Levi van Veluw | Biography

Levi van Veluw was born in the Dutch town of Hoevelaken in 1985 and studied at the ArtEZ Institute of the Arts in Arnhem. Since graduating in 2007, Levi van Veluw has produced multi-disciplinary works that includes scenographic installations , photographs, films, sculptures, paintings and drawings. This varied body of work has been showcased in many different locations across Europe and the United States, earning him a number of nominations and awards.

Van Veluw, born in The Bible-belt, with a grandfather who was a minister, has been fascinated with the church and its rituals since his early youth. Not only the complexity, conviction and certainty with which the faith was proclaimed in his congregation and the stark visual language of its practice made him sensitive to the visual vernacular of religious seduction.

Yet also modern spiritual movements, such as the well-known Church of Scientology, that use religious symbols in a convincing manner, intrigue him as well.Throughout the ages, in cultures around the world, religion has played an important role in the development of art, architecture and storytelling. Even if spiritually is ultimately immaterial, most people practice their faith in places of worship, and make use of sacred objects and perform sacred rituals. Van Veluw has meticulously studied the rich formal language and power of imagination that is used to lead people to religious faith.

Within this research, he is particularly interested in the aspects of the religious process. He chooses not to focus on political issues surrounding faith, but rather explores how the various faiths operate in the mind of the faithful through form and image. Similarly he investigates whether he, as an artist, is capable of provoking a convincing spiritual experience in the visitor. Through the use of light, symmetry and harmony—often utilized to depict the pursuit of divine perfection—as well as forms reminiscent of altars, idols and temples, he manages to evoke a sacral experience. The experience of walking into his installations resembles that of treading on holy ground.

Learning 2003-2007 ARTEZ Institute of the Arts, Arnhem, The Netherlands  
 2006 Internship Erwin Olaf Springveld  
  
 2009-2010 Art Teacher, Photography department,

Willem de Kooning Academy Rotterdam, The Netherlands

Awards &

Nominations 2015 Volkrant Beeldende kunstprijs, Audience Award,

The Netherlands. (A)  
2014 Epos drawing prize, The Netherlands (N)  
  
2007 International Photo Awards, United States (A)  
2007 Art Interview Award, Germany (A)  
2007 Akzo Nobel Museum Night, young talent, The Netherlands (A)  
  
2007 AanZet! Kunst Vereniging Diepenheim, The Netherlands (A)  
2007 Diesel DNA New Art, Italy (N)  
2007 ITS#6 International talent support, Italy (N)  
   
2007 American Photography 23, United States (N)  
2006 Epson Photo Art Award, Best selected work, Germany (A)  
2006 Photo Academy Award, The Netherlands (N)

Projects  
  
The artist first became known in 2008 with his solo exhibition Landscapes at Galerie Ron Mandos in Amsterdam. This coincided with him being awarded the International Photo Award in New York for the photo series "Ballpoints", and the selection of one of his film works for the Whitstable Biennale UK.

The work of the artist was showcased in a series of major museum exhibitions, including the exhibition "Dead or Alive" at the Museum of Arts and Design in New York, Marres House for Contemporary Culture Maastricht, Ars Electronica in Linz, Domaine de Kerguéhennec in France.

In addition to his work in his individual practice, Levi van Veluw has also worked on commissions for private clients. In this way, he has collaborated, in 2012, with curator Marc Coetzee on the film “Family” in the frame of the "Films4peace" project. In 2014-2021, Van Veluw created for Hermès life-sized site-specific installations for their main windows in Shanghai, New York, Geneva, Copenhagen and Barcelona.

2013 saw the publication of the book "Origin of the Beginning". This singular book is a work of art in itself, published in an edition of 1000 hand-signed copies. The book, which is widespread among collectors and enthusiasts, provides an overview of the artist’s work from 2006 to 2013, a rich oeuvre that includes photographs, drawings, installations, sculptures and films. In 2019 Van Veluw released his second book “Beyond Matter”.

In 2019 a 300m2 installation was curated by Angel Moya Garcia for the Tuscan cultural institution Tenuta Dello Scompiglio, is an attempt to manufacture a religious spatial experience, except without any tie to denomination.

In 2020 Van Veluw created an intervention in the colossal space of Het HEM Sanctum and tests the boundaries between an artistic and a spiritual experience. Sanctum is a 30m2 deep blue chapel that appears to float in between two floors.

More information can be found on the website www.levivanveluw.nl. This site presents all the artist’s work in chronological order, with accompanying information.

