



Marie Cécile Thijs

(Dutch, 27.12.1964 -)

Octopus

Lambda C-print on dibond with matted plexi, framed
70 x 70 cm / 27.6 x 27.6 inch

BIOGRAPHY

(Marie Cécile Thijs)



Marie Cécile Thijs is a Dutch artist with a distinctive signature. Her portraits are still lifes and her still lifes become portraits. Objects become characters. They move away from their daily destination, away from time and space. That provides intriguing creations, where elements like tranquility, dynamics and sometimes also humor meet. In her work the unusual is natural.

Photographs of Marie Cécile Thijs - in terms of light and color - are reminiscent of the Golden Age. The old masters in painting are a major source of inspiration. At the same time her work is totally contemporary. She is specialised in staged photography, and created the series *White Collar*, *Food Portraits*, *Cooks*, *Horses and Human Angels*, which are still in progress to this day.

For the serie *White Collar* (since 2009) she photographed an authentic seventeenth century ruff collar from the collection of the Rijksmuseum Amsterdam, which she later processed in her portraits using digital techniques.

Marie Cécile Thijs gained fame with her autonomous work. In addition, she has portrayed many writers, politicians and artists. She has been fascinated by photography since her youth, but began her career as a lawyer. In her late twenties, she rediscovered the camera and a few years later made the shift to life as a photographer. "For me it was love at second sight," says Marie Cécile Thijs. Meanwhile, she has many exhibitions and has received international awards. In 2014 she won the first prize in the International Photography Masters Cup with her photograph 'Chickpeas'. In 2010, the photograph 'Girl with White Collar at Table' was selected for a photo prize by the curator of the Museum of Contemporary Photography in Chicago. Her work is included in several museum collections, among those are the Rijksmuseum Amsterdam and Rotterdam Museum.

Marie Cecile Thijs had her first retrospective in Museum aan het Vrijthof Maastricht in 2015. Also her work has been exhibited at TEFAF Maastricht and Art Miami in the same year.

In 2016 she was part of the exhibition *Dutch Identity* in Museum De Fundatie Zwolle. Also her photographs were exhibited in the EU 2016 pavilion in Amsterdam on the occasion of the chairmanship of the European Union as part of the selection of the National Portrait Gallery. Most recent she took part in the Exhibition 'Beauty and the Beast' in the Museum of Photographic Arts in San Diego and the exhibition 'Hemels Rembrandt' at the Rembrandt Tower Boardroom, Amsterdam.

SmithDavidson Gallery hosts the solo exhibition 'Argentum' by Marie Cécile Thijs at the Amsterdam gallery in 2016.

In 2018, some of the iconic Food Portraits by Marie Cécile Thijs will be present during the exhibition "WE ARE FOOD - OVER DE KUNST VAN VOEDSEL" to be held at the Jan Cunen Museum from 25 February to 16 September.

LITERATURE

2018 - Elle Décor Italia

2015 - 'Foodportraits by Marie Cécile Thijs

2014 - 'Characters' by Marie Cécile Thijs

EXHIBITIONS

2019 SOLO Marie Cécile Thijs -
SmithDavidson Gallery Amsterdam, The
Netherlands

2019 "Panorama Tulipland 3.0 - Building
blocks for a new museum", Museum de
Zwarte Tulp, Lisse, The Netherlands

