

Jan Robert Leegte

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Bio

Jan Robert Leegte (born 1973, The Netherlands) is one of the first Dutch artists to work on and for the Internet since the 1990s. In 2002, he shifted his focus to implementing digital materials in the context of the physical gallery space, aiming to bridge the online art world with the gallery art world, making prints, sculpture, installations, drawings, and projections, connecting to historical movements like land art, minimalism, performance art, and conceptualism.

As an artist Leegte explores the position of the new materials put forward by the (networked) computer. Photoshop selection marquees, scrollbars, Google Maps, code, and software are dissected to understand their ontological nature.

“The networked computer is the central muse in my work, exploring all its wonders and peculiarities. I don't use software to make art, I make art about software”.

His work has been exhibited internationally (Whitechapel Gallery (London), Stedelijk Museum (Amsterdam), van Gogh Museum (Amsterdam) , ZKM (Karlsruhe), Centre Pompidou (Paris), Museum Ludwig (Budapest). He is currently represented by Upstream Gallery (Amsterdam), Office Impart (Berlin), Tender (USA).

Jan Robert Leegte lives and works in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

Education

1995 -1999 Willem de Kooning Academy | Bachelor of Arts, Fine Art / Interaction Design

1992 -1995 Technical University Delft | Faculty of Architecture / Unfinished

Selection of Exhibitions / Projects / Commissions

Solo Exhibitions

2025

'Shadow', NAP+, art fair, Upstream Gallery, Amsterdam, NL

'Wanderer', Paris Photo fair, Office Impart, Paris, FR

2024

'Selection', Office Impart, Berlin, DE

2023

'No Content', Upstream Gallery, Amsterdam, NL

2022

'Repositions', Panke Gallery, Berlin, DE

2021

'Van Gogh Inspires: Jan Robert Leegte', Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam, NL

2020

'Inside | Outside', Upstream Gallery, Amsterdam, NL

2019

'Clear Obscure', Kunstfort Vijfhuizen, NL

2017

'Sculpting the Internet', Upstream Gallery, Amsterdam, NL

'Google Maps as a Sculpture', Würfel BLN, Neumeister Bar-Am Gallery, Berlin, DE

2016

'On Digital Materiality', Carroll Fletcher Gallery, London, UK (online)

'New World', Link Cabinet, Link Art Center, Brescia, IT (online)

2015

'Splash page feature', Rizome.org

2013

'Mountains, Drop Shadows, Source Code and Stuff', Joey Ramone Gallery, Rotterdam, NL

'Random Selection in Random Image as Screensaver', Screen Saver Gallery (software)
'Remake of Robert Smithson's Spiral Jetty in Minecraft', Neverland Space (online)

NFT collections

2025

'Wanderer', Forma / Office Impart
'Walled Garden', FakeWhale

2024

'Selection' Folia
'Bas Relief', Tender

2023

'Web', Fingerprints
'Coin', Mint.fun
'Buttons', Verse
'Broken Images'

2022

'JPEG', Art Blocks
'Window', Art Blocks

2021

'Ornament'

Group / Duo Exhibitions

2025

'Art Singapore', art fair, Office Impart Gallery, Singapore, SG
'Art Dusseldorf', art fair, Office Impart Gallery, Dusseldorf, DE
'Hallen 06', art fair, Office Impart Gallery, Berlin, DE
'Groundwork', group show, Heft, New York, USA
'Repositions', Studio 1111, Berlin, DE
'Tenez Art week', Takuro Someya Contemporary Art, Tokyo, JP

2024

'Untitled Art', art fair, Tender gallery booth, Miami, USA

'Web as a Medium', group show, NEORT++, Tokyo, JP

'Fragilia', group show, Gallery MET, Berlin, DE

'Art Rotterdam', art fair, Upstream Gallery booth, Rotterdam, NL

2023

'Market Makers', Berlin, DE (group show)

'Earth', AkzoNobel, Amsterdam, NL (group show)

'Alt+1000', Neuchâtel, CH (group show)

'Ruis', Amersfoort, NL (group show)

'Modern', Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam, NL (group show)

'Behind the Screens', CODA, Apeldoorn, NL (group show)

2022

'Analogue to Legér', Kröller Möller Museum, Otterlo, NL (duo show)

'DYOR', Kunsthalle Zürich, Zürich, CH (group show)

'More is more', Museum MORE, Gorssel, NL (group show)

'Computing Beauty', Gallery A.dition, Seoul, KR (group show)

'Inside the Outside', CODA, Apeldoorn, NL (group show)

'Proof of Work, what's at Stake', Plus One Gallery, Antwerp, BE (group show)

'Art and the Blockchain', Rozenstraat 59, Amsterdam, NL (group show)

2021

'Counting from Zero', Art Science Gallery, Amsterdam, NL (group show)

'Deep Truth', Rijksmuseum Twenthe, Enschede, NL (group show)

'After Nature', Artphy, Onstwedde, NL (group show)

'New Energy', Into Nature, Bargerveen, NL (group show)

'Spatial Affairs', Ludwig Museum, Budapest, H (group show)

'Sans Objet', Centre Pompidou, Parijs, FR (group show)

'Paper Art, 2021', CODA (group show)

2020

'Well Now WTF', www.wellnow.wtf, online (group show)

'The New Outside', <https://upstream.gallery>, online (group show)

'Echo', <https://upstream.gallery>, online (group show)

'La Nature Reconfigurée', Centre des Arts, Enghien-les-Bains, FR (duo show)

'Collector's Item', Centraal Museum Utrecht (group show)

