

Amba Klapwijk

Composer | Artist

5-10-1996

amba_elisheba@hotmail.com

+31645021492

ambaklapwijk.com

My name is Amba Klapwijk, I am a composer and creator based in The Hague, The Netherlands, I grew up in Rotterdam.

As an artist I am inspired by landscapes, experiences in nature, poetry, philosophy and visual arts. Sea foam, seasonal changes, light reflections, long subtle sound changes, oscillating intervals and immersiveness fascinate me. My work includes musical compositions, installations, film, poetry and photography. Last years I have been working on bringing my musical compositions closer to my visual ideas and creations.

In 2019, I was artist-in-residence at the Iowa Lakeside Laboratory in America, a biological field station and nature preserve. This was a special experience where I got many ideas. In the last years, work of me has been performed by Ensemble Klang, the Herz Ensemble, the Residentie Orkest, the Rotterdam Student Orchestra, Kristia Michael and the Kali Ensemble, and Input Duo. In 2021 my composition *the very lightweight thread floats in the moving air* was nominated for the Tera de Marez Oyens award, dedicated to recently graduated composers in the Netherlands. In 2022, I received the New Music Now compositieregeling to realize the audiovisual project *dat mij ontmoet*, for which I collaborated with philosopher Eli Dorsman and filmmakers VidAmir.

My teachers during my bachelor and master in Composition at the Royal Conservatoire in The Hague were Mayke Nas, Yannis Kyriakides, Peter Adriaansz, Calliope Tsoupaki and Cornelis de Bondt. During an Erasmus exchange at the Composition Creative Practice master at the Hochschule der Künste Bern, Switzerland, I studied with Cathy van Eck and Simon Steen-Andersen. Besides music, I studied philosophy for one year at the Leiden University with two minors in painting and photography at the Royal Academy of Art in The Hague (KABK).

Education:

2015-2020

Bachelor Composition

Royal Conservatoire The Hague

Teachers: *Calliope Tsoupaki, Peter Adriaansz, Cornelis de Bondt*

2019-2021

Two years of Bachelor Philosophy

Leiden University

2018- 2021

Minor Piano

Teachers: *Gerard Bouwhuis, Sepp Grotenhuis*

2021:

Photography & Painting

Royal Academy of Art The Hague

Teachers: *Nadia Stijns, Tanja Smit*

2022-2024

Master Composition

Royal Conservatoire, The Hague

Teachers: *Mayke Nas and Yannis Kyriakides*

2023:

Erasmus exchange at the Hochschule der Künste Bern, Switzerland

Teachers: *Simon Steen-Andersen and Cathy van Eck*

Ensembles/Residencies/Nominations:

Founding of the Royal Trash Ensemble, 2017, with its own concert in June in Studio

LOOS, The Hague, with trash found on the streets in The Hague

Iowa Lakeside Lab Artist-in-Residence July 2019 United States

DOOResidency, in collaboration with Paul Boereboom, scenographer

June 2021 Hembrugterrein Zaandam

September 2021: Nomination for Tera de Marez Oyens Award 2021

New Music NOW Files, grand to realize audiovisual project 'Dat Mij Ontmoet'

List of works:

2025 *Something from long ago, something yet to be* for Ensemble KLANG 20'

2024 *How long will the orange sea remain?* for live electronics, voice, field recordings and light 14'

thin worlds move on, going up, sideways for Input Duo, for aquarium filled with soap and two percussionists 13'

ERF 3 minute composition for project ERF by Paul Boereboom, electronics and field recordings

2023 *dat mij ontmoet* film with music for violin, (electric) piano, trumpet, clarinet and electric guitar, 30'

In collaboration with filmmakers VidAmir and philosopher Eli Dorsman

Taste of the day music production for a photo slideshow made by Wilma van de Hel with photos by photographer Adrienne van Eekelen. 30' all instruments and field recordings are played by me

Two minutes for Ensemble Klang piano, electric guitar, trombone, soprano saxophone, alto saxophone and vibraphone 2'

For solo piano 13' in collaboration with pianist Carlota Carvalho and visual artist Thais Akina, work in progress

The days, they wonder away for Kristia Michael and the Kali Ensemble - soprano, violin, cello, clarinet, piano, amplification, 4 speakers and one spotlight 13'

From here | Vanaf hier installation with recorded text and field recordings 9'

2021 *Vliegje met mooie pootjes, weg niet gezien* for Ensemble Nachtlucht: violin, flute, electric guitar, double bass, trombone, two saxophones, piano and percussion 7'

Blijf je over of verdwijn in het schuim / Do you remain or hide in the foam, an exploration to sea foam. Photo series of 10 pictures

It is there and yet it is gone, 30' an installation and research into construction and deconstruction, inspired by the Hembrugterrein Zaandam. In collaboration with scenographer Paul Boereboom during the DOOR residency

