

## VITA SOUL WILMERING

What makes Wilmering's films special is that, thanks to her cross-border approach, she manages to make the fallibility of memory visible, without losing any empathy for the protagonist of her films. (NRC, Lucette ter Borg)

I make films and work with performance, installation, music and other media, always starting from a documentary basis. I consider the performative space that a camera evokes as an instrument to start friendships and to communicate on an intimate level with the people I work with. For this, I integrate the making process into the work itself. In many of my projects I play with fictional elements and let people switch between role-playing and reality. I use this method to visualise questions about how one reclaims a personal or familial history, embedded in an environment that is constantly under (re)construction. In recent years I have made both narrative films, experimental films, and video installations. Through individual stories, many of my works touch upon universal and sometimes major socio-political themes, even though these broader themes are never the starting point of the work. Usually, my attention is drawn to specific people in the way they deal with impactful events in their lives, and the question on how close I can get to them. In the intimate contact that arises from these encounters, I examine our relationship to past or present with them, using all kinds of reconstruction methods to create a playful space of reflection. Using elements such as music and performance, I challenge the people I work with to go beyond a documentary approach and translate factual events into fictional spaces. This gives them the opportunity to reflect in a fresh, sometimes funny or painful way. Film itself becomes a way of dealing with absence, without becoming sentimental, because reconstructing real situations and personal memories always creates a certain discomfort. Every scene is an attempt, rather than a finished act. I am by no means attempting to show an objective picture of something or someone. Moreover, I am interested in contradictions and conflicting truths, which makes me aware of the power that a camera gives me. By making myself and the construction of filming or narrating visible, the illusion of a universal truth disappears, while revealing a great complexity and the mechanisms of storytelling.

### WEBSITES

Personal website

[www.vitasoulwilmering.nl](http://www.vitasoulwilmering.nl)

### SOCIAL MEDIA

[www.instagram.com/vitasoulwilmering/](https://www.instagram.com/vitasoulwilmering/)

### MEMBER OF ARTISTS' INITIATIVE/COLLECTIVE/INCUBATOR

Billytown

### EDUCATION

- 2023 - (East) European Studies Universiteit van Amsterdam (UVA) diploma
- 2019 - Amsterdam, De Ateliers diploma
- 2021
- 2017 - Audiovisual Arts (film) Master
- 2018 Audiovisual Arts, KASK School of Arts, Gent (BE) diploma
- 2014 - Audiovisual Artis (film) Bachelor
- 2017 Audiovisual Arts, KASK School of Arts, Gent (BE) diploma

### EXHIBITIONS

- 2026 Official selection International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) Rotterdam, Netherlands Official selection 'Insomnia' (world première) [iffr.com/nl/iffr/2026/films/insomnia](http://iffr.com/nl/iffr/2026/films/insomnia)  
Solo
- 2025 The Divorce Chair Cité des Arts Paris Paris, France Performative film screening, Open Studios 2025  
Solo
- 2025 Galeria Pracownia at work MSN: Museum of Modern Art Warsaw, Poland A collaboration project with the Polish artist initiative Pracownia Wschodnia en Billytown from Den Haag [artmuseum.pl/en/events/common-museum-pracownia-wschodnia-at-work?term=0199f2ee-c606-70dd-a714-1395137d930f](http://artmuseum.pl/en/events/common-museum-pracownia-wschodnia-at-work?term=0199f2ee-c606-70dd-a714-1395137d930f)  
Group
- 2025 Building For Sale! SUPERMARKET - Stockholm Independent Art Fair Stockholm, Sweden Group show by Melle de Boer, Yukari Nakamichi, Sam Hersbach, Alexander Webber, and Vita Soul Wilmering, on behalf of Billytown  
Group

