LESLIE NAGEL

My sculptures squeak, grind, tap, shock and crack.
Movement is essential for me hence this is almost always the starting point of my work. Responding to my surrounding and its actions and reactions is the essence of my artistic practice. I experience my memories and thoughts like moving images, and this is how I like to mold them. I want to show people - and have them to experience - that the movements in my work can be just as liquid, impulsive and volatile as my thoughts are. By the movements of my work I want to show that the material itself can result in an inner movement and make way for personal feelings. So, I research a lot what material can do, like squeaking Styrofoam which results in goosebumps, or foil which has this pleasant crackle to it. This sensation of materials expresses themselves really well when put into movement. At the moment I'm using quite simple mechanical drives to activate my figures, so that they flutter, swing, cradle, crackle, clap or zoom. By having a dialogue with the material, I develop these sensory figures and constructions. The sculpture 'Making Faces' is made by a few coincidences. With a can of spray paint, I sprayed a face on a screen. By mechanically shaping this screen, I was able to shape the face as well. This figure got its final shape by seeing a kid eating in a clumsy way and feeling the muscles in my own face spontaneously trying to imitate these movements. These two situations coincided into the final figure. 'Making Faces' is about the uncontrollable desire that people have to almost compulsively imitate each other. What I see while observing my work, is that the quirky sounds and movements in it brings out the individuality of the spectator's experiences. They might feel some discomfort or they could laugh, but certainly it creates a reaction. I'm looking for ways how I can use or ''abuse'' my work for provoking people.

WEBSITES

personal website

www.leslienagel.info

MEMBER OF ARTISTS' INITIATIVE/COLLECTIVE/INCUBATOR

Maakhaven

EDUCATION

2022 - 2022 Basiscursus papier maken en papier maken van onkruid in PapierLab Papiermakerij de Hoop

2010 - 2014 Beeldende Kunst/3D Den Haag, Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten diploma

EXHIBITIONS

2025 BIG ART Slotervaart BIG ART Slotervaart Amsterdam, Netherlands Loepel's Leap 2025 — metal, paint, acrylic dome, motors — 230 × 250 × 150 cm Loepel's Leap is an installation that explores how a sculpture moves through space and time. Inside the "head," a small string spins endlessly, lightly brushing the wall, creating fleeting loops and a subtle rhythmic tapping sound. Movement is a continuous process; the work invites viewers to watch, listen, and imagine. bigart.nu/

2025 Tweetakt Festival Tweetakt Utrecht, Netherlands LOEPEL, THOUGHT, MACRO, MICRO MACRO EN ANDERE WERKEN www.tweetakt.nl/event/untiteld/
Solo

2025 SWOOSH – kinetisch Kunsthal 4 Den Helder, Netherlands Windy 2023 — Metal, plastic, motor — 240 × 130 × 130 cm Windy is a moving sculpture. A central tower of vertical fans makes blue ribbons float and spin, while the artwork (earth-wire cube) at the top rotates in the opposite direction, creating a dynamic interplay of movement and space.
Group

2024 Live Love Minimal Het Archief Artspace Rotterdam, Netherlands SKAR heeft de zesde etage voor november beschikbaar gesteld voor een bijzondere expositie/ installatie van zes kunstenaars. Merijn Haenen:

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES/RESIDENCIES

2023 Frankfurt am Main, Germany Work Period & Exhibition – Bouncing Boundaries, Tor Art Space, Frankfurt am Main (July 2023) Three-week intensive work period resulting in ten new kinetic sculptures, exploring movement, spatial interaction, and the integration of 3D visualizations. The exhibition led to new professional connections and a follow-up exhibition in Germany.

autonoom neonwerk Herman Lamers: beeldende installatie Leslie Nagel : kinetische objecten Petra Noordkamp: fotowerk Ignacy Radtke: moving enviroment Eva Sijstermans: momumentaal schilderij
hetarchiefartspace.com/
Group

2024 Windy BIG ART Slotervaart Amsterdam, Netherlands represented by gallery NL=US Art bigart.nu
Group

2024 Keep On Going gallery NL=US Art Rotterdam, Netherlands Keep On Going – A kinetic group exhibition
nlisus.com/
Group

2024 Bermuda Open Studios + Maakhaven Expo Den Haag, Netherlands Presentation of two large-scale sculptures in the exhibition space and a previously unexhibited series of small paintings in my studio during the open studio event. bermudaopen.studio/#:~:text=About-,Bermuda%20Open%20is%20a%20yearly%20open%20studio%20event%20that%20presents,the%20project%2C%20back%20in%202021
Group

2023 Force Movement Transparenc Kunsttage 32 Dreieich, Germany
Group

2023 Bouncing Boundaries TOR Art Space Frankfurt am Main, Germany Intensive three-week work period resulting in ten new freestanding kinetic sculptures. Research into movement, spatial choreography, and the interaction between sculpture, air, and light. Integration of 3D visualizations and digital scans in combination with physical materials.
Group

