ILJA KOLOSOVS

Ilja combines artistic research and documentary methods developing custom software to examine how tech infrastructures, data and digital mapping platforms shape society.
I am an artist, creative technologist, and researcher whose work explores the intersections of digital culture, data, and society. Through my artistic research, I manipulate existing technology platforms and use them in ways they were not originally intended, revealing what these systems prioritize and how they influence our behaviour. A recurring focus of my research is digital mapping. I approach mapping platforms not only as tools for navigation and (mis)representation, but also as technological, political, and cultural systems that shape our perception of place. Drawing on documentary methods, my work moves between reality and fiction. I often begin with material I have recorded, collected, or found, then reorganize and reframe it to create new narratives.

WEBSITES

Personal website / portfolio website

ilja.cc

SOCIAL MEDIA

instagram.com/ilja.kolosovs

EDUCATION

2024 - 2026 Masters ArtScience Den Haag, Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten diploma

2017 - 2021 B.A. Moving Image Enschede, AKI diploma

EXHIBITIONS

2026 OYO-10 Haagse Kunstkring The Hague, Netherlands
Group

2026 Manifestations Dutch Design Week Eindhoven, Netherlands
Group

2026 GOGBOT GOGBOT Enschede, Netherlands
Group

2026 KABK Graduation Show KABK Graduation Show The Hague, Netherlands
Group

2026 Pre-Grad Show ArtScience 'Unheld Horses' Stadswacht The Hague, Netherlands
Group

2026 NAP+ Amsterdam Amsterdam, Netherlands
Group

2025 Language(s) Garage Rotterdam Rotterdam, Netherlands During the summer break, Garage Rotterdam became a common ground for the students and alumni of ArtScience (KABK), and the Piet Zwart Institute (WdKA). This exhibition was shaped as a meeting point for conversation, collaboration, and unexpected connections. As such, the exhibition invited both contributors and visitors to think of themselves not just as viewers, but as part of an active conversation. The theme « Language(s) » aimed to convey these principles while encouraging a constructive dialogue driven by a multitude of expressions. Through this crossover between institutions, generations, and disciplines, we wished to cultivate a sense of continuity and exchange for students coming from different backgrounds and at different stages of their practices. It has been an opportunity to connect, cross paths, and allow ourselves to shape new ideas. The event featured different categories of work: performances, lectures, moving images, physical work, workshops.
sweetscope.studio/Language-s
Group

2023 Enschede Zuid Tetem, Fotomanifestatie Enschede Enschede, Netherlands The photo series originated in 2020 when Ilja strongly yearned for a world that provided

him with stability. At that time, he was a member of Extinction Rebellion coinciding with the onset of the initial lockdown of the COVID-19 pandemic. During that period, his focus zeroed in on the human footprint left on our world. In Enschede-Zuid, he photographs buildings, streets, trash cans, cars, and people, all from a distance. The housing blocks and repetitive forms and lines remind him of his home in Riga, Latvia. The familiar visual language enables him to slowly view the world and society with a gentler perspective and refocus on the future. Ilja Kolosovs' exhibition is part of the Fotomanifestatie Enschede 2023. This photo festival focuses on contemporary Dutch photography and takes place at various locations in Enschede. This year's theme is 'Human Landscapes,' where different photographers share their perspectives on how we interact with and shape our landscapes. www.fotomanifestatie-enschede.nl/portfolios/ilja-kolosovs/
Solo

2022 TEXTILIZE: Enschede's Digital Metamorphosis Museum of the Future Enschede, Netherlands ilja.cc/textilize/
Group

PROJECTS

2026 Would Not Recommend The Hague, Netherlands ilja.cc/wouldnotrecommend/ A virtual bot strolls through the city and complains about it, drawing negative Google Maps reviews and reciting the angriest things people have said. Using the logic of the virtual dérive, the work questions how platform images, ratings and user-generated judgments shape urban space.

2026 Problem Generator The Hague, Netherlands problemgenerator.ilja.cc

2025 KarmaGo (prototype) The Hague, Netherlands ilja.cc/karmago/ A live urban game character controlled remotely by an online audience.

2025 InBetween Nida, Lithuania ilja.cc/inbetween/ An experimental film using 3D scans of the Nida forest.

2021 I Was Here Enschede, Netherlands ilja.cc/iwashere/ An interactive installation that turns a visitor's physical movement into a permanent digital trace. A sensor tracks movement and an algorithm converts real-time positional data into a blockchain transaction, generating a uniquely identifiable footprint.

