

## Capturing the Poetic in the Everyday

I navigate the intricate space between journalistic accuracy and poetic nuance, revealing the inherent beauty in the mundane. Through my lens, I aim to evoke emotions similar to a poignant piece of music, touching the soul before the mind. My black and white compositions are invitations to the senses, each frame designed to intrigue and resonate deeply. In this dance of light and shadow, I present humanity as I experience it, urging viewers to find their own narratives within. Photography, for me, is more than a medium; it's a bridge, connecting emotions with the intricate tapestry of daily life.

## Renowned Photographer and Academic

Eli Dijkers, born in 1978, is a globally recognized photographer based in the Netherlands. With a unique academic background that includes a Ph.D. in Pharmacy, Nuclear Medicine, and Oncology, Eli seamlessly transitioned to the world of photography, carving a niche for himself with his distinctive visual narratives.

## Education

In 2012, Eli proudly graduated from the **Fotoacademie** in Rotterdam. His graduation project, **Temporal Existence**, offers an intimate portrayal of Rotterdam's urban landscapes and inhabitants. Soon after, Eli was chosen as one of 12 photographers to document the ever-evolving city of Rotterdam. Eli has participated in workshops by **Jacob Aue Sobol** (Magnum Photos), **Carl De Keyzer** (Magnum Photos), **Michael Ackerman**, **Anders Petersen**, **Denis Darzacq**, and **Mark Power** (Magnum Photos).

## Awards and Recognitions

Eli's skills behind the lens haven't gone unnoticed:

- Winner of the **Mediterranean Art Prize** in Photography, Video Art, and Performance
- Multiple Honourable Mentions at the **Black & White Spider Awards**
- Commended Photographer at the **Sony World Photography Awards**
- Several accolades at the **Monochrome Awards**
- Winner of the **Porta Coeli Artist Residency Award** at the XIth edition of the International Contemporary Art Biennale of Florence
- Prestigiously titled as an **Ilford MASTER** in 2018, sharing this honor with the legendary Sebastião Salgado.

## **Publications and Exhibitions**

Eli's thought-provoking series, **Enigma**, captures the raw essence of daily life on India's streets and is beautifully encapsulated in his self-published book. In a subsequent exploration titled **A Cloth in Time**, Eli delves into the haunting stillness of his new neighborhood in Birmingham, England. Having relocated from his native Rotterdam, The Netherlands, Eli found himself in a world paused by the 2020 pandemic. Venturing within a one-kilometer radius from his residence, he chronicled desolate streets, luminous streetlights serving no purpose, and the rare passer-by, evoking an eerie sense of solitude. This poignant series, a blend of color and black-and-white imagery, becomes a visual diary of a year when 'lockdown' transformed from a term to a lived experience.

Recently, Eli self-published several books: **Arms and a Man I Sing** (on Italy), **You will never believe these bizarre truth behind musical instruments** (on India), **For a variety of reasons, we don't allow nudity** (nudes) and **Ren Shang, Ren Hai** (on China).

His body of work has been showcased at esteemed venues, including a solo exhibition at Deelen Art Gallery, curated by Sun Hee Engelstoft, and a **six-month-long feature at de Kunsthal**, Rotterdam's prime museum of contemporary art. His most recent **collaboration with Moyi Art and the Dutch Embassy led to a spectacular exhibition on the Bund in Shanghai** in 2021. Notably, his art has shared space with the timeless works of **Henri Cartier-Bresson in Southern Italy, with the grand opening slated for the G20 summit.**

## **Global Presence**

Eli's photographs have graced galleries in several countries, including China, the USA, the UK, Italy, Greece, Denmark, Germany, Czech Republic, Slovakia, and France. He's currently affiliated with **Moyi Art** in China and **Porta Coeli** in Italy. Between 2013 and 2019, Eli was also represented by **Gallery Deelen Art** in The Netherlands.

