VERENA BLOK

Verena Blok (1990) has a deep interest in personal histories and narrative storytelling. Intrigued by the way cultural and political factors influence one's life, she uses her lens-based practice to shed light on inner life and everyday "reality" of her protagonists. As a Dutch-Polish dual citizen, Blok maintains a keen awareness of her positioning between East and West. Her work often refers to the gendered performance of the self. The encounter with her subjects takes place in intimate settings and is the core of and the fuel for her work. By becoming close to them and embedding herself in their lives for stretches of time, she uses the context in which they exist as a studio, a backdrop to the narratives that both her and her subjects become part of.

WEBSITES

www.verenablok.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

www.instagram.com/verena_blok/

MEMBER OF A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION/ARTISTS' ASSOCIATION

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EDUCATION

2020 - 2022 Amsterdam, Rijksacademie van Beeldende Kunsten diploma

2014 - 2016 MA Photography Breda, St. Joost Academie diploma

2009 - 2013 BA Photography Den Haag, Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten diploma

EXHIBITIONS

2026 Foam Amsterdam solo

2026 Nest Den Haag groepstentoonstelling

2025 'Money Talks', Video Club at SungEun, Seoul, with Martha Rosler, Ed van der Elsken, Fiona Tan, Hito Steyerl, curated by Karen Archey Seoul
Group

2023 Theater Bellevue Amsterdam, Netherlands En ze maakte een kind
Group

2022 RAUW Museum Het Rembrandthuis Amsterdam, Netherlands
Group

2022 Open Studios 2022 Amsterdam, Netherlands
Solo

2022 Shoeglazing Dürst Britt & Mayhew, Netherlands
Group

2021 Open Studios 2021 Rijksakademie van beeldende kunsten Amsterdam
Group

2020 'Generation Z' Noorderlicht International Photo Festival Museum Belvedere, Heerenveen, Netherlands

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES/RESIDENCIES

2025 Casa Snowapple, Mexico

2020 Rijksakademie van beeldende kunsten, Amsterdam (upcoming) Rijksakademie van beeldende kunsten, Netherlands

2019 KAMEN Artist Residency, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Group

2020 UNFAIR Amsterdam, Netherlands
Group

2020 "Borders: Verena Blok, Stefanie Zofia Schulz, Marvin Bonheur" 11th Organ Vida Photography Festival: Hesitant Images Zagreb (KR), Croatia
Group

2019 Prospects & Concepts Art Rotterdam Rotterdam, Netherlands
Group

2019 'The Image Is Our Voice' Melkweg Expo Amsterdam, Netherlands Unseen Fair X Melkweg Expo
Group

2019 'Robota' Elementarz dla Mieszkanców Miast Krakau, Poland
Solo

2018 Freedom of Movement Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam Amsterdam, Netherlands Freedom of Movement
www.stedelijk.nl/nl/tentoonstellingen/freedom-of-movement
Group

2018 Somfy Photography Award Utrecht Centraal Station, Netherlands group show of 10 nominees
Group

2017 'My Name in a 100 Colophons' Lief Hertje en de Grote Witte Reus Den Haag
Group

2016 'RE:' RE:, Melkweg Expo, Amsterdam MA Photography, AKV I St. Joost
Group

2015 'On The Move: Storytelling in Contemporary Photography and Graphic Design' Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam Amsterdam, Netherlands
Group

2015 'I Smell Like Rain' Galeria PF, Poznan, Polen, Biennale Fotografii Poznan, Poland
Solo

2014 Transphotografiques Lille, France
Group

2013 Poznan Photo Diploma Award Slodownia +1 Gallery Poznan, Poland
Group

COMMISSIONS

2023 De Correspondent Rotterdam, Netherlands beeldverhaal Winteropvang finished

2023 VPRO Nederland, Netherlands Podcastserie van Maartje Duin, 'Mina & Mevrouw' finished

2018 VPRO Nederland/Polen research reisserie 'Moja Polska!' finished

2018 Orkater/de Volkskrant Nederland beeldverhaal finished

SALES/WORKS IN COLLECTIONS

2023 Young Collector's Circle Editions Nederland, Nederland 'Blagoje and Sava, July 2019, Trebišnjica River, Trebinje, Bosnia and Herzegovina, edition of 5

2019 Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam Nederland, Nederland 'Robota', 2018

2015 Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam Nederland, Nederland 'I Smell Like Rain', 2013

2016 Vrij Nederland Nederland beeldverhaal finished

2016 Christa van der Meer Nederland serie van collectie finished

2015 De Volkskrant Nederland portretten culturele bijlage, V finished

PUBLICATIONS

2018 GUP Magazine #58 GUP magazine

2016 Quickscan #02 FW:, Nederlands Fotomuseum Rotterdam catalogus groepstentoonstelling NFM

2014 On the Move: Storytelling in Contemporary Photography and Graphic Design Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam catalogus groepstentoonstelling

AWARDS AND GRANTS

2024 Publicatie Mondriaan Fonds (voorheen Fonds BKVB)

2024 Kunstenaar Project Mondriaan Fonds (voorheen Fonds BKVB)

2023 Subsidie Vrouwelijke Kunstenaars Cultuur Fonds

2019 PRO Onderzoek, Stroom Den Haag Den Haag, Netherlands

2019 Pro Kunstprojecten, Stroom Den Haag Netherlands

2019 UNSEEN Photo Fair | Nominated for Futures , Netherlands

2018 Projectinvestering Kunstenaar Mondriaan Fonds, Amsterdam (NL) Amsterdam, Netherlands

2017 Pro Invest Stroom

2017 Werkbijdrage Jong Talent Mondriaan Fonds Amsterdam

2015 DocuDenHaag Beurs Het Nutshuis, Den Haag

2013 Grand Prix Winner Poznan Photo Diploma Award, Poznan, Polen Poznan, Poland

2013 Nominatie Unseen Dummy Award Netherlands

SECONDARY ART-RELATED ACTIVITIES

2024 - 2024 Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam | Scout Gemeentelijke Kunstaankopen 2024-2025

2018 - 2018 Kunsteducatie Nest / The American School

2018 - 2018 Minerva Academie Groningen



'Untitled, September 2024, Warsaw', 4025



'Untitled, March 2024', 2024



'Agnieszka, September 2024, Warsaw', 2024



'Anneliese, October 2023, Berlin', 2023



Out Lookers, 2022
7:26 min, one channel video and sound installation



Mirek's Dahlas, 2021, 2021
Fuji Film Polaroid, 99 mm x 62 mm



Marcin, 2020, 2020
Fuji Film Polaroid, 99 mm x 62 mm



Robota, 2018
one channel video and sound installation



Robota, 2018
one channel video and sound installation



Weronika, Elk, Poland, 2018, 2018