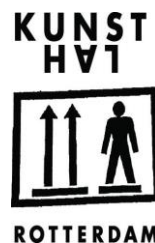


Kunsthall Rotterdam



HIGHLIGHT PROGRAMME **Exhibitions 2023**

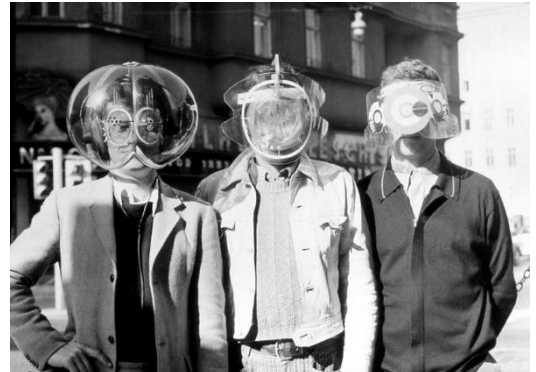


Patricia Piccinini. **Metamorphosis**

25 February - 4 June 2023

So recognisable and yet so strange. Simultaneously bizarre and cuddly. Kunsthal Rotterdam is presenting the first major solo exhibition in the Netherlands of the Australian artist Patricia Piccinini (1965). The public will come face to face with hybrid beings that look like a cross between human and animal; hairy, vulnerable creatures locked in an embrace; a vast field where you can roam among thousands of fleshy flowers and mutated men who are incubating eggs. Using materials like silicones, glass fibre, nylon, and human hair, Piccinini creates her almost life-like, alienating sculptures in a hyperrealist way. In this exhibition, Piccinini's surrealist world will astonish people of all ages. It is impossible to remain unaffected by her sculptures.

Piccinini creates futuristic stories in a parallel universe where she explores the possibilities for a future in which humans, nature and technology are able to coexist in harmony. She uses art and science to imagine a shared future, for instance in immersive, large-scale installations such as *The Field* with three thousand 'flowers' that look like a cross between animals, flesh-eating plants, and human reproductive organs. Or with intimate sculptures such as *Sanctuary* (2018), a work featuring two wrinkly, bonobo-like humans embracing each other. With her hyperrealist sculptures, video works, and installations she also raises questions like: What does it mean to be human? Would I be able to take care of a creature that does not look like me? Can we replace animal species that are becoming extinct with cyborgs?



Mind Expanders. **Haus-Rucker-Co**

29 April - 3 September 2023

The driving concept behind the body of work of the Viennese architectural collective Haus-Rucker-Co was developing a higher sensitivity in order to learn how to look at things differently and see new possibilities. Founded in 1967 as part of a 'Mind Expanding Program', Haus-Rucker-Co set out to expand people's psychophysical experiences by means of art and architecture. By developing new, unfamiliar spaces and experiences, the collective aimed to create an expanded consciousness and new ways of perceiving our environments. Imagination, experimentation, and letting go of conventions feature heavily in their work, which remains very topical to this day. From 29 April, the Kunsthal will be presenting a number of their most famous works from the period between 1967 and 1972, including *Balloon for 2*, a PVC membrane inflated into a large, transparent balloon, *Yellow Heart*, *Environment Transformer*, *Mind Expander*, and films including *Food City I*, that shows the construction of an edible urban scale model.

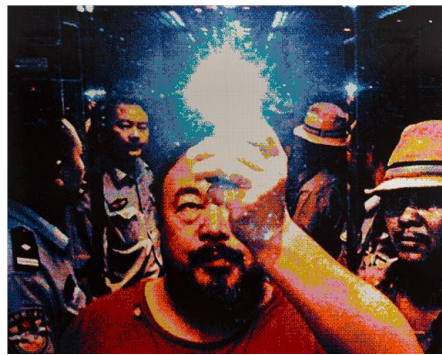
The highlight of the exhibition is the evocative work *Giant Billiard*, which will be shown in the Netherlands for the very first time. On this white air cushion measuring 14 by 14 metres, the public will be able to bounce, climb and dance, accompanied by three giant inflatable balls. On its springy surface, visitors will become part of a completely disorganised environment with rules of play and codes of conduct that are as yet undefined.



Rotterdam's Colonial Past (working title)

24 June - 29 October 2023

As part of the Slavery Memorial Year, this summer we will be paying attention of the colonial past of Rotterdam and its continued effects on the Rotterdammers of today. The Dutch artist Patricia Kaersenhout (1966) will be compiling a multidisciplinary exhibition from the collection of Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, and the Rotterdam collection. She will furthermore invite five emerging contemporary artists to create new work that reflects on themes like racism, exclusion, and inequality. This summer, All you can Art, our regular collaboration project with Instituto Buena Bista Curaçao, will again set up shop at the Kunsthal, where visitors will be invited to work with the themes featured in the exhibition.



Ai Weiwei. In Search of Humanity

30 September 2023 - 3 March 2024

Kunsthal Rotterdam is proud to present a large-scale exhibition by today's most prominent artist, tireless activist, and critic of authoritarian systems: Ai Weiwei. In Search of Humanity is his most extensive retrospective exhibition to date. With cultural readymades, paintings, works made from Lego, sculptures, installations, photography, and video works, the exhibition will be presenting an impressive retrospective of Ai Weiwei's over-four-decades-spanning career and will include key works from all his different creative periods.

