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BERTUS GERSSEN

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I document worlds not known to everybody, but recognisable nonetheless. My interest lies with small groups, communities and subcultures: from isolated villagers to squatters. I portray people emphasising their surroundings. I work with a medium format camera, on negative-film and always use an off-camera flash. This way I obtain clarity, detail and sharpness. My latest publication 'In Situ' was released 31 March 2017 during the Rewire Festival in The Hague. 'In Situ' is an ode to the Underground Music Scene, its organisers and its visitors. In Situ was selected for The Best Dutch Book Designs 2017 by the Student Jury. Since then I started a stencil printing house called Stencilwerck. At Stencilwerck I mainly work together with (local) artists to create publications that stand out.

WEBSITES

Main page Bertus Gerssen photography

www.bertusgerssen.nl

Webpage of my Riso print room

www.stencilwerck.nl

SOCIAL MEDIA

www.instagram.com/stencilwerck/

MEMBER OF ARTISTS' INITIATIVE/COLLECTIVE/INCUBATOR

www.DeBesturing.nl

EDUCATION

2011 - Several courses Kunstenaars & Co
2012

2003 - Documentary photography Den Haag,
2008 Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende
Kunsten diploma

1994 - MSc Molecular Biology Rijksuniversiteit
1999 Groningen diploma

EXHIBITIONS

2022 G.J. de Rook's Alphabet Book Hok Gallery
Den Haag, Netherlands G.J. de Rook's
Alphabet Book is a collaboration of
Bertus Gerssen and GJ de Rook. The
individual letters of the alphabet were
pronounced by GJ de Rook and

PROJECTS

2026 Stencilwerck Editions Stencilwerck The
Hague, Netherlands Stencilwerck.nl
Stencilwerck Editions is a The Hague
publisher for (the Hague) artists.

2019 Yes ma'am, I'm addicted to whip cream

- photographed by Bertus Gerssen. The photographs were then used to create a visual poetic sentence which was published as the 5th edition of the Stencilwerck editions. hokgallery.com
Solo
- 2021 PSYCHOTIC REACTIONS // BESIDE MUSIC: people, lifestyle, rituals Landscape Stories PSYCHOTIC REACTIONS // BESIDE MUSIC: people, lifestyle, rituals Online, Italy PSYCHOTIC REACTIONS // BESIDE MUSIC: people, lifestyle, rituals What are the songs that struck us in our adolescence? And then how much music has been a constant presence during our life? What was hiding and what still hides behind that sort of iridescent carnival sound? The misfits, the outcast, the minorities, meet each other and strengthen the unconditional belonging to a group where they can exist and shine. Rituals, styles, fashions are the changing scenario of these magnificent falling stars.
landscapestories.net/en/archive/2021/psychotic-reactions/projects/bertus-gerssen
Group
- 2019 Anesthesia De Grafische Werkplaats The Hague, Netherlands Peer In Gallery and De Grafische Werkplaats offered nine photographers the opportunity to immerse themselves in the graphic techniques. During a few weeks they developed new work from their own practice, equipped with the various possibilities of De Grafische Werkplaats.
Group
- 2018 In Situ Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam Amsterdam, Netherlands In Situ was part of the exhibition accompanying the presentation of The Best Dutch Book design 2017 www.bestverzorgdeboeken-studentenselectie.nl/2017/in-situ/
Group
- 2018 Athens Photo Festival 2018 Photobook Exhibition Benaki Museum Athens, Greece In Situ was shown at the Athens Photo Festival 2018 at the Photobook Exhibition
www.photofestival.gr/photobooks
Group
- 2018 Void The Grey Space in The Middle The Hague, Netherlands In Situ was part of
- Grafische Werkplaats Den Haag The Hague, Netherlands www.peeringallery.nl/anesthesie/ For a project initiated by de Grafische Werkplaats and Peer in Gallery, Den Haag I dove into the world of N2O, a.k.a. laughing gas. My project resulted in a small publication and some Lithographic colour prints
- 2018 Photographer of the War Omroep Flevoland Urk, Netherlands
www.youtube.com/watch?v=8h0kFKC-wlk
For Omroep Flevoland I was asked to tell something about my grandfather, who used to be a photographer in WWII.
- 2017 In Situ Rewire Festival, The Hague The Hague, Netherlands
www.bertusgerssen.nl/portfolio/in-situ
Book presentation with a photo-exhibition, performances and live The Hague bands during Rewire 2017
- 2015 The Pieter Brouwerstreet (Urk) Fotoweek Urk, Netherlands
www.bertusgerssen.nl/portfolio/pieterbrouwerstra
I was commissioned by fotoweek.nl to portray a street in my hometown Urk. I photographed in the Pieter Brouwerstreet, named after World War two warhero Pier Brouwer (who was best friend of my grandfather Geert Oost)
- 2013 Den Haag Underground Huis Marseille Amsterdam, Netherlands huismarseille.nl I won a pitch for my upcoming project Den Haag Underground, later resulting in the book 'In Situ'.
- 2010 The Social landscape of The Hague Nutshuis Den Haag The Hague nutshuis.nl 5 Artists were invited to do a project with the Nutshuis. I photographed a 'Social landscape of The Hague'.