## Awards

- 2023 First price Mediterranean Art Prize (3rd edition) - Photography, Video Art, and Performance
- 2021 Longlisted for the 2020 Aesthetica Art Prize
- 2021 Black & White Spider Awards - Honorable Mention in Fashion and Nominee in Still Life
- 2020 Life Framer 'The Human Body' Winner - Curated by Joachim Ladefoged
- 2020 Black & White Spider Awards - Nominee in Nude
- 2019 Life Framer 'Street Life' Winner - Curated by Magnum photographer Bruce Gilden
- 2019 Black & White Spider Awards - Nominee in Nude
- 2019 PhotoShoot Awards - Body Parts Finalist. Emotion and Urban merit.
- 2018 Awarded Ilford Master, amongst Sebastião Salgado
- 2018 Black & White Spider Awards - Nominee in Fine Art and Architectural
- 2018 Guest Curator 'Wanderlust' exhibition gallery Sehnsucht
- 2018 PhotoShoot Awards - Emotion Finalist and Transformations Bronze Finalist
- 2017 Winner of the Porta Coeli Artist Residency Award at the XIth Art Biennale of Florence
- 2017 Commended Photographer in the Sony World Photography Awards
- 2017 Black & White Spider Awards - Nominee in Fine Art (twice)
- 2017 Charles Dodgson B&W (GALA) Award - Nude & Figure Winner. Fine Art & Portraits Finalist.
- 2017 LensCulture Portrait Awards 2017 Competition - Editor Pick
- 2017 Magnum Photos Swap Shop Winner
- 2017 PhotoShoot Awards - Body Parts, Dance & Movement and Fashion Merit
- 2016 B&W Spider Awards - Fine Art (3x), Nude (2x), Fashion, Children of the World & Silhouette.
- 2016 B&W Spider Awards - Honorable Mention in People and Fashion
- 2016 Longlisted for the Rabobank New Talent Award 2016
- 2016 PhotoShoot Awards - Finalist in dance, emotion and nature
- 2015 Monochrome Photography Awards - Honorable Mention in Nude (2x)
- 2015 B&W Spider Awards - Nominee in Fine Art (twice), Nude (twice), Nature and Silhouette
- 2015 Foto Individueel - Silver Award
- 2015 Fine Art Photography Awards - Fine Art Nominee (2x)
- 2015 PhotoShoot Awards - Third price overall
- 2015 PhotoShoot Awards - Nature finalist. Emotion and Nature category award.
- 2014 Monochrome Photography Awards - Honorable Mention in Nude (2x)
- 2014 B&W Spider Awards - Nominee in Nude
- 2014 GUP - New Dutch Photography talent
- 2014 B&W Child Photo contest - Nominee
- 2014 Shoot the frame - Finalist (4x)
- 2013 Blue Diamond Photo Award - Nominee
- 2013 Selected for FOAM Photo Town
- 2013 Awarded 'Master' of the Dutch Photography Union
- 2010 Second price in the Festival d'Images European photo contest in Toulouse

## Exhibitions

- 2023 By Photographers, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- 2023 The Poetic Encounter - shared screening, Thessaloniki, Greece.
- 2022 100 ARTWORKS. Berlin. Germany.
- 2022 Buy My Darlings. Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- 2021 Double exhibition with rarely exhibited photographs of Henri Cartier-Bresson. The exhibition was held during the G20 summit of foreign affair minister sand is in collaboration with Porta Coeli Gallery. Palazzo Malvinni Malvezzi. Matera, Italy.
- 2021 Light the Light (shared exhibition with Neo Zhao). Pusu Art Space in the 1862 Art Center, North Bund. In collaboration with Moyi Art & Dutch Embassy. Shanghai, China.
- 2021 Tarsus - double exhibition with Henri Cartier-Bresson. Torre Norman, Tricarico. Italy.
- 2021 14th International Photography Festival. Levice, Slovakia.
- 2021 Travel through light (shared). Moyi Art. Shanghai, China.
- 2021 Gallery 20square7 (shared). Berlin, Germany.
- 2021 Summer dance festival MOVEFEST with POINT OF ASSEMBLAGE (collaborative performance dance/images). Košice, Slovakia.
- 2021 Slovak Dance Platform POINT OF ASSEMBLAGE (collaborative performance dance/images).
- 2021 Nightfall (solo) M'ART PRINT Gallery. Veľké Zálužie, Slovakia.
- 2020 Art Plus Shanghai International Art Fair (shared). Shanghai, China.
- 2020 Exhibitions in New York and Milan with Life Framer (shared) were cancelled due to COVID19.
- 2020 The "living home" space (solo). Shanghai, China - postponed due to COVID19.
- 2020 Contour Gallery with Life Framer (shared). Rotterdam, The Netherlands.
- 2020 POINT OF ASSEMBLAGE (collaborative performance dance/images). Nitra, Slovakia.
- 2020 Glasgow Gallery of Photography (shared). Glasgow, United Kingdom.
- 2020 Royal Birmingham Society of Artists (shared, with Frans Vonk). Birmingham, UK.
- 2020 Blank Wall Gallery, Street Photography (shared). Athens, Greece
- 2019 Art Plus Shanghai International Art Fair (shared). October 23 - 27. Shanghai. China.
- 2019 Glasgow Gallery of Photography (shared). Glasgow, UK (twice).
- 2019 Pictura (shared). September 14 - October 27. Dordrecht, NL
- 2019 Museumnacht (shared). Amsterdam, NL - fair has been cancelled by organizer.
- 2019 Chania International Photo Festival (shared). Chania. Greece
- 2019 De Rotterdamse Salon (shared). Rotterdam, NL
- 2019 The Torrance Art Museum (shared). Los Angeles, USA
- 2019 Professional Imaging (solo) with Ilford. Nijkerk, NL
- 2018 De Kunsthal, Museum of Contemporary Art (solo). March - September. Rotterdam, NL
- 2018 International Art Gallery Porta Coeli (solo). May - October. Venosa, Italy
- 2018 Photokina (shared) with Ilford. Cologne, Germany
- 2018 Blank Wall Gallery (shared). Athens, Greece
- 2018 Artists' association Pictura (shared). Dordrecht, NL
- 2018 Artists' association Karmijn (shared). Rotterdam, NL
- 2018 International Art Gallery Porta Coeli (shared). Venosa, Italy
- 2018 Music Hall Rotterdam (solo). Rotterdam, NL
- 2018 Ten days of Art (shared). Bergen, NL
- 2018 Galerie Sehnsucht (shared). Rotterdam, NL
- 2018 Art route Kralingen-Krooswijk (shared). Rotterdam, NL
- 2017 Florence Biennale (shared). Florence, Italy
- 2017 Ten days of Art (solo). Bergen, NL
- 2017 Ten days of Art (shared). Bergen, NL