- 2025 Slagduif! Billytown Den Haag, Netherlands  
'(un)scripted' in group exhibition  
[Group](#)
- 2025 Traveling Light P1 Projects Rotterdam, Netherlands  
Screening of 'Lake Bottom Cinema' and 'The Failed Holiday', curated by Sema Bekirovic  
[Solo](#)
- 2024 Another Grand Day Out KiekenCentrale Antwerp, Belgium  
Group exhibition with artists from Billytown  
[Group](#)
- 2024 The Failed Holiday Galerie Block C Groningen, Netherlands  
[Solo](#)
- 2024 EYE on Art EYE Filmmuseum Amsterdam, Netherlands  
Screening 'Lake Bottom Cinema'  
[Group](#)
- 2024 Prospects ArtRotterdam Rotterdam, Netherlands  
'(un)scripted' in exhibition Prospects  
[Group](#)
- 2023 ROZENSTRAAT a rose is a rose is a rose Amsterdam, Netherlands  
Performance night and conversations, connected with the exhibition Carriers, kunsthuis SYB  
[Group](#)
- 2023 Sarajevo Film Festival Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina  
World premiere 'Lake Bottom Cinema'  
[Solo](#)
- 2023 don't look a gift horse in the mouth Woonhuis De Ateliers (Amsterdam Art) Amsterdam, Netherlands  
'Lake Bottom Cinema' in exhibition, and artist talk, moderated by Kris Petrasova (The Netherlands Institute Sound & Vision)  
[Group](#)
- 2022 Carriers Kunsthuis SYB Beetsterzwaag, Netherlands  
Sybren Hellinga Art Prize, nomination  
[Group](#)
- 2022 Out of time Helicopter Artist Collective Den Haag, Netherlands  
Group show, organisation and participation  
[Group](#)
- 2022 Spiegl Kino Muranow Warsaw, Poland  
Screening, Dutch Film Week Warsaw  
[Solo](#)
- 2022 parallel relocations // relocated parallels KCTrebinje Trebinje, Bosnia and Herzegovina  
[Duo](#)
- 2022 Lake Bottom Cinema On site: old village of Orah Orah, Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Site-specific installation  
[Solo](#)
- 2022 Limburg Biennale #2 Marres Maastricht, Netherlands  
[Group](#)

- 2022 Construire, déconstruire, reconstruire OFF Biennale Dakar Dakar, Senegal, Senegal Group show in Maison Toubab Malo, Off Biennale Dakar [Group](#)
- 2022 IFFR, International Film Festival Rotterdam Rotterdam, Netherlands Official selection 'Spiegel', mid-length section [iffr.com/en/expanded/2022/films/spiegel](http://iffr.com/en/expanded/2022/films/spiegel) [Solo](#)
- 2022 R.S.V.P. Billytown Den Haag BAÄL, in collaboration with Sam Hersbach, group show [billytown.org/](http://billytown.org/) [Group](#)
- 2021 Always Hallways De Ateliers Amsterdam, Netherlands Offspring, final show at De Ateliers [de-ateliers.nl](http://de-ateliers.nl) [Solo](#)
- 2020 BAÄL De Ateliers Amsterdam, Netherlands Online radio play and broadcasting, in collaboration with Sam Hersbach, Offspring 2020 [jajaneeneenee.nl](http://jajaneeneenee.nl) [Duo](#)
- 2019 Houtnacht & Houtfestival Haarlem, Netherlands Film screenings 'Oyfn veg shteyt a boym'
- 2019 Doculab De Pletterij Haarlem, Netherlands Screening 'Oyfn veg shteyt a boym' and discussion [pletterij.nl](http://pletterij.nl)
- 2018 DocLisboa Lisbon, Portugal Official selection 'Iboyah', green years section [doclisboa.org](http://doclisboa.org)
- 2018 Sphinx cinema & KASK cinema Ghent, Belgium Master graduation show, screenings 'Iboyah' [kask.be](http://kask.be)
- 2018 Levens//weg Radboud University Nijmegen, Netherlands 'Oyfn veg shteyt a boym', screening and artist talk
- 2018 Since I see myself over there Ostadetheater Amsterdam, Netherlands Theatre performance in collaboration with Simone van der Steen
- 2017 KASK cinema Ghent, Belgium Bachelor graduation show, screenings 'Oyfn veg shteyt a boym'
- 2017 Visions du Réel Nyon, Switzerland Official selection 'Oyfn veg shteyt a boym', media library [www.visionsdureel.ch/en](http://www.visionsdureel.ch/en)
- 2017 Cinema\_plek Ghent, Belgium Screening 'Diary'
- 2016 De Donkere Materie Roest Amsterdam, Netherlands 'We are here', installation in group show [Group](#)
- 2016 Het Nieuwe Dromen ABC Architectuurcentrum Haarlem, Netherlands Screenings 'Zonder'

2015 Bewegend Beeld Bewegend Beeld Brussels, Belgium Screening 'Diary'

2014 De Nieuwe Vide Haarlem, Netherlands Screening 'Zonder'

## INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES/RESIDENCIES

- 2024 Artist in Residence, CITE des arts internationale, Paris, FR Paris, France
- 2023 ArtMessiamé Bandjoun Station Bandjoun, Cameroon Group project and residency
- 2022 KAMEN Artist Residency Orah, Bosnia and Herzegovina

## SALES/WORKS IN COLLECTIONS

2024 Lake Bottom Cinema Distribution Collection EYE Film Museum Amsterdam, Nederland

## PUBLICATIONS

- 2021 Always Hallways Catalog De Ateliers Amsterdam, Netherlands [de-ateliers.nl](http://de-ateliers.nl) Exhibition catalogue
- 2018 DocLisboa Catalog DocLisboa Lisbon, Portugal [doclisboa.org](http://doclisboa.org) Festival catalogue
- 2018 Graduation Catalog KASK School of Arts Ghent, Belgium [kask.be](http://kask.be) Graduation catalogue
- 2017 Visions du Réel Catalog Visions du Réel Nyon, Switzerland [www.visionsdureel.ch](http://www.visionsdureel.ch) Festival catalogue (online)
- 2016 De Donkere Materie Catalog De Donkere Materie Amsterdam, Netherlands Exhibition catalogue, Roest

