DIRK HARDY

“Stories help us understand other perspectives. By welcoming the viewer to a multitude of worlds I aim to increase our ability to connect and coexist.”
As a child, Dirk Hardy dreamed of becoming an architect—to design places and spaces for people to live in. He studied Architecture at Eindhoven University of Technology and turned to photography in 2010 at Willem de Kooning Academy. Today, as an artist, Hardy researches, constructs, and photographs imagined worlds within his studio. Hardy explores the complexity of life in an idiosyncratic and empathic way. His meticulously constructed and socially engaged tableaux shine light on human existence. In the creation of his worlds he fuses his imagination, personal memories and true events into ‘purposeful fiction’. Hardy lives and works in The Hague (NL). In 2019 at Photo Basel (Switzerland) Hardy had his first international exhibition showing Void. In 2021, after 3 years in the making, he exhibited Vivarium for the first time at the York Art Gallery (UK) as nominee for the Aesthetica Art Prize (UK). That same year Hardy was selected for Futures Photography, a European platform for young photography talent. Since then, Vivarium has been exhibited at various venues in the Netherlands, Germany, the UK and Luxembourg. Recent exhibitions include Art Rotterdam (2025), Photoville, New York City (2024), Unseen, Amsterdam (2023) and Nederlands Fotomuseum, Rotterdam (2022). Hardy’s work is part of various collections, including the collection of Museum LAM, Lisse (NL) and the AkzoNobel Art Collection (NL).

WEBSITES

portfolio

www.dirkhardy.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

www.instagram.com/dirkhardy/

MEMBER OF ARTISTS’ INITIATIVE/COLLECTIVE/INCUBATOR

Maakhaven

EDUCATION

2017 - 2017	Didactic course Willem de Kooning Academie Rotterdam
2010 - 2014	BA Photography Rotterdam, Willem de Kooning Academie diploma
2007 - 2010	BA Architecture Technische Universiteit Eindhoven

EXHIBITIONS

2026	Art Rotterdam - Unseen Rotterdam, Netherlands Represented by Project 2.0 Gallery Solo
2025	Art Rotterdam Rotterdam, Netherlands Represented by Rutger Brandt Gallery Group
2025	This Art Fair Amsterdam, Netherlands Solo
2025	New Photographers Gallery Project 2.0 Den Haag, Netherlands Group
2024	Vivarium Photoville New York City, United States photoville.nyc/exhibition/vivarium/ Solo
2024	Night Shift Heden Den Haag, Netherlands Group
2024	300m2 Maakhaven Den Haag, Netherlands Group
2023	Vivarium Nederlands Fotomuseum Rotterdam, Netherlands www.nederlandsfotomuseum.nl/tentoonstelling/dirk-

COMMISSIONS

2019	Vogel Kat op het spek, theaterproducties Amsterdam Theater poster www.dirkhardy.com/commissioned?itemId=f77bfg387b6o0valb4vjv87yrn9tqd-kbx2c finished
2016	Palm Springs Nieuwe de la Mar Theater, Amsterdam Amsterdam, Netherlands Theater poster www.dirkhardy.com/commissioned?itemId=edx5uyzh4537gecmz9jboxpjxl1x1g-jyj4a finished

hardy-vivarium/
Solo

2023 Vivarium Rutger Brandt Gallery Amsterdam, Netherlands
Solo

2023 Vivarium Unseen Amsterdam, Netherlands Represented by Rutger Brandt Gallery
Solo

2023 Regenerate Society Noorderlicht, International Photo Festival Groningen, Netherlands
Group

2022 Pink Edition Rutger Brandt Gallery Amsterdam, Netherlands
Group

2022 Art Luxembourg Luxembourg City, Luxembourg
Group

2022 PAN Amsterdam Art Fair Amsterdam, Netherlands Represented by Rutger Brandt Gallery
Group

2022 Vivarium Leica Gallery Konstanz, Germany
Solo

2022 Small is Beautiful XL Flowers Gallery London, United Kingdom
Group

2021 Aesthetica Art Prize York Art Gallery York, United Kingdom
Group

2021 BBA Photography Prize Kühlhaus Berlin, Germany
Group

2021 MOYA Museum Of Young Art Oosterhout, Netherlands
Solo

2019 Void Photo Basel Basel, Switzerland
Solo

2015 Ministry of Finance The Hague, Netherlands
Group

2015 Haagse Kunstkring The Hague, Netherlands
Group

2015 ROOT Gallery Rotterdam, Netherlands
Group

2014 Cokkie Snoei Gallery Rotterdam, Netherlands
Group

2014 New Dutch Photography Talent Amsterdam, Netherlands
Group

SALES/WORKS IN COLLECTIONS

2024 Vivarium, Episode 1 - 11 Rädeker collection Konstanz, Duitsland

2023 Vivarium, Episode 6, On Guard AkzoNobel Art Foundation Amsterdam, Nederland

2023 Vivarium, Episode 9, Free Delivery LAM Museum Lisse, Nederland

2021 Libertas Henri Swagemakers collection Nederland

2020 Vivarium, Episode 1, Pilot Germain collection Paris,

PUBLICATIONS

2016 Void Book X Publishers/GUP, Amsterdam Dirk Hardy Amsterdam, Netherlands
www.dirkhardy.com/shop/p/void-publication

Frankrijk

2019 Void Private collection Paris, Frankrijk Purchase of three works from the Void series.

2016 Void Various private collections Amsterdam (NL), Brussels (BE) and Jacksonville, Florida (US), Verenigde Staten Various purchases from the Void series.

