JOHANNES EQUIZI

Johannes Equizi (1996, Italy) is a cross-disciplinary artist and designer with a background in architecture, currently based in The Hague. His work bridges visual art and socially engaged practice, and focuses on exploring and reimagining how humans inhabit environments and come together as a society. He describes it as a “world-building practice”. Informed by urban theory, philosophy, anthropology and craftsmanship, Johannes makes use of fiction, spatial installation and role-playing to question oppressive socio-spatial paradigms and to create collective experiences of how the world might be otherwise. His practice has been supported by Dutch arts/research foundations including Mondriaan Fonds, Stimuleringsfonds, and Stroom Den Haag. Alongside his artistic work, Johannes works and collaborates across game design, installation and exhibition design.

WEBSITES

Personal website

johannesequizi.com/
Issuu account

issuu.com/JohannesEquizi
Pangaea Collective website

pangaea.hotglue.me/
Trojan Horse collective

trojanhorse.fi/

SOCIAL MEDIA

www.instagram.com/johannes_equizi/
www.linkedin.com/in/johannes-equizi-95022b187/

MEMBER OF ARTISTS’ INITIATIVE/COLLECTIVE/INCUBATOR

Pangaea Collective, Trojan Horse

EDUCATION

2025 - 2025 School of Artivism BJCEM

2024 - 2024 Raise Your Voice Baltan Laboratories (Eindhoven, NL)

2024 - 2024 Welding Courses Hatek Lastechniek

2023 - 2023 Trust In Play European School of Urban Game Design

2022 - 2022 Liquid Dependencies Framer Framed

2019 - 2021 MA Interior Architecture Den Haag, Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten diploma

2015 - 2019 BA Architecture Università Degli Studi di Firenze diploma

EXHIBITIONS

2027 SUPERTOSCANA Centro Pecci – Centro d'Arte Contemporarea Prato, Italy centropecci.it/centro-pecci-news/supertoscana-avviato-il-primo-ciclo-di-residenze-al-centro-pecci/
Group

2025 Tendere Spazi Museum Casa Masaccio San Giovanni Valdarno, Italy www.casamasaccio.it/tendere-spazi/
Duo

2025 Cafe' Wednesday Van Abbehuis Eindhoven, Netherlands vanabbehuis.com/exhibition/group-group/
Group

2025 Beloved Waters Stroom Den Haag The Hague, Netherlands Each ripple — Another glimpse This spatial narrative has been conceived for the group exhibition Beloved Waters, curated by Leana Boven. As a continuation of the research “Dowsing across Fields”, this intervention takes the form of a series of sculptural elements crafted entirely from aluminium. In dialogue with the works of other artists and Stroom’s exhibition spaces, these sculptures form a landscape that accompanies the visitors’ experience into the ripples of water. www.stroom.nl/stroom-algemeen/activiteiten/beloved-waters
Group

2024 DIHAN’23 No #6 Antiquariaat Berger & De Vries Groningen, Netherlands During this experimental performance night I presented the work 'The Roof we made', a performance that addresses the relationship between right to housing, DIY and mutual-aid. www.instagram.com/p/C3ijZGfNmqg/
Group

2024 FUORI TUTTO Personal Studiospace The Hague, Netherlands Born from a need of “putting everything out”, FUORI TUTTO is an open studio in which I presented drawings, material experiments, writings and sculptures that I have never shown before. Such event was also the occasion to present 'Patatrac - have you also become a we?', a publication that I realised together with friend and artist Elisa Piazzi www.instagram.com/p/C6LbKCqoIfL/
Duo

2024 One, none, hundred thousands Drops Maakhaven The Hague, Netherlands This solo exhibition was the first time my entire “Dowsing across Fields” research came together in one space. Began in 2023 this project examines how water is perceived and shared among humans, envisioning alternative ways to coexist

with this vital resource. Often treated as a commodity, a weapon, or a common good, the exhibition guided the visitors through the diverse narratives surrounding the waters I encountered in my research. For the first time, I showcased “Round-Well Forum”, an aluminum sculpture resembling a water well - a central gathering place that has historically shaped routines, stories, and relationships of survival. I envision this sculpture as a movable platform to facilitate round-table discussions on water, bridging various economic, political, and belief systems. johannesequizi.com/one-none-hundred-thousand-drops/
Solo