## REVIEWS

- 2022 Laag voor laag Magazine Nadeche Remst Netherlands 'De films van Vita Soul Wilmering', article in Metropolis M, no1 2022
- 2021 Knappe acrobatiek tussen docu en fictie tijdens open huis in De Ateliers Newspaper Lucette ter Borg Netherlands [www.nrc.nl/nieuws/2021/10/11/knappe-acrobatiek-tussen-documentaire-en-fictie-tijdens-open-huis-van-de-ateliers-a4061406](http://www.nrc.nl/nieuws/2021/10/11/knappe-acrobatiek-tussen-documentaire-en-fictie-tijdens-open-huis-van-de-ateliers-a4061406) Review of the show 'Always Hallways' (De Ateliers) in NRC Handelsblad
- 2021 Deze jonge kunstenaars gaan hun eigen gang Newspaper Sarah van Binsbergen Netherlands [www.volkskrant.nl/cultuur-media/dit-is-de-nieuwe-lichting-van-kunstwerkplaats-de-ateliers~b30a6d63/](http://www.volkskrant.nl/cultuur-media/dit-is-de-nieuwe-lichting-van-kunstwerkplaats-de-ateliers~b30a6d63/) Review of the show 'Always Hallways' (De Ateliers) in De Volkskrant
- 2021 De Ateliers Offspring 2021 - De gang als uitgangspunt Magazine Lotte van Geijn Netherlands [www.metropolism.com/nl/reviews/44868\\_de\\_ateliers\\_off](http://www.metropolism.com/nl/reviews/44868_de_ateliers_off) Review of the show 'Always Hallways' (De Ateliers) in Metropolis M

## AWARDS AND GRANTS

- 2024 Mondriaan Fonds (voorheen Fonds BKVB) Paris, France Residency Atelier Holsboer Paris
- 2023 Mondriaan Fonds (voorheen Fonds BKVB) Amsterdam, Netherlands

## SECONDARY ART-RELATED ACTIVITIES

- 2022 - 2024 Workshops with highschool students at De Ateliers, Amsterdam On-going
- 2021 - 2021 HKU Fine Art, seminar teaching
- 2016 - Film operator (digital & analogue) at several

Project grant 'Insomnia'

2019

film festivals and cinemas

- 2023 (sinds 2004) Stroom, Den Haag The Hague, Netherlands Project grant
- 2023 (sinds 2004) Stroom, Den Haag The Hague, Netherlands PRO Invest
- 2022 Artist Start Fonds BKVB, Amsterdam (Mondriaan Fonds) Netherlands Stipend
- 2022 Project grant Stichting Dommering Fonds Netherlands Project grant 'Insomnia'
- 2022 Project grant Stichting Niemeijer Fonds Netherlands Projectsubsidie for project 'Lake bottom cinema'
- 2021 AFK, Amsterdam Amsterdam, Netherlands Project grant 'Spiegel'
- 2020 Stichting AMMODO Amsterdam, Netherlands Work budget, via De Ateliers
- 2020 NORMA Fonds Netherlands Project grant 'Spiegel'
- 2019 Prins Bernard Cultuurfonds Netherlands Project grant 'Spiegel', Josine de Bruijn Kops Fund (via Prins Bernhard Culture Fund)
- 2019 Cultuurstimuleringsfonds Gemeente Haarlem Haarlem, Netherlands Stipend



Insomnia, 2026  
Film, 64 min.



Insomnia, 2026  
Film, 64 min.



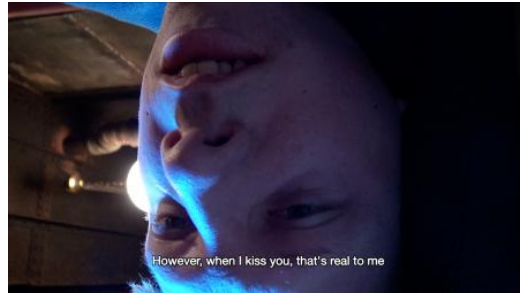
Insomnia, 2026  
Film, 64 min.



Insomnia, 2026  
Film, 64 min.



(un)scripted, 2024  
Film, 16 min.



(un)scripted, 2024  
Film, 16 min.



The Failed Holiday - marathon, 2024  
Video-installation, 18 min.



Lake Bottom Cinema, 2023  
Film, 25 min.



Lake Bottom Cinema (teaser), 2023  
01:32



Lake Bottom Cinema, 2023  
Film, foto by Gert Jan Van Rooij, 25 min.