2020 *Alterations* – a virtual environment for a solitary spatial experience in image and sound in collaboration with scenographer Paul Boereboom 16'

Over Zee, for three-part female choir 3'

2019 *12114357, I & II* for guitar 4'

Meer zo en minder ik - Ode aan het nieuwe groen, to a poem by Hanne Kok, for 6 instruments and 6 trees 12'

Overblijfselen van een verloren tijd / Relics of a lost time for Harp, Contrabass and Snares 10'

Thoughts of a landscape, are you still there, for three loudspeakers, 3 musicians and the prairies of Iowa, United States 17'

2018 *Composition for tubular bells, snares and contact microphones*, for three percussionists 8'

21159753, for six violas 2' as part of the piece *La Linea* in collaboration with Domenic Jarlkaganova, Il Hoon Son, Alexandros Gnokis and Cornelis De Bondt

'als ik nu ga zal het zachter zijn' To a poem of Hans Lodeizen, for 15 loudspeakers in a memorial place 8'

'The very lightweight thread floats in the moving air', for Kate Moore's Herz Ensemble 8'

When voices need each other, for the Brno – The Hague connection ensemble 8'

11 wolken / 11 clouds for the Residentie Orchestra 1'

2017 *Ergens in het midden / Somewhere in the middle*, for the Royal Trash Ensemble

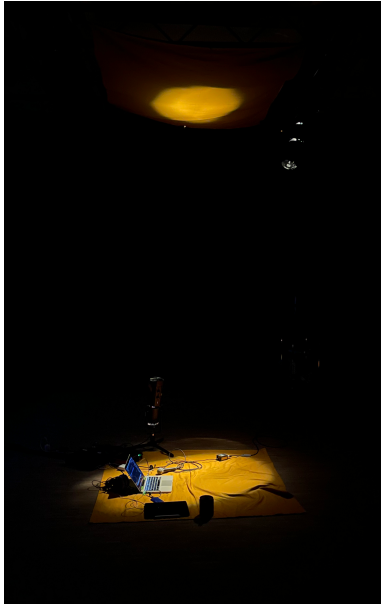
Hoe de dag verblauwt, for woodwind quintet 7'

Focus in June, for the Royal Trash Ensemble 9'

m H e O t a U a T I, for cymbal, woodblocks and metal bowls 7'

2015-2016 *Neem de tijd*, for three violins 3'

Een kreet uit de onderwereld / A cry from the underworld, for solo soprano 5'



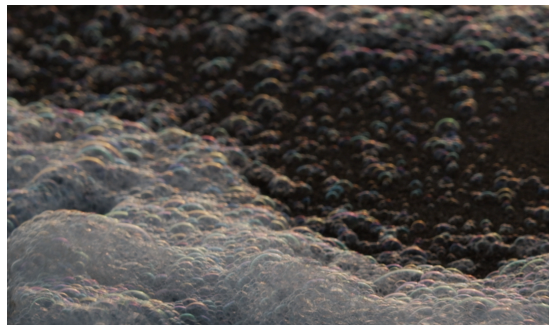
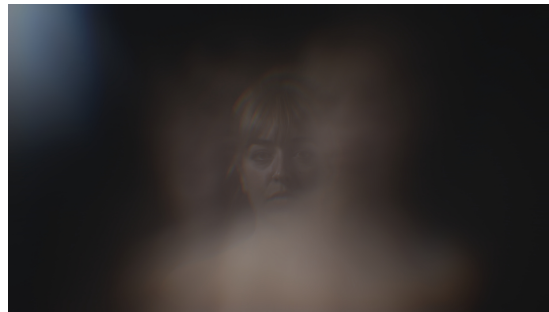
How long will the orange sea remain?
solo performance 2024



thin worlds move on, going up, sideways
for Input Duo, 2024



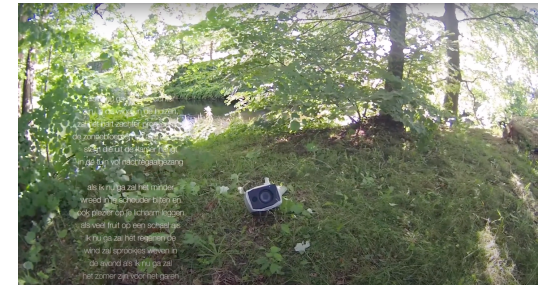
something from long ago, something yet to be
for Ensemble Klang, 2025



dat mij ontmoet a film by Amba Klapwijk, Eli
Dorsman and VidAmir, 2023



audience listening to From Here, 2023
picture by Théo Hérítier



als ik nu ga zal het zachter zijn – to a poem by
Hans Lodeizen, installation with 15 speakers
2018



the days, they wonder away
for Kristia Michael and Kali Ensemble, 2023