2017 Artists' association Pictura (shared). Dordrecht, NL  
2017 Artists' association Karmijn (shared). Rotterdam, NL  
2017 Piet-Jan van den Kommer (solo). Stompetoren, NL  
2017 Sony World Photography Awards (shared). London, UK  
2017 Blank Wall Gallery (shared). Athens, Greece  
2017 Society Café (shared). Oxford, UK  
2017 The Printspace Gallery (shared). London, UK  
2017 Gallery Deelen Art (shared). Rotterdam, NL  
2017 Bob Smit Gallery (shared). Rotterdam, NL  
2017 R'DAM ARTFAIR (shared). Rotterdam, NL  
2017 Contemporary Art Fair Rotterdam (shared). Rotterdam, NL  
2017 Contemporary Art Fair Rotterdam spin-off exhibition (solo). Rotterdam, NL  
2017 Gallery Deelen Art (shared). Rotterdam, NL  
2017 Fotofair (shared) with Ilford. Hilvarenbeek, NL  
2016 Society Café (shared). Oxford, UK  
2016 HC Kunst Cafe. Schiedam, NL  
2016 'Interrupted Dreams' (solo), Galerie Deelen Art. Rotterdam, NL  
2016 Ten days of Art (shared). Bergen aan Zee, NL  
2016 Schiedam Photo Festival (solo). Schiedam, NL  
2016 Gallery Deelen Art (solo), Rotterdam, NL  
2016 Route du Nord (solo). Rotterdam, NL  
2016 Rotown (solo). Rotterdam, NL  
2016 Fenix II (solo). Rotterdam, NL  
2016 Lane House Arts Gallery (shared). Bath, UK  
2016 PodiumGrounds Rotterdam (solo). Rotterdam, NL  
2016 NHOW (shared). Rotterdam, NL  
2016 Point of streetview (shared). Rotterdam, NL  
2016 Paradiso (solo). Amsterdam, NL  
2015 Gallery Deelen Art (live performance). Rotterdam, NL  
2015 Artists' association Pictura (shared). Dordrecht, NL  
2015 Art the Hague (shared). The Hague, NL  
2015 North Sea Jazz, Ahoy (shared). Rotterdam, NL  
2015 Blank Wall Gallery (shared). Athens, Greece  
2015 PRO6 (shared). Schiedam, NL  
2015 Gallery Deelen Art (live performance). Rotterdam, NL  
2015 Realisme art fair for figurative and realistic art (shared). Amsterdam, NL  
2015 Gallery Deelen Art (shared). Rotterdam, NL  
2014 Copenhagen Photo Festival (shared). Copenhagen, Denmark  
2014 RAW art fair (shared). Rotterdam, NL  
2014 Gallery Deelen Art (solo). Rotterdam, NL  
2014 Gallery Deelen Art (shared). Rotterdam, NL  
2014 Laurenskerk (solo). Rotterdam, the Netherlands  
2014 IJsselland Ziekenhuis (solo). Capelle a/d IJssel, NL  
2010 - 2014 Dutch Photography Museum (shared). Rotterdam, NL  
2010 - 2014 Music Hall Rotterdam (shared). Rotterdam, NL  
2010 - 2014 Outdoor exhibition Rotterdam (shared). Rotterdam, NL  
2010 - 2014 Gallery Deelen Art (shared). Rotterdam, NL  
2010 - 2014 Dutch Photography Union (shared). Travelling exhibit. NL

2010 - 2014 IJsselland Ziekenhuis (solo). Capelle a/d IJssel, NL  
2010 - 2014 OB Groningen (solo). Groningen, NL  
2010 - 2014 4MKB (shared). Zoetermeer, NL  
2010 - 2014 Music Hall Rotterdam (shared). Rotterdam, NL  
2010 - 2014 De Fruitvis (shared). Rotterdam, NL  
2010 - 2014 Festival d'images (shared). Toulouse, France  
2010 - 2014 Satellite exhibition Noorderlicht Groningen (shared). Groningen, NL  
2010 - 2014 Photo gallery Rotterdam (shared). Rotterdam, NL  
2010 - 2014 Dutch Photography Union (shared). Travelling exhibit. NL  
2010 - 2014 AFV Daguerre (shared). Groningen, NL