the group exhibition Void at The Grey Space in the Middle, as part of the Grauzone festival 2018
www.grauzonefestival.nl/previousfestivaleditions
Group

2017 In Situ The Grey Space in the Middle The Hague, Netherlands In Situ book presentation with photo exhibition during Rewire festival 2017
Solo

2017 Face Time Dutch National Portrait Gallery at several Dutch train stations Amsterdam, Almere, Den Haag, Breda, Zwolle, Arnhem, Netherlands A traveling exhibition by the Dutch National Portrait Gallery for which I remade a favourite art-piece in the collection of The Gemeentemuseum Den Haag. I chose the portrait by Egon Schiele of Edith which I used as a basis for a (photographic) portrait of Jack, a non-binary man.
kunstencultuurinbeweging.nl/
Group

2015 Are you Pieter Brouwer? Photoweek Urk Exhibition in the streets of Urk. I went looking and photographed relatives of war hero Pieter Brouwer, who turned out to be my grandfather's best friend. The photo's were shown in the streets of Urk.
Solo

2013 Off the Grid Nutshuis The Hague, Netherlands Group exhibition with Justine Kurland, Corine Vermeulen and Bertus Gerssen on living off the grid.
nutshuis.nl
Group

2013 Den Haag Underground Paard van Troje/ State-X Festival The Hague Den Haag Underground exhibition at Paard van Troje www.paard.nl
Solo

2012 Me and my Hero Nutshuis The Hague, Netherlands Group exhibition with photographs of Peter Bos and his hero Provo Kabouter Roel van Duijn.
Group

2010 Gone with the wind Keukenhof Lisse, Netherlands Group exhibition with a.o. Cas Oorthuys and Henk van der Leeden
keukenhof.nl
Group

- 2009 Communities Gallery Andergrond The Hague, Netherlands Exhibition about communities with Eva Flendrie and Myrtille Visscher
[Group](#)
- 2009 Who's there will stay there Hogeschool voor Sociologie Amersfoort Utrecht, Netherlands At the Hogeschool Utrecht photo's were shown of the project 'Who's there will stay there'.
[Solo](#)
- 2008 Who's there will stay there Royal academy of Arts The Hague The Hague, Netherlands Final exam Exhibition of my book Who's there will stay there kabk.nl
[Group](#)

