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BIOGRAPHY

Marieke Van Laecke is pursuing a master's degree in Art, Design and Image in an applied context at Sint Lucas Antwerpen, where she also earned a Bachelor in Visual Arts. She lives and works in Antwerp (BE) and uses her hometown as a playing field to create and distribute her work.



PRACTICE

'Si le monde était clair, l'art ne serait pas', Albert Camus once said. Marieke feels the same way. Art holds up a mirror to our society and has the ability to make me/others happy, she believes. Marieke really enjoys it when her work brings a smile to people's faces. That's where the colorful, playful and very graphic character of her illustrations comes in handy.

Even after completing her bachelor's degree in Illustration, Marieke does not like to profile herself as an artist. She finds it difficult to label her work as art. She prefers to leave that to the spectator. Because what exactly is art and who determines this? The maker of the work, the curator or the place where it is on view? Or is it the art critic who distinguishes the clutter of the masterpieces? The search for answers to these questions is decisive in Marieke's practice.

Marieke further states that art is (too) often put on a pedestal. Therefore, she has started all kinds of small projects to bring art to the people (whether they like it or not). She aims to make art more accessible and wants to minimize the distance between her work and the viewer. When showing her work, Marieke looks for ways and places that are not intended for displaying illustrations in the first place.

Examples of projects that she has already completed or that she is currently working on are: Kotwerk, Sjaalwerk, Tapijtwerk, Koffiebarwerk, Zoek- en Vindwerk, Krijtwerk, Zeefdrukwerk, Bibbuswerk, Rekenwerk, Lichaamswerk, Ruiltochtwerk en Buitenwerk.



WORK:

Raamwerk

'Raamwerk' completes the list. With her window markers at the ready, Marieke paints on windows in people's homes. In this way she again reduces the distance between maker and audience, inside and outside, and so on. When making work, Marieke draws inspiration from her surroundings. In turn, she unleashes her work on that very environment by providing windows with drawings.

Since Marieke's ideas and motifs resonate with ours, or vice versa, and given there is also a match in terms of chosen medium, namely windows (see Curate Your Window), we decided to join forces. The winner of YMAL's giveaway (to follow later) will be treated to a unique window drawing by Marieke at their home. Be ready when the giveaway drops!



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