2023 #101 NL=US Gallery Rotterdam, Netherlands Deze eerste tentoonstelling in de voormalige huisvesting van galerie Cokkie Snoei is een compleet overzicht van alle kunstenaars die NL=US gallery representeert, aangevuld met enkele namen waar de galerie regelmatig mee samen werkt. NL=US gallery is in de afgelopen negen jaar uitgegroeid tot een vertrouwde naam in de kunstwereld met een ambitieus tentoonstellingsprogramma en deelnames aan vele kunstbeurzen in binnen- en buitenland; de laatste jaren is de galerie onder meer een vast gezicht op de Art Rotterdam. Tevens is de galerie actief in de Verenigde Staten, waar eigenaar en oprichter Clemente Brakel woont en als kunstbemiddelaar actief is. De verhuizing naar het statige monumentenpand aan de Mauritsweg is een stap waarmee de galerie zich nadrukkelijker in de stad kan manifesteren en zich nog makkelijker bereikbaar maakt voor het publiek. Deelnemende kunstenaars: Hans van Bentem, Silvia B., Willem Besselink, Lily de Bont, Ruth Borgenicht (VS), Margriet van Breevoort, Caroline Coolen (B), Lizan Freijsen, Tiwanee van der Horst, Kirsten Hutsch, Esther Jiskoot, Arnout Killian, Miriam Kruishoop, Andre Kruysen, Marjan Laaper, Wendy Letven (VS), Michael Mapes (VS), Leslie Nagel, Petra van Noort, Pim Palsgraaf, Niels Post, Alexandra Roozen, Juliane Schmidt (DE), Flavio Senoner (It), Maurice Thomassen, Jan Maarten Voskuil, Mischa van der Wekke, Preta Wolzak. nlisus.com
Group

2022 Vooruitzien KunZt Zwijndrecht, Netherlands
Group

2021 OCTA II Or Call This Art Kunstliefde Utrecht, Netherlands OCTA II Ingenious technical spectacle by Artist Collective OCTA / Or Call This Art at Kunstliefde Bart Schalekamp, Felipe van Laar, Bas Ruis, Emilio Timp, Leslie Nagel, Evelien Gransjean, Kevin Bauer and Bas de Boer Informally, the collective OCTA, Or Call This Art, formed in the fall of 2020. The collective, consisting

of four artists from The Hague and four from Utrecht, exposed themselves to each other during a joint working period in Kunstliefde, Ruimte voor Beeldende Kunst, which will be used as a temporary studio and presentation space. Bringing along materials and initial sketches, the works are created in situ, reflecting, exploring and probing. Reaction to each other and to the space is inevitable in which ideas and working style will flow together. In November 2020, between waves of contamination, the new collective OCTA manifested itself for the first time in the large project space of Maakhaven in The Hague. A raw industrial presentation place that formerly served as Shell's imposing stock hall. The artists used this hall as a temporary studio, in which their passion for making large installations naturally filled the space. After a successful first edition, it is now time for OCTA to present itself in Utrecht. This time, Kunstliefde's sleek space will be the stage and the artists' group will once again make the space their own. After an intensive process and a working period of over a week, the doors will open on October 22. Expect a combination of large architectural installations, ingenious technical spectacle and absurdist created worlds. www.kunstliefde.nl/
Group

2021 Your Playground ARTI ET AMICITIAE Amsterdam , Netherlands Interdisciplinair speelterrein met performances, installaties, film en artist talks door het hele gebouw van Arti et Amicitiae.
www.arti.nl/tentoonstelling/your-playground/
Group

2021 Room To Live NL=US art Rotterdam, Netherlands
‘Room to Live’ is a duo exhibition by Leslie Nagel (NL) and David Powell (UK) The title of the exhibition is taken from a song by Manchester band The Fall (1976-2018) and reflects both artists shared interests in energy, movement, sound, music, tainted glamour and the hand crafted object in a post digital world. The artists works are not a refutation of the digital, more an investigation into the consequences of living in the computer age. Once upon a time television and radio were mediums with huge experimental potential, nobody really knew what these mediums would birth which made them irresistible as the language had not been learnt, soon enough ‘regulation’ set in and programme schedules needed to be filled. So here we are perpetually sharing and consuming images, endlessly texting through cracked screens. Nagel and Powell take their time with things, they’re both equally fascinated with lo-fi analogue processes, things that leave indelible traces of subjectivity and inwardness, a give and take between skill and (de)skill, learning and unlearning. A healthy suspicion of established institutions can compel redirection so a restart can take place, the studio becomes a testing ground for necessary and urgent challenges to common held presumptions. Is the past tomorrow? History ushered into the present tense? In 1843 Søren Kierkegaard wrote a book about repetition; that it was a kind of ‘recollection forwards’. Nostalgia is too often underestimated. Do forms of time travel exist outside of sci-fi? There remains a collective desire to possess things when you know the object of your gaze and desire cannot be grasped. Just out of Reach. The exhibition will consist of sculptures, paintings and drawings that embody an attitude that strips away the fluff of the mainstream revealing something previously lost about to be reclaimed, a language? An escape route? A temporary journey into pure unequivocal joy? And when you smile. You know you blind me. To all the horrors I see. David Powell, October 2021 nlisus.com/?page_id=9178
Duo

