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Artist Statement / Bio

Stephanie Smit (also working under the name Giek) is a multidisciplinary artist working across performance, sound, textile, and research-based practices. Her work explores time, identity, and embodied memory through theatrical performances, situational and interactive formats, and installation-based environments.

She approaches reincarnation as an artistic research method rather than belief, investigating how subjectivity and creative impulses unfold across multiple temporal layers. Costume and textile function as sculptural interfaces within spatial settings that combine voice, music composition, and poetic narrative.

Her work has been presented at institutions and festivals including Harvard Divinity School's Spirituality & the Arts Conference, Occulture Conference Berlin, Design Museum Den Bosch, Museum De Lakenhal, and Dutch Design Week. She is currently developing installation-based and sound-driven formats that invite audiences to engage with layered temporal subjectivities.

Awards, Grants & Selections

2025 · Station Noord — Finalist 2025 (Interdisciplinary Performance / Visual Art)
2024 · Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunsten — Shortlisted Candidate 2024/2025 (Final Round)
2024 · Stimuleringsfonds Talentontwikkeling — Scout Night Selection (Giekonstruct)
2022 · Kulturstiftung des Freistaates Sachsen – Leipzig, DE — Gastspielförderung (Own Reality)
2021 · SENA — Music Production Grant (Spread My Wings)
2020 · Fonds Podiumkunsten — Work Contribution Music Authors (Spread My Wings)
2018 · NTS WIP – London, UK — Longlisted
2015 · VSB Fonds — Support (Album Recording and Theatertour Kots)

Residencies

06/2025 · Aetheria Institute (Black Sky Society) – Crete, GR
Artistic research residency (metaphysics / reincarnation / ritual / sound / visual form), with public presentation
05/2024 · Maakweken – Delft, NL
Residency (costume / scenography / textile storytelling with kids) with public presentation
06/2023 · Seance Volda Norway – Volda, NO
Collaborative residency (sound / movement / intuition / ritual performance) with presentation
05/2019 · Choreographic Coding Lab – Amsterdam, NL
Interdisciplinary residency (movement / technology / prototyping) with presentation

Education & Artistic Training

2011–2014 · Theater Art & Entertainment (PACT), Amsterdam — Theatre & Performance
2003–2004 · Fashion (ROC Tilburg) — Fashion Construction
Background in theatre, fashion and performance informs my current visual and spatial practice.

Selected Public Presentations (from 2022 onwards)

· Museums, Galleries & Art Institutions

A Soul's Journey

18 Jan 2025 · Hypertrove Sign Gallery - art program during Eurosonic Noorderslag ESNS · Groningen, NL

The 5th Dimension and Beyond (with Frederique Jonker)

8 March 2024 · Arti et Amicitiae · Amsterdam, NL

26 Aug 2023 · Bauhaus · Berlin, DE

A New World

25-29 Oct 2023 · *Iteration: Transcending Time and Space* · Manifestations — Dutch Design Week · Eindhoven, NL

3 June 2023 · Museumnacht — Museum Lakenhal · Leiden, NL

2022 · Design Museum · 's-Hertogenbosch, NL

10 May 2022 · *Preliminary version* · Van Gogh Museum · Amsterdam, NL

Kybalion the Musical
11 April 2022 · KAOS KIA – Slug Gallery · Leipzig, DE

Own Reality
5 Sept 2023 · Gallery Askip · Nantes, FR
10 April 2022 · KAOS KIA – Slug Gallery · Leipzig, DE

• **Conferences, Discourse & Academia**

A Soul's Journey
26 Oct 2025 · Occulture Conference · Berlin, DE
23 April 2025 · Spirituality & the Arts, Harvard Divinity School · Cambridge, US (pre-recorded video online)
3 July 2025 · Aetheria Symposia – BlackSky Society · Crete, GR (streamed online)
12 Aug 2025 · What Hackers Yearn (WHY2025) · Oudkarspel, NL

Kybalion the Musical
22 Oct 2023 · Occulture Conference · Berlin, DE

A New World
8-12 Aug 2025 · *Iteration: Transcending Time and Space* · What Hackers Yearn (WHY2025) · Oudkarspel, NL
19-22 Oct 2023 · *Iteration: Transcending Time and Space* · Occulture Conference · Berlin, DE

• **Performance, Festival, Hybrid Podia**

A Soul's Journey
31 Oct 2025 · Rebelle Epoque — Where Occult Meets Cabaret, ADM · Amsterdam, NL

The 5th Dimension and Beyond (with Frederique Jonker)
24 March 2024 · Death & Rebirth Festival · Amsterdam, NL

Kybalion the Musical
12 March 2023 · Death & Rebirth Festival · Amsterdam, NL
3 Sept 2023 · Narthex · France
22 July 2022 · Reclaiming the Church St.-Martin-Kirche Potshausen, DE

A New World
10 March 2023 · Death & Rebirth Festival · Amsterdam, NL
1 Sept 2022 · Pluritopia Festival · Leipzig, DE