Film Screenings

Live screenings Family / Origin of the Beginning: the Bass Museum of Art (Miami, USA), Centro Nacional de las Artes, (Mexico City, Mexico), Manifesta Amsterdam,   
  
Design Museum, London (UK), Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal (Canada), Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Puerto Rico (San Juan) and The Phillips Collection (Washington, D.C.) in public urban spaces including the Denver Theatre District (USA), La Virreina Centre de la Imatge (Barcelona, Spain) and the Laumeier Sculpture Park (St. Louis, USA); educational institutions and youth leadership conferences, including the H&R Block Artspace at the

Kansas City Art Institute (USA), New World School of the Arts (Miami, Florida), The Banff Centre (Banff, Canada) and the 2012 One Young World summit (Pittsburgh, USA); and international film festivals including Addis Foto Fest (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia), Afrika Film festival (Leuven, Belgium), Trinidad and Tobago Film Festival (Port of Spain, Trinidad) and West Midlands Human Rights Film Festival (Birmingham, UK).

Exhibitions (Selection)

2022 - 2023

Ron Mandos gallery Amsterdam (solo)

Rosenfeld gallery London (solo)

Zeppelin University, Apokalypse und Weltrettung, (Germany)

Eduardo Secci gallery, Italy (solo)

Fairs: The Armory show, Art Brussels, Art Paris

2020 - 2021

Videocittà Rome, Italy

Rosenfeld gallery London (group)

Artisima (solo)

Rijksmuseum Twente, The Netherlands

Praz Delevallade, Paris (solo)

Het Hem Museum, The Netherlands (solo)

Fairs: ZonaMaco, Art Roterdam, Arco Madrid, Artissima, Untitled Miami

2018 - 2019

2019 Ömer Koç Abdülmecid Efendi Pavilion, Istanbul  
2019 Borusan Contemporary, Istanbul  
2019 BAM Mons, Belgium  
2019 Tenuta Dello Scompiglio, Italy (solo)  
2019 Museum Het Hem, The Netherlands (solo)  
2019 Rosenfeld Porcini gallery, London  
2019 Galerie Ron Mandos, Amsterdam (solo)  
2019 Singer Museum, The Netherlands  
2019 Rijksmuseum Twente, The Netherlands

2018 Domaine the Kerguéhennec, France (solo)

2018 Rosenfeld Porcini, London  
 2018 SIHH Hermès, Geneva (solo)

2018 Fotogallerie Wien, Austria  
 2018 AD Intérieurs, France  
 2018 Galerie im Österreichischen Kulturforum, Berlin  
   
  
 Fairs: Art Brussels, Art Rotterdam, Drawing now, Zona Maco  
  
2017 2017 La Galerie Particuliere, Paris (Solo)  
 2017 The Armory Show, New York (Solo)  
 2017 Momentum Bienal, Norway  
 2017 Club Silencio by David Lynch, Paris  
 2017 Museum Kranenburgh, The Netherlands  
 2017 Museum of Modern Art Arnhem, The Netherlands  
 2017 Museum More, The Netherlands  
 2017 Eduardo Secci Gallery, Florence, Italy  
   
 Fairs: The Arnory Show  
 ArtBrussels, Expo Chicago, Untitled Miami

2016 - 2015 2016 Les Arts Decoratifs, Paris  
 2016 Frac Heute-Normandie, France  
 2016 labellisée Normandie Impressonniste, France  
 2016 Hermès Madison ave, New York  
 2016 Stedelijk Museum Schiedam, The Netherlands  
 2016 Facility Ebert Art Center, USA

2016 Art Brussels, galerie Ronmandos (Solo)  
 2016 Drawing now, la Galerie Particuliere, Paris  
 2016 Galerie Ronmandos, Amsterdam (Solo)  
 2016 Rosenfeld Porcini gallery, London (Solo)  
 2016 Centraal Museum Utrecht, The Netherlands  
 2016 Marres House of Contemporary Culture, The Netherlands (Solo)  
 2016 Museum De Fundatie, The Netherlands  
 2016 Museum of Modern art Arnhem, The Netherlands  
 2016 Normandy Impressionist festival, France  
 2016 Palace Soestdijk, The Netherlands

2015 Manifesta Foundation Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
 2015 Rijksmuseum Twente, The Netherlands  
 2015 Stedelijk Museum Schiedam, The Netherlands  
 2015 Maddox Arts, London  
 2015 Maison Particuliere Brussels, Belgium  
 2015 Textiel museum, The Netherlands  
 2015 De Hallen Haarlem, The Netherlands  
 2015 Ben Maltz gallery, USA  
 2015 Drdova gallery, Praque