Also on show



Sabiha Çimen. Hafiz

14 January - 7 May 2023

From Saturday 14 January, Kunsthal Rotterdam will be presenting the exhibition 'Hafiz' by the Turkish photographer Sabiha Çimen (1986). For her photo series, Çimen has been portraying students of Turkish Quran schools for girls that teach the memorisation of the verses of the Quran. These students are studying to achieve the title of 'hafiz', which would make them 'guardians of Islam'. In her powerful portraits, alternating with everyday images of school life, Çimen aims to capture the individuality and adventurous characters of these young women, while at the same time referring to her own experiences of studying at a Quran school. Interlaced with a sense of nostalgia, Çimen focuses her lens on the contemporary reality of life in this isolated world.

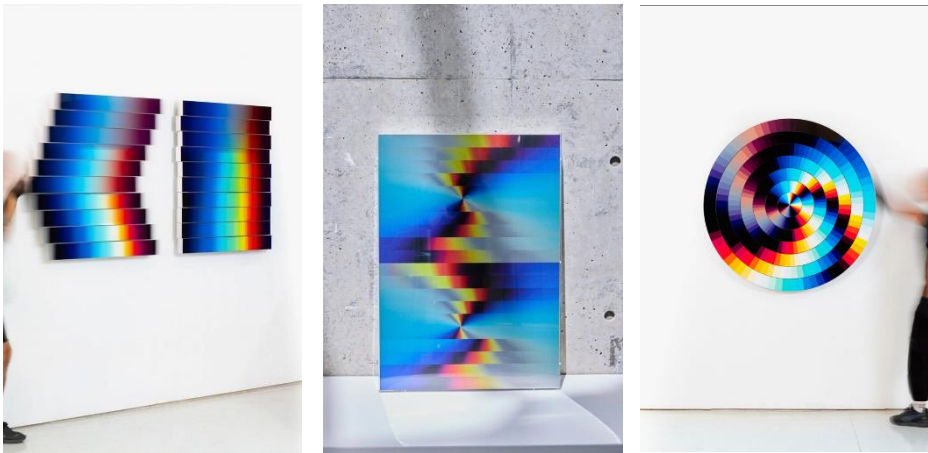


Madeleine Berkhemer. Body of Work

28 January - 7 May 2023

The themes of seduction and the (artist's own) female body are central to the work of Madeleine Berkhemer (1973-2019). Kunsthal Rotterdam is presenting a retrospective exhibition of the work of this Rotterdam artist. Berkhemer worked across many artistic genres, on the cutting edge of visual art, media, fashion, and performance. Among other things, her versatile body of work consists of explicit erotic drawings and pin-up photos, marble sculptures, everyday objects, installations, collages, and outdoor artworks. She also created abstract sculptural installations in which eroticism still plays an important role, for instance as a result of using pantyhose fabrics and rounded shapes.

Her alter egos Milly-Molly-Mandy are a common thread in her work. She used these three different characters to explore not only her own personal boundaries, but also the limitations of her art. No matter what genre or materials Berkhemer used, her work never leaves the audience unaffected. Her art is meant to provoke, tease, and seduce.



Felipe Pantone

29 April - 1 October 2023

The Argentinian-Spanish artist Felipe Pantone (1986) will be taking over the Kunsthal's HALL 4 and 'lazy stairs' for a site-specific installation and showing a selection of works centring on colour, movement, light, and the dialogue between analogue and digital. To Pantone, light and colour constitute the essence of visual art. "Colour only happens because of light, and light is the only reason why life happens," says Pantone. After starting out as a graffiti artists, and finding inspiration in the work of kinetic artists like Victor Vasarely and Carlos Cruz-Diez, his contemporary work creates a sensation of vibration whenever the viewer's position in relation to the work changes. Pantone works with different software programmes and subsequently translates these into murals, paintings, and sculpture that give a tactile value to things that take place in the digital world.



Kunsthal LIVE

Under the title Kunsthal LIVE, the Kunsthal programmes cultural events that inspire, entertain, and connect. Within the scope of a high-profile and innovative events programme, the connection between a diverse and often new audience, partner institutions, young startups, strong brands, and makers is able to come to full fruition, turning the Kunsthal into a cultural venue that simultaneously functions as a podium and network location. The Kunsthal as a meeting place, where there is always something to discover.

Check the calendar with all LIVE activities on www.kunsthal.nl/live

Kunsthal LIVE is made possible by VSBfonds.

Kunsthall Rotterdam



Kunsthall Rotterdam is one of the leading cultural institutes in the Netherlands, situated in the Museumpark in Rotterdam. Designed by the renowned architect Rem Koolhaas in 1992, the Kunsthall has seven different exhibition spaces. The Kunsthall annually presents a varied programme consisting of around twenty-three exhibitions. As visitors are always able to visit multiple concurrent exhibitions, the Kunsthall can offer them an adventurous journey through different continents and art movements at all times. Culture for a wide audience, from modern-day masters and contemporary art to obscure cultures, photography, fashion, and design. An extensive programme of activities is organised to accompany the exhibitions.

Check our website for the current programme.
Follow the Kunsthall on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) en [Instagram](#).

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For more information about the exhibition programme and press kits, please contact the communications department via communication@kunsthall.nl

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