

MANUEL ZOIA GALLERY

Dani Ploeger

Born in Middelburg, Netherlands

Studied at Royal Conservatoire of The Hague (BMus), Orchestra Academy of the Berlin Philharmonic (PG), University of Sussex, UK (PhD)

Lives and works in Vlissingen, NL, and London, UK

Dani Ploeger explores situations of conflict and crisis on the fringes of the world of high-tech consumerism. His objects, videos, and apps emphasize both the fragility and rawness of the materiality of everyday technologies, while questioning the sanitized, utopian marketing around innovation and its implications for local and global power dynamics. In this context, quasi-journalistic journeys often provide the starting point for the development of his work. He has made a VR installation while embedded with frontline troops in East-Ukraine, travelled to dump sites in Nigeria to collect electronic waste originating from Europe, stole razor wire from the Hungarian anti-immigration fence, and interviewed witnesses of US drone attacks in Pakistan for a project around sound and technologies of violence.

Dani's artwork is exhibited in museums, galleries and festivals worldwide and he has received commissions from ZKM Center for Culture and Media in Karlsruhe, New Society for Fine Arts Berlin, V2_Lab for unstable media in Rotterdam and the Cité Internationale des Arts Paris, among others. His VR installation *The Grass Smells So Sweet* was awarded the 2018 jury prize of the VRHAM Festival for art and virtual reality in Hamburg. His work is in the public collections of the WRO Art Center in Wroclaw and ZKM in Karlsruhe, as well as private collections across Europe. His work *ASSAULT* (2016), encompassing an iPad shot with an assault rifle, led to a preliminary investigation for radicalization and extremism by the Dutch public prosecution service.

He holds a PhD in performance, media and cultural studies from the University of Sussex, UK

selected exhibitions/performances

group

2018

VRHAM Festival, Hamburg, D
'Walls of Silence', Platforme Paris

2017

Odessa Biennale, Ukraine
WRO Media Art Biennale, Wroclaw, Poland
Creative Studio, Whitechapel Gallery, London
Centre for Chinese Contemporary Art, Manchester
Zona Maco art fair, Mexico City

2016

MU Art Space/Dutch Design Week, Eindhoven, NL
Celeste Prize 2016, OXO Tower Wharf, London, UK
Utopia Fair, Somerset House, London
Institute of Contemporary Art cinema, London

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2015

WRO Media Art Biennale, Wroclaw, Poland

RIXC Gallery, Riga, Latvia

VARIATION Paris Media Art Fair

KEEPitREAL!, Bayt Al-Sinnari – Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Cairo, Egypt

Trancend.t, Maus Hábitos, Porto, Portugal

2014

transmediale, Berlin

London Design Festival, Victoria & Albert Museum

Interval, Künstlerforum Bonn, Germany

2012

CYNETART Festival for Computer Based Art, Dresden

Arse Elektronika – A festival of sex and technology, San Francisco

solo/duo

2018

Import Projects, Berlin (with Aram Bartholl) panke.gallery, Berlin (with Yvon Chabrowski)

2017

arebyte Gallery, London

2015

Watermans Art Centre, London

ruimteCAESUUR, Middelburg, Netherlands

2014

Defibrillator Gallery, Chicago

2013

KipVis, Vlissingen, Netherlands

research and teaching positions

2016- Research Fellow, The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, University of London

2014-16 Senior Lecturer and Course Leader Performance Arts, The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama

2012-14 Lecturer in Theatre and Digital Arts, Brunel University London

2011 Lecturer in Performing Arts, De Montfort University, Leicester