2014 - 2013 2014 Museum Zeitz MOCAA, Cape Town  
 2014 Mardin Bienale, Turkey   
 2014 La galerie particulière, Paris, France (Solo)  
 2014 Loop Fair Barcelona, Spain (Solo)  
 2014 CODA Museum, The Netherlands  
 2014 Club Silencio (david Lynch), Paris  
 2014 Museum het Valkhof, The Netherlands  
  
 2014 Drawing Centre Diepenheim, The Netherlands  
 2014 CODA Museum, The Netherlands  
 2014 Mondriaan Huis, The Netherlands  
 2014 Maison & Objet, France

2013 Queensland Centre for Photography, Australia  
 2013 Museums Quartier, Vienna, Austria  
 2013 Gemeente museum Den Haag, The Netherlands  
 2013 Arti et Amicitiae, Museum Night, Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
 2013 Ron Mandos Gallery, Amsterdam, The Netherlands   
 2013 Annigahof, Zwolle, The Netherlands  
 2013 Bromer art Collection, Switzerland  
 2013 Maison Particulière, Brussels, Belgium

2012

Van Veluw’s works have also been widely shown at international art fairs such as, among others, The Armory Show New York, Art Brussels, Zona Maco, Chicago art fair and Loop Fair Barcelona.

2012 Garage, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

2012 Volta, Basel, Switzerland   
 2012 Singer Museum, Laren, The Netherlands  
 2012 Museum Lanchelevici, Belgium  
 2012 Museum of Sound and Image, São Paulo   
 2012 Beit Ha'ir Tel Aviv Museum, Tel Aviv

2011 - 2010 2011 Museum for Modern Art, Arnhem, The Netherlands  
 2011 Rivera & Revera Gallery, Los Angeles, United States  
 2011 Museum de Fundatie, Zwolle, The Netherlands  
 2011 Designhuis, Eindhoven, The Netherlands  
 2011 Museum for Old and New Art, Australia  
 2011 Kunsthal, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

2010 Museum for Arts and Design, New York, United States  
 2010 Virserums Konsthall, Sweden  
 2010 Arte Leku Arts Centre, Spain  
 2010 Museum het Valkhof, Nijmegen, The Netherlands  
 2010 Centre of Contemporary Art, Torun, Poland  
 2010 BKKC, Tilburg, The Netherlands  
 2010 Gorcums Museum, The Netherlands

2009 - 2007 2009 Noord Brabants Museum, The Netherlands  
 2009 Museum of Modern Art Arnhem, The Netherlands

2008 C-Space Gallery, Beijing, China  
 2008 Ron Mandos Gallery, Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
 2008 Stedelijk Museum Schiedam, The Netherlands  
 2008 Whitstable Biennale, United Kingdom  
 2008 Hyeres Festival, France

2007 Kunst Vereniging Diepenheim, The Netherlands  
 2007 Akzo Nobel, Arnhem, The Netherlands   
 2007 Galleria Grazia Neri, Milano, Italy

2006 Art Cologne, Epson Photo Art Award, Germany

Media & Collections (Selection)   
  
The work of Levi van Veluw has been exhibited inter- nationally in leading museums and institutions, and is included in both public and private collections, including the Borusan Collection, the Caldic Collection, Teylers museum, Rijksmuseum Twente, the Ekard Collection, Beth Rudin de Woody Collection and corporate collections like KPMG.

The work of Levi Veluw is widely appreciated, including in the popular media. As such, the work has been presented in radio and TV programs such as Arte TV and VPRO Radio, and in more than 200 printed publications, including, among many others, Domus magazine, Interview magazine, Arte Al Limite and Frame Magazine. Prominent newspapers such as the Financial Times, the Volkskrant, NRC and the New York Times have showcased and discussed his work.

Newspapers The New York Times, United States  
 The Financial Times, United States  
 Huffington Post, Unites States & United Kingdom  
 De Volkskrant, Newspaper, the Netherlands  
 NRC, Newspaper, the Netherlands  
 Frankfurter Allgemeine, Germany  
 Le Monde, France  
   
Magazines British Journal of Photography, United Kingdom  
 Arte Al Límite, Magazine, Spain  
 H-art, Belgium  
 Wired, Magazine, United Kingdom

Vision, Magazine, China  
 Artam Global Art & Design, Magazine, Turkey  
 Frame, Magazine, the Netherlands   
 2011 Design 360, Magazine, Hong Kong, China  
 Kunstbeeld, the Netherlands  
 Visionaire World, Religion by Ricardo Tisci, Book, United States  
 Crafts, Magazine, United Kingdom  
 Modern Painters, Magazine, New York, United States  
  
 Interview, New York, United States  
 Livraison, Magazine, Sweden   
 Courrier International, Magazine, France  
 Domus International, Magazine, Italy