2019 Art New York, SmithDavidson
Gallery, Miami, USA

2019 Photo London, SmithDavidson
Gallery, Miami, USA

2018 Solo exhibition 'Tussen Hemel en
Aarde', Museum Jan Cunen, Oss, The
Netherlands

2018 BLOOM, Karmelklooster, Drachten,
The Netherlands

2018 The Unusual Is Natural, Palazzo
Saluzzo Paesana, Turin, Italy

2018 Miami Country Day School, Miami,
USA

2018 TEFAF Maastricht, SmithDavidson
Gallery, Maastricht, The Netherlands

2018 WE ARE FOOD - over de kunst van
voedsel, Museum Jan Cunen, Oss, The
Netherlands

2017 FOOD! Eten in de kunst en design
van nu, Museum Nairac, Barneveld, The
Netherlands

2017 Solo Exhibition, Kunsthall Rotterdam,
The Netherlands

2017 Solo Exhibition, 'Marie Cécile Thijs'
Galerie Catherine Niederhauser, Lausanne,
Switzerland

2017 TEFAF Maastricht, SmithDavidson
Gallery, Maastricht, The Netherlands

2017 Solo exposition Marie Cécile Thijs,
Casa Tua, Aspen, Colorado, USA

2016 'Stills in Motion', 10 Corso Como
Gallery, Shanghai, China

2016 'Argentum' Solo
Exhibition, SmithDavidson Gallery
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

2016 'Hemels Rembrandt' in collaboration
with Rembrandthuis, Rembrandt
Tower Boardroom, Amsterdam, The
Netherlands

2016 'Mix and Match' Exhibition,
SmithDavidson Gallery Amsterdam, The
Netherlands

2016 'BAL', Soestdijk Palace, Baarn, The
Netherlands

2016 'Beauty and the Beast, the Animal in
Photography', MOPA, San Diego, USA

2016 Art New York, New York, USA

2016 TEFAF Maastricht, SmithDavidson
Gallery, The Netherlands

2016 Palm Beach Jewelry, Art and Antique
Show, Palm Beach, Florida, USA

2016 Exhibition Museum de Fundatie -
Dutch Identity, Zwolle, The Netherlands

2016 Pavillion Chairmanship European
Union, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

2015 Art Miami | SmithDavidson Gallery,
December 1st until December 6th, Miami

2015 Art Silicon Valley / San Francisco |
SmithDavidson Gallery, San Francisco, USA

2015 Solo Exhibition Museum aan het
Vrijthof, Maastricht, The Netherlands

2015 TEFAF Maastricht, The Netherlands

2014 1st Place - International Masters Cup
| Category Food | Chickpeas

2014 Exhibition at Sotheby's Paris, France

2014 Presentation on Mediawand

Rotterdamse Schouwburg
2014 Participation The Big Art Calender
Rotterdam | Rotterdamse Kunstkalender
2013 Publication Book Characters |
Publisher Lecturis
2013 Portrait Salinero included in the
collection Rijksmuseum Amsterdam
2013 Top 3 International Masters Cup -
Category Fine Art | White Collar & Majestic
2013 Part of selection committee
Fotofestival Naarden
2012 Exhibition Melkweg Gallery The Last
Dance | Highlights by curator Suzanne
Dechert
2012 Awarded in the International
Photography Awards IPA | Unicorn
2012 Exhibition at New York photofestival
Photoville | Cooks, New York, USA
2012 Nominated for a Magneet for
Campaign Jonge Meesters for lawfirm Pels
Rijcken
2011 Awarded in the International
Photography Awards IPA | White Collar &
Cooks
2011 Awarded in the Hasselblad Masters
Competition | White Collar
2011 Exhibition Fotofestival Naarden, The
Netherlands
2011 Exhibition in Supreme Court The
Hague | Legal Practitioners, The Hague, The
Netherlands
2010 Selected by the Museum of
Contemporary Photography Chicago for the
Art of Photography Show 2010 | White
Collar. Chicago, USA
2010 Awarded in Masters Cup of the
International Color Awards | Human Angels
2009 Selected by FotoMuseum Antwerpen
for international exhibition, Antwerp, Belgium
2007 Solo exhibition Melkweg Gallery
Amsterdam | Portraits, The Netherlands
1999 Photobook Roomse Rituelen,
publisher Ad. Donker Rotterdam

COLLECTIONS

The work of Marie Cécile Thijs is included in the permanent collection of Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, the Musée National d'Histoire et d'Art Luxembourg in Luxembourg, and the Museum of Photographic Arts MOPA in San Diego, USA.