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES/RESIDENCIES

2026 Festival Interstice / ésam Caen-Cherbourg Caen, France festival-interstice.net

2025 Nida Art Colony of Vilnius Academy of Arts Nida, Lithuania nidacolony.lt

2025 Iceland University of the Arts Reykjavík, Iceland www.lhi.is/en

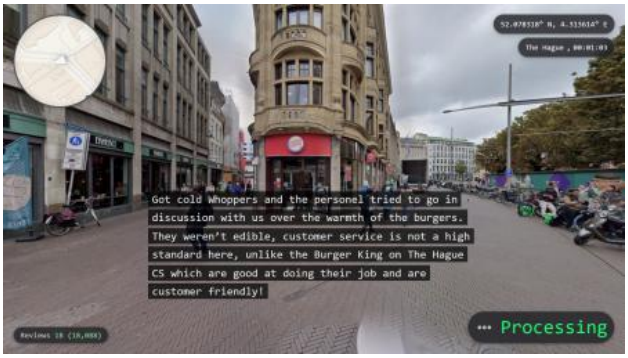
2024 ECHO Academy, Nxt Museum Amsterdam, Netherlands nxtmuseum.com/event/echo-academy



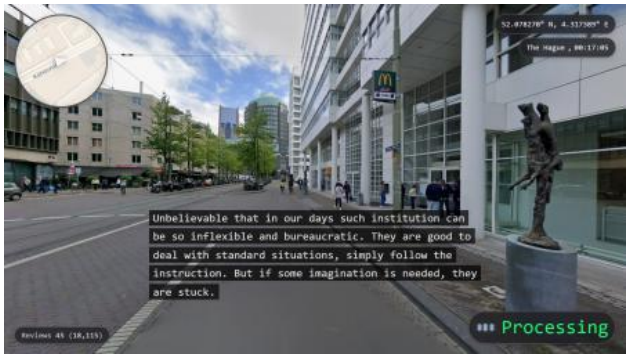
Would Not Recommend, 2026
Custom software, Google Street View, screen, sound, moving image



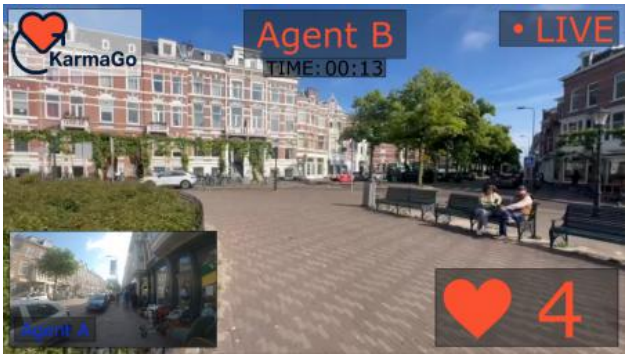
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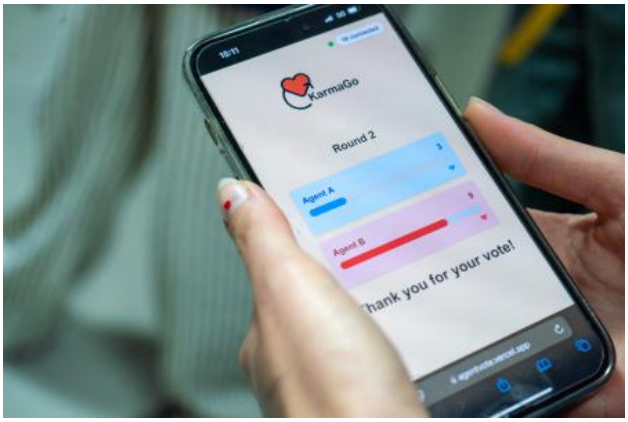
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KarmaGo, 2025
Live performance, custom software, livestream, camera



KarmaGo, 2025
Live performance, custom software, livestream, camera, Live performance, custom software, livestream, camera



KarmaGo, 2025
Live performance, custom software, livestream, camera



KarmaGo, 2025
Live performance, custom software, livestream, camera



textilize, 2022
Generative visual, screens, sound



textilize, 2022
Generative visual, screens, sound