Own Reality
1 Oct.2022 · Lindenow Festival · Leipzig, DE
3 Sept 2022 · Tarmac Festival · Allstedt, DE
15 July 2022 · Apeuliaris Nox — Zentralwäscherei · Zürich, CH

Selected Projects (Visual Art & Expanded Performance Practice, 2022–2026)

2025–ongoing · IWasJimMorrison.com - Research Project & Installation (visual research / digital media)
Theme: reincarnation / cultural memory / myth-making / identity continuity

2024–ongoing · [A Soul's Journey](#) - Multidisciplinary Performance (music / ritual theater / costume / poetry)
Theme: reincarnation / religion / spiritual trauma / death & rebirth / dualism

2023–2024 · [5th Dimension and Beyond](#) - Performance Collaboration w/ Frederique Jonker (movement / costume / sound / visual art / impro). Theme: unity consciousness / altered perception / dualism / ritual

2022–2023 · [A New World](#) + [Transcending Time and Space](#) - Installation (painting / divination / costume)
Theme: symbolic systems / temporal collapse / fate & narrative / cosmology

2022–2023 · [KYBALION the Musical](#) – Esoteric Performance (theater / music / scenography / costume)
Theme: hermetic philosophy / cosmology / occultism / initiation / reincarnation / other dimensional life

2022–ongoing · [GIEKONSTRUCT](#) – Zero-Waste Costume & Textile Installation
Theme: reincarnation / embodiment / memory / ritual interface

2020–2025 · [SPREAD MY WINGS](#) – Audio-Visual (music composition / 3D video)

Theme: transformation / self-love / spiritual emergence

Earlier Works (Music, Performance & Interdisciplinary Foundations, pre-2022)

2021–ongoing · [Improvisations](#) - Vocal Research & Embodiment

Theme: voice / presence / trance

2020 · [LEF GLOBAL LAB - Rijkswaterstaat \(Inner Climate\)](#) - Commissioned Video-Performance

Theme: emotional ecology / climate / systems / inner transformation

2019–2023 · [OWN REALITY](#) – Ritual Music Performance

Theme: transformation / trance / mysticism / magick / addiction / self-destruction

2019–2021 · [Stone Orgy](#) with Jasper Griepink – Commissioned Music & Performance

Theme: embodiment / erotic ritual / unity / earth

2018–2019 · [Jazz orchestra Amsterdam](#) – Composition & Performance

Theme: self realization / duality / divinity

2015–2017 · [Lucifer's Dream](#) – Music & Performance Duo with Aztlan Zidonia

Theme: cosmic love / mysticism / conflict / dualism

2013–2016 · [Kots](#) – Comedy & Performance Duo with Marleen van Zon - Holland's Got Talent finalist

Theme: feminist satire / absurdism

2014 · [Siriusly](#) – Theater & Writing in collaboration with Tommy Ventevogel

Theme: satire / absurdism / philosophy / extraterrestrials

2012 · [PANDEMONIUM](#) – Performance Collaboration with Levi van Huygevoort

2011–2013 [GIEK](#) · Underground Performance Acts

Published Writing

2026 (upcoming) · New Dawn Magazine, Bloom Magazine, Blaxxky

Articles on reincarnation research intersecting with artistic practice.

2024–2025 · [Brainz Magazine](#) (Regular Contributor)

Articles on reincarnation research, symbolic memory and subconscious programming.

Selected Press Coverage & Interviews

2026 · Brainz Magazine — Interview on artistic research & performance

2024 · Brabants Dagblad — Feature on performance practice and ritual costume

2023 · The Great Game Podcast — Interview on past lives & creativity

2020 · Threshold Magazine, Couver x Chefs, Redefine Magazine - Escape music release

2016 · Kaltblut Magazine, Side-Line - Lucifer's Dream music release

2015 · Brabants Dagblad, Parool, NRC Next - Kots interview, recensies

[Full press list](#)

Related Activities, Research & Self-Organised Work

2026 — Vision Lab Salon Series (Harvard Divinity School)

Invited lecture-performance: [Lineage, Continuity, and Myth-Making at a Cultural Threshold](#)

2026–ongoing · Vision Lab (Harvard Divinity School) — Research Collective

Research Collective participant — contemplative arts & interdisciplinary research

2025–ongoing · Emerging platform initiative (with Black Sky Society and international collaborators) — exploratory infrastructure for cross-disciplinary collaboration between art, research & technology.

2025 · [Decoding the Past](#) — Lecture Series (Aetheria Residency & Occulture Berlin)

2023-ongoing · [Reality Cult](#) – Research & Guidance Platform (lectures, consultations, public talks)

2018-ongoing · [Reality Cult](#) – Reincarnation Research (astrology, tarot, AI, cultural memory)

2013-2024 · Actress — Immersive theatre (Prison Escape, Amsterdam Dungeon, Pebble TV)

2022 · [KAOS KIA](#) - Self-organized performance, video and ritual event. Co-curated with Slug Gallery Leipzig.

2022 · [Reclaiming the Church](#) – Site-specific performance event around polarity, ritual in sacred architecture.