2020 Art Rotterdam Art Rotterdam Rotterdam, Netherlands
Vertegenwoordigt door NL=US galerie
Group

2020 IPIHAN#10 If Paradise Is Half As Nice Veranderende herindering van een vaas voorm op een trap, verzie 4 IPIHAN#10 If Paradise Is Half As Nice Rotterdam Nieuw Kralingen, Netherlands Een betonplaat in Rotterdam is de locatie voor de kunstmanifestatie IPIHAN - Tiende kunstenaarsproject IPIHAN Tien kunstenaars, een filmmaker en een historicus zijn neergestreken op de 'betonplaat' in Rotterdam Crooswijk. Daar werken ze aan de tiende editie van het kunstproject 'If Paradise Is Half As Nice' (IPIHAN). De groep maakt elke zomer kunst in verlaten gebouwen en nu voor het eerst buiten in Rotterdam op een verlaten terrein.
www.nieuwkralingen.nl/ipihan10/
Group

2020 OCTA, Or Call This Art Maakhaven The Hague, Netherlands OCTA (Or Call This Art) is een collectief van beeldend kunstenaars, ontstaan uit de wens om de culturele banden tussen Utrecht en Den Haag te versterken. OCTA staat voor een interstedelijk samenwerkingsverband dat de artistieke mogelijkheden van de samenwerking zelf onderzoekt. In gezamenlijke werkperiodes ontdekken we de verschillende manieren waarop kunstenaars en hun werken zich tot elkaar kunnen verhouden.
Duo

2019 No Patent Pending #36: Rie Nakajima & Pierre Berthet, Leslie Nagel iii Den Haag, Netherlands Here I have shown 8 moving artworks used electric motors to make them move. The works where a big installation together and they were performing. Patent Pending is a nomadic performance series presenting radical interdisciplinary practices that engage with sound, image, space and the body. Imagining new tools to articulate everyday phenomena, extending the body, remapping sense perceptions, hacking and reinventing existing media and codes, creating time and space for events which find their preferred storage medium in the memory of participants. instrumentinventors.org/event/no-patent-pending-36-rie-nakajima-pierre-berthet-leslie-nagel/
Group

2018 THE WIDTH OF A CIRCLE W139 Amsterdam, United States Minor Outlying Islands A collaboration with Aura Rendón Benger. Group exhibition THE WIDTH OF A CIRCLE , W139, Amsterdam Curated by Esther de Graaf and Pádraic E. Moore. Participating artists: Yasser Ballemans, Tim Breukers, Esther de Graaf, Charlotte Koenen, Leslie Nagel and Aura Rendón Benger, Suzie van Staaveren See video: https://vimeo.com/280916984 This Installation consist of three different sculptures, which can be moved and deformed by the audience.The sculptures are based on platonic bodies. Two of these sculptures consist of ribs and flexible connectors. The other consists of triangles of plastic and folded fabric. The spectator is invited to activate the sculpture by pushing a red button, which released the sculpture from the electromagnet and let it drop down. A control panel gives the spectator the chance to use a hoist and hang the sculpture back on the magnet. They take on different shapes continuously when they are dropped or hoisted. See video: https://vimeo.com/281514128 The general public walking past on the street can make this figure move with a rope. The base structure is a cube but through its flexible corner point it can be deformed.
w139.nl/nl/event/the-width-of-a-circle/
Group

2018 West Austin Studio Tour, nr 157 Austin USA, Netherlands
Duo

2018 VIBRANT COLORS Nlisus Art Pulchri Studio The Hague, Netherlands Duo exhibition with Willem Besselink by 'NL = US Art' in Pulchri Studio www.pulchri.nl/tentoonstellingen/vibrant-colors
Group

2017 NEW ABSTRACTIONS, NEW EXPERIMENTS NL=US art Rotterdam, Netherlands NEW ABSTRACTIONS, NEW EXPERIMENTS nlisus.com
Duo

2017 A SQUEAK, SCREECH, BANG, FWOOSH AND CRACK Bierumerschool Bierum in Groningen, Netherlands 300m3 with Aime Yoshikawa
Group

