

SILVIA B.

OF BEAUTY AND DOUBT

In addition to her iconic sculptures SILVIA B. creates drawings, photographs, a line of gloves: Skinover (2006-2010), and curated several exhibitions such as Bloody Beautiful (2007) at Museum Rotterdam and Entanglement (2024) at Museum W in Weert.

Besides her specific exhibition designs she also designed an apartment in Rotterdam and one in London. She engaged in several artist-cooperations, ranging from a liquor brand, Stookolie 010 (2017) to an online studio building, Kunstambassade.nl (2021).

Silvia B. (1963) lives and works in Rotterdam, The Netherlands. A multidisciplinary artist from the start, she studied Sculpture and Fashion at the Willem de Kooning Academy in Rotterdam (1983-1986) and Art History at Rijks Universiteit Leiden (1990-1992). She was a founding member and manager of Het Wilde Weten, an artist run space in Rotterdam (1991-1996), Director of even months of the smallest museum of the world: Museum van Nagsael, Rotterdam (1995-2006) and the creator of the Dutch largest steel sculpture of a lady: U l t r a, Groningen (2004). Silvia B. has been a member of various committees for the Rotterdam City Art Center, CBK and a visiting lecturer at several Dutch Art Academies.

Silvia B. won the Hendrik Chabot prize (2026), was nominated for the Dolf Henkes Award (2014) and received multiple grants and subsidies from the Mondrian Fund, the Cultural Foundation and the Rotterdam CBK. Her work is represented in public collections such as Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, Museum Beelden aan Zee, Museum Rotterdam, Rijksmuseum Twenthe, Museum Voorlinden, KRC Art Collection, Museum MORE, Museum W, as well as various (inter)national private collections.

Solo exhibitions include Chabot Museum Rotterdam (2026), Museum W in Weert (2024), NL=US Art in Rotterdam (2021), a large retrospective show at Rijksmuseum Twenthe in Enschede (2016-2017), Ron Mandos gallery in Amsterdam (2016), Odapark in Venray (2016), Museum Beelden aan Zee (2012) and GEM/KM21(2008) both in The Hague.

Group shows include MOYA in Oosterhout (2025), BRUTUS in Rotterdam (2022), Museum Rijswijk, Kunsthal in Rotterdam, Museum Valkhof in Nijmegen (2021), Art Festival Watou, BE (2019), Museum Voorlinden in Wassenaar (2017), Centraal Museum Utrecht (2016), Broelmuseum in Kortrijk, BE (2015), Verbeke Foundation in Kemzeke, BE (2014), TENT and Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen in Rotterdam, Project gallery Michigan USA (2013), KIASMA - Museum for Contemporary Art in Helsinki, FI, Musée la Halle St. Pierre in Paris, FR (2011), CODA Museum Apeldoorn (2009) and GAD-Art in Oslo, NO (2008).

There have been many publications in national newspapers, international magazines, exhibition and collection catalogues and her monograph OF BEAUTY AND DOUBT was published in 2016.

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