2023 Reinventing the Wheel Cycloon The Hague, Netherlands
Group

2023 Dowsing across Fields LAB23 The Hague, Netherlands This on-going research investigates how scientific logics and privatisation threaten informal practices dealing with water. By focusing on the role of the dowser - a person able to find underground water by using unconventional methods - I researched how their role changed across time in different social environments. I perceive the dowser as an archetypal figure crucial for making water accessible and for the development of human settlements. Is today's dominant scientific thinking threatening their survival? Is their knowledge changing the way water is perceived and shared? The controversy around the dowser’s practice puts into conversation different beliefs, economies, politics and knowledge. The multimedia installation consists of a video, a performance, sculptures and a series of poems and of drawings.
Duo

2023 As Common as Well The Grey Space in the Middle The Hague, Netherlands This solo exhibition took place at the art venue "The Grey Space in the Middle" in The Hague in occasion of the event Hoogtij #75, in December 2023. The work displayed is the continuation of the research project titled ‘Dowsing across Fields’, an ongoing investigation into how scientific logics and privatisation pose a threat to informal practices related to water. By examining the figure of the dowser – an individual capable of locating underground water using unconventional methods like forked twigs or pendulums – I explored how the dowser’s role has evolved over time within various social contexts. The dowser is seen as an archetypal practitioner essential for making water accessible by creating wells, thereby influencing the transformation of human settlements. The current focus of the research centres on the ways in which communities interact with wells and water infrastructure. It seeks to understand how power structures and collective responsibility handle a common, limited resource. The research also questions whether the prevailing scientific paradigm today poses a threat to the survival of dowsers. These inquiries foster discussions that bridge different economic, political, and belief systems. Can this controversy lead to new possibilities where humans perceive and share water in a more equitable and self-sustaining manner? The multimedia installation consists of some brick sculptures, a video and a series of poems and drawings. A performance took place consisting of pulling several times the rope from the wells alternated by the reading a poem. thegreyspace.net/program/1-12-2023-as-common-as-well/
Solo

2023 Unknown Sources CorrectionVille#3 Festival Vaals, Netherlands To which extend do we question the map maker's tools for the maps we use? A map made by a dowser that used a wooden stick to map underground water streams, is not a conventional method. But what are conventional mapping methods? And, if the wooden stick was the only tool to make maps in the Middle Ages, when and by what was it replaced? This expedition, guided by cross-disciplinary artist Johannes Equizi, is not about questioning if a dowser makes thruthfull maps, but about investigating the 'thruthfullness' of map making methods. chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://cartopology.inst content/uploads/2023/08/programCV03_24juli.pdf

2022 Livingscapes (part of Lena Longefay's show "Silent Meetings and Loud Breaks") Stroom The Hague, Netherlands During 'The Try-out Gallery', organised by artist Lena Longefay, I exhibited Livingscapes. This ongoing research-project explores the process of translation between an architectural content and its forms of representation and realisation. The installation is made of clusters of various paper formats hanging from the ceiling through different ropes. By experimenting with several techniques, the

pieces express imaginary architectures, intimate landscapes and systems of spatial representation. I call these 'Livingscapes' since they relate with built environments dwelled by imaginary communities and memories of places of my childhood.
www.stroom.nl/activiteiten/kleine_presentatie.php?kt_id=6401694
Group

2021 As Tangible Horizons Third Space Helsinki, Finland In "As tangible horizons", my first solo exhibition, I focused on the ways an audience could be involved into spatial narratives and be stimulated to imagine different lifestyle scenarios. In the exhibition, visitors could interact with the installation made out of drawings, models, writings and tools and through them start outlining their own stories. www.th1rdspac3.com/as-tangible-horizons.html
Solo

2021 Nature, Melancholy in the Anthropocene Our Lady of the Assumption Church Voorburg, Netherlands "Nature, Melancholy in the Anthropocene" is a group exhibition offering a synthesis of socio-political challenges of the Anthropocene through artistic imaginations and inspired by Lieven de Cauters publication, 'Ending the Anthropocene.' Together with other visual artists, I have been invited to explore new ways of cohabitation, symbiosis with nature, and with one another, through existing and new works. In a time in which our current living patterns are reaching their limits, their works call us to end the time of extraction by questioning the current system and offering a glimpse into a better tomorrow. Their results build bridges of understanding and express the desire to change a world that often seems unchangeable for the individual.
thespectrum.space/melancholy.html
Group

2021 Cultivating Relational Spaces KABK Royal Academy of Art, The Hague The Hague, Netherlands "Cultivating Relational Spaces" is a group exhibition of the graduating students of the MA Interior Architecture of the Royal Academy of Art, The Hague. There I presented my ongoing project Primordi, the first chapter of a parallel fictional society inhabiting the network of marginal spaces. By sharing and overlapping skills, scraps and knowledge, the Primordi characters create an independent existence based on mutual aid and collective emancipation.
graduation2021.kabk.nl/students/johannes-equizi
Group