COMMISSIONS

- 2015 Are you Pieter Brouwer? (12 Photographers - 12 streets - 12 provinces) Fotoweek Urk, Netherlands Commissioned project by Dutch Photo week on The Pieter Brouwer street in Urk. defotoweek.nl finished
- 2013 Volkspaleis Volkspaleis/West The Hague, Netherlands Volkspaleis asked me to photograph the visitors of that year's Volkspaleis. volkspaleis.org finished
- 2010 Docu Den Haag Docu Den Haag The Hague, Netherlands Photo series on the social landscape of the Hague nutshuis.nl finished
- 2007 Crossing Border Crossing Border Festival The Hague, Netherlands Documentation of Crossing Border festival 2007 crossingborder.nl finished

PUBLICATIONS

- 2026 Letters to a grieving land Book Katerina Sidorova The Hague, Netherlands 'Letters to a grieving land' was made with The Hague artist Katerina Sidorova with the Makersregeling of Gemeente Den Haag

SALES/WORKS IN COLLECTIONS

- 2019 Image bank Den Haag, Leidschendam-Voorburg The Hague, Nederland Several photo's were acquired by the Image Bank of The Hague
- 2010 The social landscape of The Hague Nutshuis Den Haag Photo series of The Social landscape of The Hague

REVIEWS

- 2017 Postcard The Hague Magazine ROBERT BARRY The Hague, Netherlands frieze.com/article/postcard-hague Article on Rewire Festival 2017, with a section on In Situ.

- 2022 Alphabet book Book G.J. de Rook The Hague, Netherlands In this publication G.J. de Rook pronounces the english alphabet. The letters were photographed one by one and a visual statement was thus made.
- 2020 Alfabet boek Book G.J. de Rook The Hague, Netherlands www.bertusgerssen.nl/portfolio/g-j-de-rooks-alfabet Together with GJ de Rook I made a photo booklet. He pronounced the dutch alphabet, which I photographed. With those visual letters we made a sentence.
- 2020 De Grote Nederlandse Kunstkalender 2020 Catalog Trichis Rotterdam, Netherlands www.trichisboeken.nl/site/nederlandse_kunstkalender/ June 28, 2020 Bertus Gerssen, Villa Kabilla
- 2019 Yes ma'am I'm addicted to Whipped cream Book Stichting de grafische werkplaats Den Haag Bertus Gerssen The Hague, Netherlands www.peeringallery.nl/an-esthesie/ A small publication I made for the project 'An-esthesia' initiated by de Grafische Werkplaats and Peer in Galery, Den Haag I dove into the world of N2O, a.k.a. laughing gas.
- 2017 In Situ Book Bertus Gerssen Bertus Gerssen/Guy Tavares The Hague, Netherlands www.bertusgerssen.nl/portfolio/in-situ Photo book on the underground music scene of The Hague
- 2012 Het einde der tijden is ook een nieuw begin NRC-Next Artikel in krant
- 2011 Gemiereneuk zegt hen niets over God NRC-Next Artikel in krant
- 2010 Verboden te wonen Volkskrant magazine Artikel in Tijdschrift
- 2010 Pirate radio The Word Magazine Artikel in Tijdschrift
- 2010 Louise vs de Paspoortwet Website Foto's voor website
- 2008 Wie er is die blijft er al Bertus Gerssen/Eva Flendrie; Robert Muda, Den Haag, Urk In eigen beheer

uitgegeven boek, oplage 500 stuks

- 2008 Plattelandskrakers Vrij Nederland
Artikel in Tijdschrift
- 2008 Urk, nog altijd een eiland NRC Artikel in
bijlage van de krant

AWARDS AND GRANTS

- 2021 In Situ Gestetner 140 online, United
Kingdom Runner up in Getstener 140
open call best Stencil prints
- 2018 Best Dutch Bookdesign Stichting De
Best Verzorgde Boeken, Amsterdam,
NL Amsterdam, Netherlands The
Student Jury nominated In Situ as one
of the Best Dutch Book designs of
2017
- 2013 Pitch winner Huis Marseille
Amsterdam, Netherlands Won a
€1000,- pitch for my project which
would later become In Situ at Huis
Marseill, home of photography
- 2010 Beschikking tegemoetkoming
kunstenaars&co Amsterdam,
Netherlands

