

Some information on this page is only available in Dutch

JOJO KNOWLES

Jojo Knowles (Sweden/USA) is a conceptual artist working with installation, sculpture, video, performance, and writing. She uses the abject/disgust as a political force against patterns of discrimination, centering around embracing that which makes us animal and “disgusting” to foster empathy and self-awareness. Relating to feminism, classism, the body, and human behavior. This research leads into a critical examination of the relationship between humans and non-human species, specifically in Western societies, in the midst of ecological crisis. She is searching for a way to mend and re-create relationships with animals we domesticated, and searching for a way to de-domesticate us. Her work delves into psychological methods, using humor and emotion to break down taught frameworks of discrimination and exploitation. The work culminates in uncanny sculptures and performances where material exploration and artistic transformation are central.

WEBSITES

Personal website

www.jojoknowles.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

www.instagram.com/jojo.knowles/

MEMBER OF ARTISTS' INITIATIVE/COLLECTIVE/INCUBATOR

Billytown

EDUCATION

- 2020 - Fine Arts Den Haag, Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten diploma
- 2019 - Preparatory Year Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten, Den Haag

EXHIBITIONS

- 2026 Come Together (11) Frascati Amsterdam, Netherlands Performed for Come Together (11), a three day work-in-progress performance event in Frascati. cometogether.amsterdam/Group
- 2025 Collateral Pulchri Studio The Hague, Netherlands Collateral is a solo exhibition of sculpture and video

PROJECTS

- 2025 The Machine Sleeps Tonight Het Nationale Theater / Zaal 3 The Hague, Netherlands www.hnt.nl/en/events/the-machine-sleeps-tonight-y6z4 I developed the costumes and provided artistic direction advice for Amos Peled's theater piece The Machine Sleeps Tonight
- 2025 Performance for Shana de Villier's "I am Frankie, and you still love me" Das Leben

investigating the absurd corners of human centrism. The works reflect on the ways animals suffer as collateral damage to daily human lives. The small sufferings, the ones that are easy to overlook. The artist spends the day with a dead fish, eats raw onions to be more like an ape, memorializes roadkill. Searching for ways to mend our relationships with animals we domesticated, and searching for a way to de-domesticate ourselves. The exhibition included the performance "Grooming I" performed at two moments during the exhibition.
jojoknowles.com/collateral.html
Solo

am Haverkamp The Hague, Netherlands
www.daslebenamhaverkamp.com/project-space/shana-de-villiers I was hired by Shana de Villiers to perform as Ladybug, the guardian of the exhibition/the room of the protagonist, during their solo exhibition "I am Frankie, and you still love me".

- 2025 Dingen die niet verkopen, verkopen u dingen Dingen die niet verkopen Antwerp, Belgium A group exhibition which is a department store stocked with untruths.
www.dingendienietverkopen.be/events/dingen-die-niet-verkopen-verkopen-u-dingen
Group
- 2025 Open Studios DUPLEX Lisbon, Portugal Open studio exhibition, with residents, presenting the works made during DUPLEX AIR.
Group
- 2024 I'll take your waste in my hands Nieuw Dakota Amsterdam, Netherlands For the mini-exhibition series 'Making Waves', I showed a selection of sculptures and one video all relating to the body growing over the objects we use. To reflect on the body as a site of nurturing.
www.nieuwdakota.com/nl/tentoonstellingen/making-waves-for-the-future-9-mini-exposities-van-jonge-kunstenars/
Solo
- 2024 ACT III: Beyond Expiration Date? Nieuw Dakota Amsterdam, Netherlands An interactive performance for Nieuw Dakota's potentially last event, where the artist drew a dinner that had already been eaten/a dinner party had, and invited audience members to contribute.
www.nieuwdakota.com/nl/tentoonstellingen/gespannen-getijden-act-iii-beyond-expiration-date/

Group

- 2024 UBIK Performance night w/ Jojo Knowles and Noemi Calzavara & c00 WORM Rotterdam, Netherlands Performing a rendition of "That which swarms upon the earth".
worm.org/production/ubik-performance-night-w-jojo-knowles-and-noemi-calzavara-c00/
Group
- 2024 Graduation Show 2024 Royal Academy of Art, The Hague The Hague, Netherlands Graduation exhibition KABK for the Fine Arts department, showing the installation Wet Nursing.
graduation.kabk.nl/2024/jojo-knowles
Group
- 2024 Arty Party Melkweg Amsterdam , Netherlands Showing the piece Wet Nursing installed on the stage of Melkweg.
www.melkweg.nl/nl/nieuws/terugblik-arty-party-2024/?gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQjwveK4BhD4ARIsAKy6pMKjZYPkNuudU9-zqIEKCr-OyLDOQjwWpU8IF_mSL_lh7CIJ_dR7ZikaAtLqEALw_wcB
Group
- 2024 Fem Disturbances Roodkapje Rotterdam Participated in the market during the event Fem Disturbances at Roodkapje, highlighting queer and female artists.
roodkapje.org/event/2024-11-fem-disturbances/
- 2023 Sleep Gunk Waterkant bunker The Hague, Netherlands One week solo exhibition at the Waterkant bunker, showing a wide selection of the artist's work.
www.instagram.com/p/CuexNBzImDr/?img_index=3
Solo
- 2023 Everything That Grows Underground Pulchri Studio The Hague Pre-graduation exhibition of the Fine Arts department across the venues West and Pulchri, where I performed Everything That Grows Underground.
Group

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES/RESIDENCIES

2025 Duplex AIR Lisbon, Portugal One month residency working on film, sculpture, performance on the cultural perception and paradoxes in the treatment of fish in Portugal. www.duplexair.com/

AWARDS AND GRANTS

2025 Research & Development Grant Amarte Fonds The Hague, Netherlands
Research & Development grant to fund material and conceptual research and production of work in 2025.

2025 PRO Onderzoek (sinds 2004) Stroom, Den Haag The Hague, Netherlands
PRO Onderzoek grant to support the development of work made on residency and after, researching the cultural perception of fish.

2024 Stroom Young Talent Award (sinds 2004) Stroom, Den Haag The Hague, Netherlands

PUBLICATIONS

2024 Eindexamens 2024 Catalog Metropolis M Leana Boven Amsterdam, Netherlands
metropolism.com/nl/issue/metropolis-m-nummer-4/

SECONDARY ART-RELATED ACTIVITIES

2024 - Founding artist run initiative The View, Den
2025 Haag

2024 - -- Host/Publieksmedewerker at NEST ruimte voor kunst On-going



MAMMAL, 2026
Performance



MAMMAL, 2026
Performance



The Fish (walking), 2025
03:28



The Fish (crib), The Fish (walking), Fish breath, 2025
Installation, 67 x 85 x 42 cm



Grooming I, 2025
Performance



The Pet, 2025
Metal, wax, 75cm x 55cm x 63cm



Fish breath, 2025
Video



The Fish (walking), 2025
Video



Staircase for mourning, 2025
Wood, sticker, glue, 40cm x 37cm x 50cm



, 2025
Wood, sticker, glue, 40cm x 37cm x 50cm