2021 Raw Het Nieuwe Instituut Rotterdam, Netherlands The exhibition "Raw" shows processes of design art and architecture projects aimed at recently graduated Master's students. These mostly abstract works can be seen as incomplete, but they mark crucial points in the project's development. The material is therefore presented as a collection of standalone works. Such group exhibition tries to uncover the hidden creative acts and broaden the ongoing investigation. In this way, the attempt is to enters into a dialogue with a wide audience in which the two sides of 'design' are discussed: the complete final image and the crucial process, which together have shaped the current reality of the modern city.
gallery3byyou.hetnieuweinstituut.nl/activiteiten/raw
Group

2019 Design Chewing TENT Rotterdam, Netherlands Together with the INSIDE students and REFUNC, we built a 'design reflection space' for visitors in the hall of TENT during the festival "Design Chewing". The installation - consisted of a construction of folding chairs and a movable, rotating wheel, equipped with a camera - provided an opportunity for reflection on design and encouraged dialogue between visitors about themes such as 'the sense and nonsense of design festivals'. www.designchewing.nl/reflectie
Group

PROJECTS

2026 Inhabiting The Skin The Hague, Netherlands
Inhabiting the Skin is a workshop about transformation, of letting go and becoming other: a rehearsal where participants embody a future version of the self. Designed by Johannes Equizi and Futurall, the workshop blends theory from futuring, architecture and queerness with the somatic experiences of making, role-playing and movement.

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES/RESIDENCIES

2026 Centro Pecci and mudaC Toscany: Prato & Carrara, Italy
SUPERTOSCANA is the name of the artistic and curatorial residency programme coordinated by the Centro Pecci and inspired by the Florentine radical architecture collective SUPERSTUDIO, whose work successfully combines a focus on the product with a profound ecological insight. The residency programme explores the key issues discussed in the contemporary

We believe that by approaching these as complementary tools, we can stimulate introspection, desire, and imagination. If you could let go of a personal constraint, what would you desire to become? The workshop unfolds as a gentle journey where participants can sense and craft a new 'skin', role-play temporary identities, and explore their relationship to their own body, others and the architecture containing them.

2024 The Roof we made The Hague, Netherlands johannesequizi.com/theroofwemade/ My interest in self-constructions began when, as a kid, I was building tree-houses in the fields around my house. In secondary school a great teacher taught me how to do technical drawings. I guess my hands and eyes led me to studying architecture. Reading Colin Ward's book "Architettura del dissenso" was a big drift in my path. Whenever I could, I traveled to see how differently people come together through the way they dwell places. If I ended up making art projects it's because I'm unsatisfied with how architecture is practiced today. I decided to approach it from artistic and speculative standpoints, with a focus on people's emancipation. With the work "The roof we made" I start a research-trajectory that explores the relationship between housing rights, DIY architecture and bottom-up/mutual-aid practices. By doing this, I feel I also revisit bits of my past.

2023 Dowsing across fields The Netherlands / Italy, Netherlands johannesequizi.com/dowsingacrossfields/ Interested in how water-control sets daily routines and geopolitical equilibriums, this ongoing research investigates the relationship between community, water and its infrastructure. What kind of political, social and economical values define the perception of water and rule its distribution? By counterposing different systems of beliefs, values and logics, the project aims at stimulating awareness by speculating on new models for sharing such a limited common resource. I began this research in 2023 and I made 4 exhibitions/episodes showing the development: 1st episode focused on the controversial figure of the dowser, a person capable of sensing water underneath the ground through unconventional methods. This practitioner makes water accessible for communities by creating wells and hence influences human settlements. Will dowsers maintain a role in a future dominated by capitalistic/scientific worldviews? Could their work reshuffle the way water is distributed beyond privatisation? This research became a multimedia installation (images above) consisting of a video, a performance, sculptures and a series of poems and drawings. 2nd episode was Unknown Sources, a storytelling walk in collaboration with a dowser. This activity created a common ground to collectively question and speculate on the policies and practices dealing with the water supply and infrastructure. 3rd episode was As Common as Well, a solo show focused on the ways in which communities interact with wells and water infrastructure. 4th episode took place at Maakhaven, The Hague, in November 2024. In this solo show I will present my comprehensive research project "Dowsing across Fields" and a new aluminum sculpture, "Round-Well Forum". This sculpture resembles a water well - a central gathering place that has historically shaped routines, stories, and relationships of survival. I envision it as a movable platform to facilitate round-table discussions on water.

