus| Catalog Belvedere Vienna, Austria www.belvedere.at/en/product/6272 catalog

2025 Quantum Mirror Neural Magazine Italy neural.it/2025/09/quantum-mirror-superimposing-the-two-of-you/ magazine

2018 Relief Neural Magazine Italy neural.it/2018/03/relief-echolocating-mirrored-sounds/ magazine

2018 Piano / Forte De Volkskrant Netherlands www.volkskrant.nl/cultuur-media/een-tentoonstelling-van-klanken-tonen-en-noten~b2581078/ newspaper

2018 Piano / Forte Metropolis M Netherlands metropolism.com/nl/recensie/36338_science_of_sound_dordtyart/ magazine

2017 Resonance FM SHAPE Platform radio

2017 Lift-off: An interview with Mike Rijnierse SHAPE Platform web

2017 Relief www.archined.nl/2017/10/two-days-todaysart-festival/ online platform

2017 Spuiplein.wav The Wire magazine United Kingdom www.thewire.co.uk/audio/btr/below-the-radar-special-edition-shape-platform-2017 CD

2017 Relief Everyday listening Netherlands www.everydaylistening.com/articles/2017/9/24/relief.html online platform

2016 Audio-DH STROOM, Den Haag USB-stick

2016 Today's Art on Sea TodaysArt magazine

2015 KLOK, the 100 kg bungee jumping church bell we-make-money-not-art web

2015 HBKK HBKK book

2010 DH// Stroom Den Haag magazine

2008 Kunstlicht UVA Amsterdam magazine

2018 Werkbijdrage Bewezen Talent Mondriaan Fonds Amsterdam Amsterdam, Netherlands

2017 Selected Artist 2017 SHAPE Platform Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

2012 Basis Stipendium Fonds BKVB Amsterdam, Netherlands

2008 BNG Projectprijs BNG / Filmhuis Den Haag The Hague, Netherlands

REPRESENTATION

-- Quartair Den Haag, Netherlands http://www.quartair.nl/

-- iii Den Haag, Netherlands https://instrumentinventors.org/

-- TodaysArt Den Haag, Netherlands http://todaysart.org/

-- SHAPE Platform Europe http://shapeplatform.eu/artist/mike-rijnierse/

SECONDARY ART-RELATED ACTIVITIES

2021 - -- A State of Ampitude

2018 - -- Golf Festival, Haarlem On-going

2017 - -- Locating ArtScience On-going

2017 - -- Docent, IST, KABK Den Haag On-going

2016 - 2016 Workshop, National Taiwan University of Science and Technology (TW)

2015 - 2015 Workshop, KABK Den Haag

2014 - -- Coordinator, Quartair contemporary art initiative, Den Haag On-going

2011 - 2011 Docent, ArtScience Interfaculty, Den Haag

2011 - 2011 Docent, Willem de Koning Academie, Rotterdam

2009 - -- Docent, Artez hogeschool, Arnhem On-going



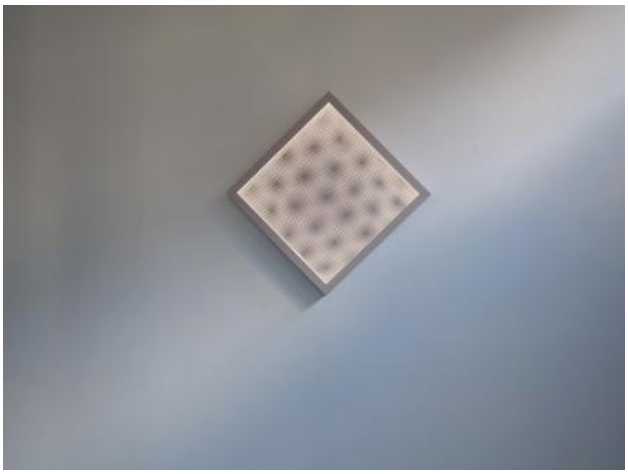
Sunset in Amsterdam, 2025



Buoyants, 2025
1:24



Buoyants, 2025



Interference #001, 2025
light, 90 X 90 cm



Quantum Mirror, 2024



Quantum Mirror, 2024



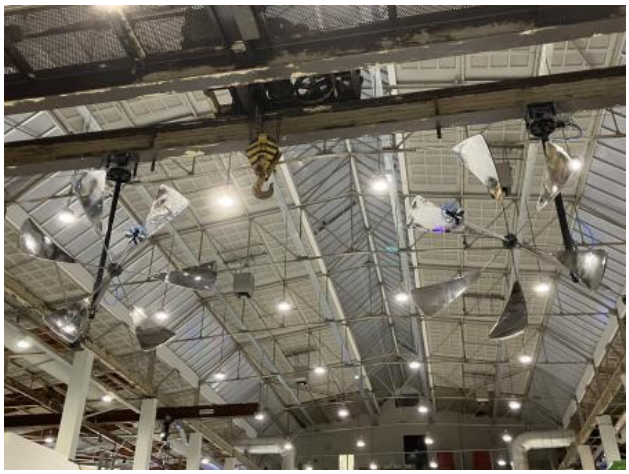
Ostraka, 2023
1:16



Sunset in Paris, 2023
2:40



Sunset in Paris, 2023



Ostraka, 2023