

RACHEL REFAEL

Rachel Refael is a Rotterdam-based designer whose practice blends fine arts and design. Taking an interdisciplinary approach, she works within a collaborative network to develop socially engaged projects. Rooted in archival and cultural research, her work spans from object design to spatial installations, exploring and responding to cultural, historical, and social themes.

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EDUCATION

Piet Zwart Institute
Masters in Interior
Architecture: Research
and Design
Graduated in 2021
The Netherlands

University of Calgary
BFA in Visual Studies
Graduated in 2018
Canada

**Lighting Design
Academy**
Vormgeven van
lichtplannen
Certified in 2022
The Netherlands

TALKS

ETHZ Architecture
Visiting Lecture for
Care. Research
Zurich CH
2025

**Gerrit Rietveld
Academie**
Exhibition Presentation
Amsterdam NL
2024

Open Monumentendag
Lecture at Arcam
Amsterdam NL
2024

Arcam
Panel Moderator at
Barcam
Amsterdam NL
2024

BioArt Gallery
Panel Moderator
Eindhoven NL
2022

WORK

166 Brut Studio
Designer + researcher
Rotterdam NL
2020 - Present

Studio Berkveldt
Freelance designer
Rotterdam NL
2023-2024

Northern Light
Spatial Designer +
Researcher
Amsterdam NL
2023-2024

Jasmin Djerzic
Ceramic Design +
Production
Breda NL
2022

**Willem De Kooning
Academie**
TA for Spatial Design
Rotterdam NL
2021

Alex Augusto Suarez
3D Designer
Amsterdam NL
2021

VOLUNTEERING

Blender 3D Course
Teaching
Het Wijkpaleis
Rotterdam NL
2025

EXHIBITIONS

WormNEST
with Rebecca Schedler
Worm Expo
Rotterdam NL
2025

Queer History Month
IHLIA in OBA
Group Exhibition
Amsterdam NL
2025

GummiBAR
Porn Film Festival
Amsterdam NL
2025

Peeping Spaces
Arcam
Amsterdam NL
2024-2025

Land Art Weekend
StrandLAB
Almere NL
2023

Land Art Weekend
StrandLAB
Almere NL
2022

**Rotterdam Art
Weekend**
De Hillevliet
Rotterdam NL
2022

Dutch Design week
Manifestations
Eindhoven NL
2021

**The In-Between:
Graduation Exhibition**
The Hofbogen
Rotterdam NL
2021

Social Bodies
The Hofbogen
Rotterdam NL
2020

Domestic Territories
Digital Exhibition
2020

PUBLICATIONS

The Molyhouse
Amsterdamx750
Verhalen
Amsterdam NL
2025

**Expositie: historie van
sekswerk en queer
plekken in Amsterdam**
issued by Maarten Mol
Het Parool
Amsterdam NL
2024

**Queer histories of De
Wallen**
By Rachel Refael and
Gavine O. O'Leary
Ons Amsterdam
Amsterdam NL
2024

**What is an Institute for
Night Culture (book)**
David Mulder van
der Vegt & Stephan
Petermann
published by ARCHIS
2024

**HistoricALL!
A collective rewriting
of design history
(publication)**
Cecilia Casabona &
Maxime Benvenuto
ONOMATOPEE
2023

**Heterotopias of
Modern Prostitution**
by Rachel Refael
The Piet, no. 2
Piet Zwart Intitute
2022

AWARDS

FlevoLAB
Spin-off Traject
Almere NL
2024

S+T+ARTS
Pre-selected for
Hungry Ecocities
2023

Stimulerings Fonds
Architecture Starting
Grant
2022

Piet Zwart Institute
MIARD Alumni
Research Award
2021

Van Beek-Donner
Women's Fund Award
2021

RESIDENCIES

FlevoLAB Residency
Artistic Research:
Phase 2
Almere NL
2024

FlevoLAB Residency
Artistic Research:
Phase 1
Almere NL
2023