SECONDARY ART-RELATED ACTIVITIES

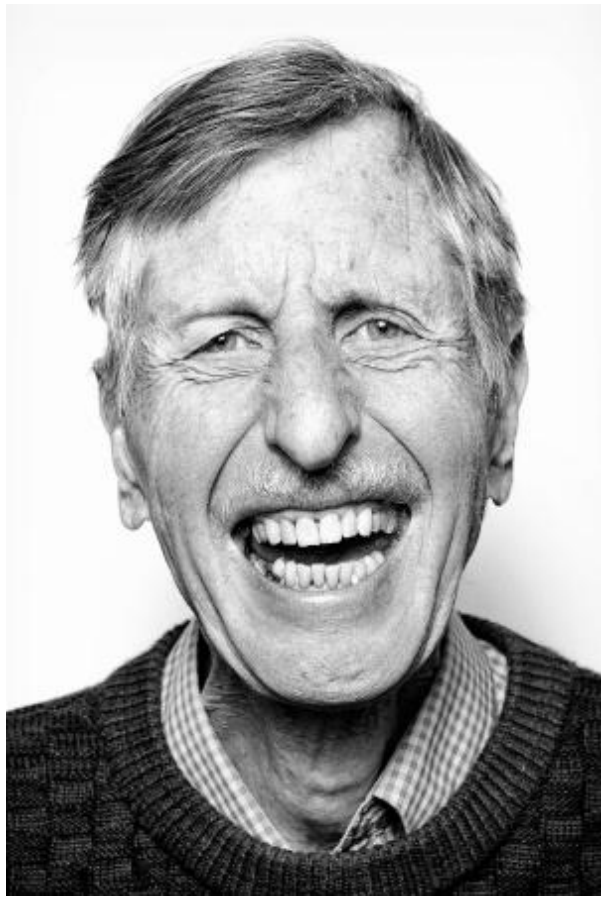
- 2026 --- Secretary at foundation de Besturing On-
going
- 2019 --- The Other Book, supporting organisor of the
Other Book Festival since the first edition of
nov. 2019 On-going
- 2017 --- Grafische Werkplaats workshop teacher
On-going
- 2015 --- Rondleider ateliercomplex De Besturing On-
going
- 2009 - Curator tentoonstellingen in Baklust
2015



Letters to a grieving land, 2026
Book making, natural ink making, paper making, printing
with natural inks, Riso print, 14x20 cm



Letters to a grieving land, 2026
Book making, natural ink making, paper making, printing
with natural inks, Riso print, 14x20 cm

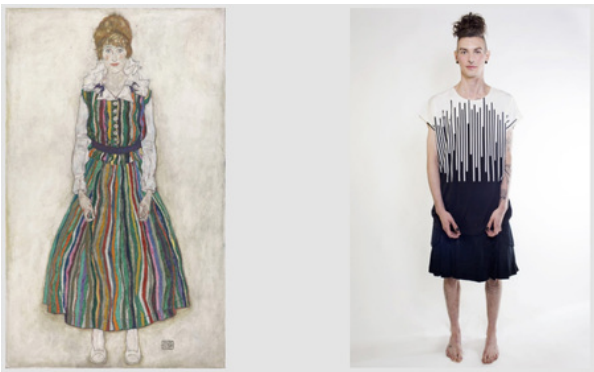


GJ de Rook's Alphabet, 2022
Digital photograph, nvt

, 2020



Photo in big Dutch Artcalendar, 2020
Analogue Photo, nvt



Edith/Jack, 2017
Photo, 1189x1149 mm



Autonomo Centrum, 2014
analogue photography



Dystopia, 2013
analogue photography



Villa Kabilla, 2013
analogue photography



Martijn, 2010, 2010
analogue photography