2016 De Loop der Dingen- Over oorzaak en gevolg Kunsthal KadE Amersfort, Netherlands Shown in the exhibition 'De Loop der Dingen - over oorzaak en gevolg' Kunsthall KadE, Amersfoort (2016). The reason for the exhibition was the movie Der Lauf der Dinge by Peter Fischli and David Weiss. My work was shown in the big hall along with work of Gerrit van Bakel, Zoro Feigl and Roman Signer. (see in video) See video: https://vimeo.com/160757998
Group

2016 DUTCH DESIGN WEEK in Eindhoven Eindhoven, Netherlands met Enrichers bij Collaboration-O, Sectie-C
Group

2016 DIRTY DAISIES, achter FOKKER TERMINAL tijdens ART THE HAGUE Den Haag, Italy
Group

2016 CODEX CODEX festival Noto, Sicily , Italy See video: https://vimeo.com/313644078 A plant with moving, vibrating elements and fresh bamboo. In collaboration with Aura Rendón Benger.
Group

2015 vertraging en verstilling LichtKunstGouda, Firma Van Dri Gouda, Netherlands
Group

2015 LICHTBADEN- Zinnenprikkelend en Zen CBK, Amsterdam Amsterdam, Netherlands 4D 2D 3D 4D See video: https://vimeo.com/171943881 This work is about the process whereby something you have observed becomes a memory. This lighting installation expands spatial 'drawings'. The mechanism moves it so that it (with moving through time) becomes visible as a two-dimensional view of all sides and thus offers a spatial experience.
Group

2014 DESTILLAAT # 16 , in Extrapool in Nijmegen
Group

2014 TETEM Kunstruimte in Enschede GOGBOT Festival 2014 nominatie youngblood award 2014
Group

COMMISSIONS

2021 Molenwerk Enkhuizen, Netherlands Molenwerk, commissioned by the Zuiderzee Museum, Enkhuizen. Wind-driven kinetic sculpture inspired by the Dutch windmill landscape. Dimensions: 320 × 110 × 110 cm. Presented during the exhibition Must See

2019 'WHAT REMAINS HAS TO BE SEEN/DE TAND DES

SALES/WORKS IN COLLECTIONS

2024 Singing Rotterdam, Nederland Singing Painted aluminum, PU foam, soapstone — 140 × 80 × 60 cm Singing is a moving sculpture. A dancing line in the air suggests the shape of a figure or microphone stand. On top, a vibrating ball sets the piece in motion, made more visible by the yellow circles dancing around the blue line.

2017 Nederland inkt schilderingen op papier

TIJDS' NL=US art Rotterdam, Netherlands Een kunstwerk in de openbare ruimten in de schilderstaat 9 te Rotterdam. Ket kunstwerk is 4 meter hoog en stelt een vinger voor die kan bewegen. Het werk heeft 3 maanden aan de staat kant voor de galerie NL=US Art gestaan nlisus.com

2017 Nederland inkt schilderingen op papier

PUBLICATIONS

2014 Royal Academy of Art GRADUATION FESTIVAL KABK.NL 2014 Den Haag Catalogus

AWARDS AND GRANTS

2023 (sinds 2004) Stroom, Den Haag Netherlands Stroom Den Haag – Spot Grant Individual Exhibition

2021 Netherlands Stroom Den Haag – Spot Grant Group Exhibition

2020 Stroom Den Haag – Spot Grant Group Exhibition

2020 Stroom Den Haag, Spot documentatie subsidie

2018 Stroom Den Haag, Pro Art Projects

2017 Stroom Den Haag, Pro Art Projects

2016 Stroom Den Haag, Spot Grant Group Exhibition

2015 Stroom Den Haag, Pro Invest subsidie

REPRESENTATION

-- NL=US art Rottedam, Netherlands
https://nlisus.com

SECONDARY ART-RELATED ACTIVITIES

2021 - 2024 Workshop supervisor at Amaranth. Artistic day care for people with intellectual disabilities.



Painting Wall, 2026
acrylic and oil paint on canvas or on metal grid, | 30 Ø cm | 18 × 24 cm | 20,5 ×16 cm| 30 ×18 cm | 60 × 40 cm | 24 × 18 cm | 24 ×30 cm | 26 × 20 cm | 30 × 40 cm| 18 × 24 cm | 24× 18 cm | 24 × 18 cm



Loepel's Leap, 2025
metal, paint, acrylic dome, motors, 230 × 250 × 150 cm



Inside Out (You're In, I'm Out), 2025
metal, paint, motor, 160 × 40 × 40 cm



Singing, 2023
aluminum, paint, PU foam, soapstone, 122 × 80 × 40 cm



Windy, 2023
metal wire, plastic, motor, fans, 240 × 130 × 130 cm



macro micro macro, 2023
metaal papier verf, 80X80X210 cm



Your Playground, 2021



Molenwerk , 2021



jaknikker, 2021



02, 2021
metal, electric motor, 70 x 100 x 220cm