2022 Where the Ink starts Royal Academy of Art The Hague The Hague, Netherlands johannesequizi.com/where-the-ink/ Realised in collaboration with artist and game designer Jana Romanova, this project is a short live-action roleplaying game(LARP)about artist's relationships with their creativity in the situation of time and daily life pressure. The game begins with a group of writers squatting their studio space and having to finish their debate regarding ecological sustainability practices in relation to the specific characteristics of local areas, and the relationship between art, activism and civic engagement from a transdisciplinary perspective. centropecci.it/centro-pecci-news/supertoscana-avviato-il-primo-ciclo-di-residenze-al-centro-pecci/

2021 Helsinki, Finland four months Erasmus internship exchange www.casagrandelaboratory.com/

2018 Berlin, Germany one year Erasmus study exchange www.bht-berlin.de/

script before a deadline set by Spark Press, a famous publishing house. To be published by Spark Press is the right chance for the writers to gain income and move out from the studio. The twist of this game lies in the fact that every writer is played by two people. A participant may become either a writer or writer's creativity. Both of them will need to find a way to work with each other to finish a written piece on time. By looking at creativity as a separate entity with its own will and mysteries, this game invites participants to reflect on how to deal with their own creativity and with fellows who are in a similar situation of daily life crisis. In many ways, this game is about finding peace with your own mind in the situation of pressure that every creative person goes through on a daily basis. The game has been played by MA students of Kabk.

2022 Livingscapes The Hague, Netherlands johannesequizi.com/livingscapes/ Livingscapes is an ongoing research-project - currently consisting of a spatial installation and a performance - in which I explore the process of translation between an architectural content and its forms of representation and realization. The installation is made of clusters of various paper formats hanging from the ceiling through different ropes. By experimenting with several techniques, the pieces express imaginary architectures, intimate landscapes and systems of spatial representation. I call these 'Livingscapes' since they relate with built environments dwelled by imaginary communities and memories of places of my childhood. The performance 'One night house' is inspired by self-construction and vernacular practices in the architectural world and consists of a construction of a fictional house. This is built together with a few performers/friends by combining different materials, techniques and tools with a DIY approach.

2022 As Tangible Horizons Third Space Helsinki, Finland johannesequizi.com/astangiblehorizons/ How does a story line come to exist? What if the thresholds between the characters inside and outside the story start to blur? Does the making and remaking of living environments pass through the overlap of individual microcosms? "As tangible horizons", a side project of ongoing project Primordi, is an interactive installation in which visitors could make use of tools and navigate in the space as if it would be in an eternal moment of becoming something else. The above questions guided my spatial research towards the creation of a micro-macro landscape facilitating the swap of perspectives between creature and creator, an in-between dimension where people could outline and craft their and others spatial narratives.

2021 Primordi Royal Academy of Art The Hague The Hague, Netherlands johannesequizi.com/primordi/ In this on-going project I imagined how 5 characters, belonging to a speculative society called "Primordi", would inhabit the planet. I imagined and materialized their stories, professions, interdependencies and values through a repertoire of writings, drawings, performances, objects and tools. The installation's pieces could be therefore looked at backwards and frontwards: realized by the characters in order to present themselves. Embodying multi-layers of meanings and storylines they continuously unfold and reveal new perspectives upon notions such as marginality, independence and mutual aid.

2020 Rituals Research Royal Academy of Art The Hague The Hague, Netherlands johannesequizi.com/rituals-research/ Together with J. Rousselot and E. Piazzi, we researched what rituals could be, especially as acts of togetherness, care and transition. The shared experience of inventing and participating in rituals became an occasion to dig into personal inquiries and to explore the process of collective creation. We designed and curated every happening with the experience gained from the previous ones; in this way each of us followed a personal research-thread and at the same time came across the other ones.

Starting from a peer-to-peer equal position, such playful research helped us unfolding new understandings and meanings of what actually collective gestures could potentially be and generate.

2020 Primordial Clepsydra Royal Academy of Art The Hague The Hague, Netherlands johannesequizi.com/primordial-clepsydra/ This project investigates the global issue of rural villages abandonment and tries to understand how speculative scenarios and role-play games could be intertwined to open up new perspectives about collective participation, mutual support and rural peripherality. Could the act of blurring the thresholds between life and game and between past, present and future facilitate the twist of social relations within a territory? With “Primordial Clepsydra” I imagined an alternative framework to share knowledge, skills and acts of care between the inhabitants of a rural village in South Albania. I experiment such scenario through a role-play game event taken place in The Hague.

