CYRILL RAFAEL VASILYEV

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My artistic work revolves around creation of visual artifacts in a ritualized setting, merging contemplative practices (meditation, martial arts,) with a deep engagement in the visual medium. It's an ongoing exploration of an inner landscape as well as nature of our awareness and perception per se. I believe in transformative and healing properties of applied awareness and work to bring forth a transformation, first in myself, and than, through my art, in my environment. Symbolisation is inevitable in figurative art, but I prefer speculative, hands-on approach to symbolic imagery and figuration. Material awareness is more important to me as I believe that when we are aware of materiality of what we are looking at and of our own materiality as embodied beings, we have a deeper insight into the nature of our conditioning. My work is about locating our awareness and mapping out the bigger space in which our immediate experience occurs, both in its inner dimension (here my work adresses themes of embodiment, interface, personal mythology) and outer (as I turn to relationality, politics, local art scenes and art history and iconography).

WEBSITES

personal website

cyrillrafael.org

SOCIAL MEDIA

www.instagram.com/cyrillrafael/

MEMBER OF ARTISTS' INITIATIVE/COLLECTIVE/INCUBATOR

ANNASTATE

EDUCATION

2014 - 2018 Fine Arts Den Haag, Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten diploma

EXHIBITIONS

2026 Bermuda Open Studio 2026 Annastate The Hague, Netherlands Bermuda Open is a yearly open studio event that presents studios of artists with a contemporary practice in the city of The Hague (NL). The title, Bermuda, is inspired by the triangle shape formed by the streets and studios that initiated the project, back in 2021. Bermuda Open fifth edition (18–19 April 2026) presents over 140 artist studios and 3 group shows in 22 locations throughout the city of The Hague. bermudaopen.studio/
Group

2025 Mountains of May Machiaijo gallery Togatta, Japan
www.tr044.org/airprogram
Duo

2024 Fileds of Air See Lab the Hague, Netherlands
www.seelab.nl/program/2024/fields-of-air/cyrill-rafael-vasilyev/paintings-2018-2023
Solo

2023 ANNASTATE open studios ANNASTATE the Hague
Group

2022 Sterrentuin III Ketelstraat 23 the Hague, Netherlands an outdoor group exhibition
shanileseman.nl/exhibition
Group

PROJECTS

2020 Rites of Passage West Den Haag The Hague, Netherlands
westdenhaag.nl/thuistezien/87 P.S. The members of Annastate have started the project during the peak of the pandemic and today (four months later, July 2020) it seems that the whole world is ready to 'get out' of the lockdown, to meet friends again and... continue the life as it used to be. We share the same desire to overcome the lockdown, but putting a different meaning to what overcoming means. It is about re-evaluating oneself and the world we are living in, to meet the new world where the whole system and society as we know it, invests more into education, health, people's values and morals.

2020 burenpost Grafische Werkplaats Den Haag the Hague, Netherlands

2019 Daag van Architectuur The Hague, Netherlands a guided walk around Moerwijk around some art pieces installed outdoors

2021 Royal Award for Modern Painting Royal Palace Amsterdam, Netherlands
www.paleisamsterdam.nl/en/royal-award-modern-painting/
Group

2020 Big Soft Illusion Alte Handelsschule Leipzig, Germany Show of Pilotenkueche residency program (of which I was a participant) westside.pilotenkueche.net/
Group

2020 How do you call what you are doing Kunst Drift Breda, Netherlands
Group

2020 Hoogtij Rooimtevaart Den Haag, Netherlands
Group

2020 Unplugged #3 Helicopter artist initiative Den Haag, Netherlands
Group

2020 In Bloom Korzo The Hague, Netherlands Installed my work at Korzo theater as a side dish to a music festival In Bloom.
Solo

2018 In de geest van Lucebert's House Bergen, Netherlands
Group

2018 De Creatieve Stad Grafische Werkplaats Den Haag, Netherlands
Group

2018 Nokia's Tagline MOOOF Den Haag, Netherlands
Group

2018 Halfway Where Grey Space in the Middle the Hague
Group

-- Infinitesimal A Shop Called Life Rotterdam, Netherlands together with Annastate collective
www.ashopcalled.life
Group

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES/RESIDENCIES

2025 Shiroishi Zao Residence Togatta, Japan Research residency (supported by Stroom and the residency organisation itself) in rural Japan www.tr044.org/

2020 Leipzig, Germany Pilotenkueche artist residency pilotenkueche.net/

SALES/WORKS IN COLLECTIONS

2022 two moons Private collection the Hague, Nederland mixed media on canvas, 160x120cm

2022 see one in thousands and thousands in one Private collection the Hague, Nederland mixed media on canvas, 160x120cm

2018 Untitled, 160x120cm, mixed media on canvas Private collection Den Haag, Nederland

AWARDS AND GRANTS

2025 Research grant Stroom the Hague, Netherlands Research grant for a working period in an artist residency in Togatta, rural Japan.

2020 Rites of Passage (sinds 2004) Stroom, Den Haag The Hague, Netherlands With our artist collective Annastate we got the Stroom Promise grant to realise a video-art project in collaboration with



space observation unit, 2025
pigments, dyes, oil and dry pastels on canvas, 170x130



gates of a, 2025
pigments, dyes, oil and dry pastels on canvas, 170x130



four provinces, 2025
pigments, dyes, oil and dry pastels, spray paint on canvas, 170x130



crippled symmetry, 2025
pigments, dyes, oil and dry pastels on canvas, 170x130



Fields of Air show documentation, 2024

Fields of Air show documentation

Fields of Air show documentation, 2024



smile from the streets you follow tightly, 2023
mixed media, 220x120cm



my dear teacher, 2023
mixed media, 220x120cm



moth, 2023
mixed media, 220x120cm



most peculiar circumstance, 2023
mixed media, 220x120cm