2015 Clay Private collection Cannes, Frankrijk

2014 Libertas Zorggroep Elde, corporate collection Boxtel, Nederland

REVIEWS

2024 How fatherhood changes a worldview Magazine PF Professionele Fotografie Magazine, Diana Bokje Netherlands static1.squarespace.com/static/5f917d08628ae003ca7eac8c/t/6615360743c9e174f2caa1e0/1712661126869/Dirk+Hardy+PF+231+2024++Hoe+vaderschap+een+wereldbeeld+verandert.pdf

2024 Interview with Dirk Hardy Website Photo31 Netherlands www.youtube.com/watch?v=kjz25rClq9g&t=3955s

2023 No smile. No service. Dirk Hardy's perfect solo debut Website Wouter van den Eijkel, GalleryViewer Magazine Amsterdam, Netherlands galleryviewer.com/en/article/1830/no-smile-no-service-dirk-hardys-perfect-solo-debut

2022 An imagined reality Newspaper Rianne van Dijck, NRC Netherlands www.nrc.nl/nieuws/2022/11/28/een-gefantaseerde-werkelijkheid-2-a4149677

2022 Box office as a window into life Newspaper Marc Cleutjens, Brabants Centrum Netherlands www.brabantscentrum.nl/nieuws/cultuur/38341/kassahokje-als-doorkijk-naar-het-leven

2021 More real than reality: Dirk Hardy's hyperrealism Newspaper Jeroen Bos, FD, Financieel Dagblad Amsterdam, Netherlands fd.nl/samenleving/1415274/net-echt-hyperrealisme-van-dirk-hardy Article on the occasion of the Vivarium exhibition in MOYA: "Hyperrealism and fantasy intertwine in the tableaux vivants created by young Dutch artist and photographer Dirk Hardy."

2021 Vivarium by Dirk Hardy: A journey into the image Website Tbilisi Photography & Multimedia Museum, René Mariam Nadareishvili Tbilisi, Georgia tpmm.ge/en/blogs/dirk-hardy Interview about the origins of Vivarium and the stories each Episode tells.

2019 Die Welt, mit oder ohne uns Newspaper Basler Zeitung Basel, Switzerland www.bazonline.ch/kultur/art-basel/die-welt-mit-oder-ohne-uns/story/17455958 June 12, 2019. Review of Art Basel that focuses on the exhibition of Dirk Hardy's Void at Photo Basel.

2017 I hissen med Hardy (In the elevator with Hardy) Magazine Fotografisk Magazine Stockholm, Sweden issuu.com/fotografisktidskrift/docs/f_nr_1_2017_liten Fotografisk Tidskrift, nr 1 2017, p. 28 - 33

2015 The municipality of Binnenmaas rejects 'offensive' art TV NOS Journaal Netherlands nos.nl/artikel/2012963-gemeente-binnenmaas-weert-aanstootgevende-kunst.html

2014 Students, Dirk Hardy TV Fotostudio de Jong

AWARDS AND GRANTS

2024 Future 400 Netherlands Consulate General New York City, United States

2023 Dear Homo Sapiens, grant Stichting Ons op de Nanny Nijmegen, Netherlands

2021 Vivarium Aesthetica Art Prize York, United Kingdom Shortlisted, participating in the exhibition.

2021 Vivarium, grant Stichting Stokroos Utrecht Utrecht, Netherlands

2021 SPOT Individual Exhibition Grant (sinds 2004) Stroom, Den Haag The Hague, Netherlands

2021 Selected for Futures Photography 2021 Futures Photography European organization Futures is a European photography platform that supports new talents. Every year, the Futures members nominate a group of artists to join the platform. By bringing together a wealth of resources and curatorial expertise, each talent selected by the members gains access to an unprecedented network of professionals, markets and audiences.

2021 BBA Photography Prize BBA Gallery Berlin, Germany Winner 2nd prize

2020 Vivarium Photoforum Pasquart Biennes, Switzerland Nomination longlist Prix Photoforum.

2015 Art prize Binnenmaas Gemeente Binnenmaas Binnenmaas, Netherlands With the series Clay, 2014. Since 2010, the Art Committee has organized the Kunstprijs Binnenmaas on behalf of the municipality of Binnenmaas. The Art Committee alternately visits the final exam exhibitions of the St. Joost Academy in Breda and the Willem de Kooning Academy in Rotterdam.

Netherlands www.vpro.nl/programmas/fotostudio-de-jong/1.html

REPRESENTATION

-- Project 2.0 Gallery Den Haag, Netherlands

SECONDARY ART-RELATED ACTIVITIES

2019 - 2020 Assistent, Desiree Dolron, Amsterdam, NL

2017 - 2020 Photography teacher, Willem de Kooning Academy, Rotterdam, NL

2013 - 2020 Assistent and retoucher, Studio Pieter Henket, New York, USA



Residue City, But now I'm only falling apart, 2025
Archival pigment print, framed, 204 x 144cm



Residue City, Once upon a time I was falling in love, 2025
Archival pigment print, framed, 52 x 37cm



Residue City, But now I'm only falling apart, 2025
Archival pigment print, framed, 204 x 144cm



Residue City, Ride like the one eyed jack of diamonds, 2025
Archival pigment print, ingelijst, 216 x 132cm



Vivarium, Episode 12, Echo Down the Passage (part 1), 2025
Archival pigment print, window frame, 124 x 94cm



Vivarium, Episode 13, Echo Down the Passage (part 2), 2025
Archival pigment print, window frame, 124 x 94cm



Vivarium, 2023



Vivarium, Episode 11, Echo Chamber, 2023



Vivarium, Episode 11, Echo Chamber, 2023
Archival pigment print, window frame, 223,5 cm x 102 cm



Vivarium, Episode 11, Self-portrait, 2023