2019 2A Interzone Royal Academy of Art The Hague The Hague, Netherlands johannesequizi.com/2a-interzone/ This on-site project was an experimental investigation of an abandoned area in The Hague which I named “2A Interzone”. To become familiar with it, I spent time roaming there, collecting traces, writing impressions and sharing talks with passengers, playing with materials and objects found there. I started a written/visual report and delved into questions regarding the relationship between space and the meanings of care, freedom and ownership. The established interaction between my presence, the abandoned area and its social surrounding progressively shaped the research. Acting as a facilitator, I ended up inviting local residents to participate and self-organize activities to rise collective awareness about the nature and the unforeseen spatial qualities of such area.

SALES/WORKS IN COLLECTIONS

2025 "A raccolta, alla deriva" Museum Casa Masaccio, permanent collection San Giovanni Valdarno, Italië "A raccolta, alla deriva" is an audio/spatial work that gathers murmurs, words, and noises, giving voice to them through aluminum sculptures. Together, they create evocative landscapes where water carries with it mysteries, unravels the course of events, and gathers emotions before dispersing them. The installation is made of exciters combined applied to aluminium plates and join the family of aluminium sculptural/architectural elements part of the research “Dowsing across Fields”.

PUBLICATIONS

2024 Patatrac - Have you also become a we? Book Self Published Pangaea Collective - Johannes Equizi & Elisa Piazzi The Hague, Netherlands An ongoing and dialogical research on collectivity in the field of art, design and architecture.

2022 Ricordi Ancora Book Magazine NOIA magazine Milan, Italy www.instagram.com/noia.magazine/ "Ricordi Ancora" is a poem typewritten on an aluminium foil. It has been published on NOIA magazine Issue 02 whose topic was 'reassemblage'.

2021 Diario d'Esodo - emancipatory gestures of imagination Book Self Published Johannes Equizi The Hague, Netherlands issuu.com/johannesequizi/docs/johannes_equizi_diario_d_esodo_ma_tl “Diario d'Esodo” (Exodus Diary) is an investigation upon the contemporary social and spatial tissue and the potentialities contained in the interstices of its mesh. The research-journey unfolds from the analysis of the capitalistic/authoritarian paradigms of spatial and social realms towards the analysis of the state of exception as a possible spatiality for collective emancipation. Such publication is an attempt to cross-over theories and visions of thinkers like M. Foucault, L. De Cauter, H. Bey, G. Clément and C. Ward as a base to critically build alternative realities. Moreover, writing this helped me to create a theoretical framework to contextualize the Primordi project.

2019 Architecture of the Abandonment - Outskirts rehab? Book Self Published Johannes Equizi Florence, Italy issuu.com/johannesequizi/docs/johannes_equizi_architecture_of_the_a “Architecture of the Abandonment” is a research into the socio/spatial potentialities of what is marginal in the architecture realm. It starts as a repertoire of experiences, architectural projects and socio-political

cases related to themes such as nomadic architecture, industrial archaeology, DIY and bottom-up participative processes. The intent was to investigate and reformulate them to rethink an alternative way for humans to inhabit and shape the built environment. At its end, I chose to analyse a siderurgic centre as possible site where to envision this experimental architectural scenario.

REVIEWS

2023 Hoogtij #75 Blog/Vlog Niels Post - Trendbeheer The Hague, Netherlands
trendbeheer.com/2023/12/04/hoogtij-75/

2021 Graduation Project 'Primordi' Magazine Inside deparment The Hague, Netherlands inside.kabk.nl/

AWARDS AND GRANTS

2025 Voucher Development Mondriaan Fonds, Netherlands The Hague, Netherlands

2025 SPOT Individuele tentoonstelling Stroom Den Haag The Hague, Netherlands

2025 Talent Development Stimuleringsfonds Creatieve Industrie Netherlands

2024 Makersregeling Geemente Den Haag The Hague, Netherlands

2024 Voucher Development Mondriaan Fonds, Netherlands The Hague, Netherlands

2023 PRO Invest Stroom Den Haag The Hague, Netherlands

SECONDARY ART-RELATED ACTIVITIES

2021 - --- Freelancer spatial and game designer On-going



Inhabiting The Skin, 2026



Inhabiting The Skin, 2026





Dowsing Across Fields, 2025

Inhabiting The Skin, 2026



"A raccolta, alla deriva" - Dowsing Across Fields, 2025



"A raccolta, alla deriva" - Dowsing Across Fields, 2025



Dowsing Across Fields, 2025





Each ripple — Another glimpse, 2025
Aluminium, 210x75x260cm

The Roof we made, 2024
sewed papers, typewriting, 40x30x3



One, none, hundred thousands Drops,, 2024
Aluminium laser-cutting and welding, 170x170x170cm