2019

'Preview beek in beeld', Artphy, Westerwolde, NL
'AOS', Arebyte, London, UK
'Now / Forever', Akzo Nobel stand, Art Rotterdam, Rotterdam, NL
'Art Rotterdam', art fair, Upstream Gallery booth, Rotterdam, NL
'Open Codes. The Art of Coding', Goethe Institute, Mumbai, IN
'Iconicity', Paul W. Zuccaire Gallery, Stony Brook, USA

2018

'Measurements', Société, Brussels, BE
'Fatschadas', Somalgors74, Tschlin, Engadin, CH
'LabBB', Artphy, Wessinghuizen, NL
'Near Enough', Near Field Communication Digital Art Biennial, Amsterdam, NL
'From ZERO to 2018', Upstream Gallery, Amsterdam, NL
'Stream Capture', Minneapolis College of Art and Design Gallery, Minneapolis, USA

2017

'Stedelijk BASE', Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam, Amsterdam, NL
'Electronic Superhighway', The Museum of Art, Architecture and Technology, Lisbon, PT
'Volatile Truths', Rainbow Unicorn, Berlin, DE
'Open Codes', ZKM, Karlsruhe, DE
'Materialising the Internet', Mu, Eindhoven, NL
'Scripting the Others', The Wrong Online Biennial, web
'Dadaclub.online', Galerie Charlot, Paris, FR
'Google Maps as a Sculpture', Würfel, Neumeister Bar-Am, Berlin, DE
'Windows', Plattform, Basel, CH
'Art Dubai', art fair, Upstream Gallery booth, Dubai, UAE (duo)
'Art Rotterdam', art fair, Upstream Gallery booth, Rotterdam, NL
'Leap Second', Festival, online

2016

'Bring Your Own Beamer', Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, NL
commissioned art work, LIMA, Amsterdam
'Amsterdam Art Fair', booth Upstream Gallery, NL
'Monochrome', Société, Brussels, BE
'0/1 // assume both', Cimatics, Brussels, BE
'Electronic Superhighway', Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK
'Shifting Optics III', Upstream Gallery, Amsterdam, NL

'Gym of Obsolete Technology', W139, Amsterdam, NL

'Van Gogh Mini's', MOTI, Breda, NL

2015

'Veenkoloniën', public art commission, NL

'Platformas de la Imaginación', Ileon, Mexico City, MX

'Expeditie Land Art, Kunsthal KAdE, Amersfoort, NL

'Sublime Landscapes in Gaming', Rijksmuseum Twente, Enschede, NL

'Anonymous Materials', Ithaca, GR

'We Make Carpets & Jan Robert Leegte', Tetem, Enschede, NL (duo)

'Internet Yami-ichi / Black Market', De Brakke Grond, Amsterdam NL

'Conversation in Email Headers', work in commissioned series 'Mutti Sieht Alles!', SETUP, Utrecht, NL

2014

'non-art', 'Pixxelpoint' festival 2014, Nova Gorica, Slovenia (festival)

'Born Digital', MOTI museum, Den Bosch, NL

'Jan Robert Leegte', Cloaque (online)

'Internet Yami-ichi', iMal, Brussels BE

'Data Culture', New Horizons Festival, Rotterdam, NL

'Into Thin Words', Like a Little Disaster, Ventura Palace, Bari, IT

'KLAAR!', De Vishal en Oude Kerk, Haarlem, NL

'BrowserBased goes Hyperlocal!', Powera, Berlin, DE

'Out of Office', Matthew Britton (online)

'Net-Recycling', Nomade Art Space, Hangzhou, CH

'Born Digital', Link Art Center, Paddle8 (online)

'Rock, Paper, Scissors', Route Du Nord:Roodkapje, Rotterdam, NL

'HyperLocal', de Ruimte, Amsterdam, NL

2013

'New Collection', MOTI museum, Den Bosch, NL - acquisition of 'Remake of Robert Smithson's Spiral Jetty in MineCraft'

'Notes on a New Nature', Arti et Amicitiae, Amsterdam

'Show Off', Paris, FR

'Dutch Treat', Post DADA, Berlin, DE

'local non-access', KM Temporaer, Berlin, DE

'Sassy', Jaap Sleper Gallery, Utrecht

'You don't need to be a Sailer to find an Island', NNM gallery, Lima, PERU

'Young Internet Based Artists', Wrong Bienale Pavilion Anthony Antonellis (online)

2012

'Mostra Collettiva Edtiva', Bubblebyte,org

'Kunstvlaai', Attraction of the Opposites bay, Amsterdam

2011

'Attraction of the Opposites', Cukosa, Rotterdam (festival)

'Point of Presence', Truck Gallery, Calgary, CA

'Notes on a New Nature', 319 Scholes, NY, USA

'Six Degrees of Separation', CBK, Den Bosch, NL

Art Amsterdam Fair, Joey Ramone Gallery, Amsterdam

2010

Arti 10 Artfair, HB Galerie, Rotterdam, NL

'White, Yellow, Blue, and Black, one Coincidence, and one Object.', Galerija Galzenica, Velika, Croatia

Curatorial, research, advisory

2022

'Art and the Blockchain', co-curator at Rozenstraat 59

2021

'Cultural Matter', curatorial series, co-curator at LIMA

'The Digital Weird', guest-curator at arebyte, London

Mondrian Fund, Advisory committee member

2020

'Cultural Matter', curatorial series, co-curator at LIMA

Mondrian Fund, Advisory committee member

2019

'Cultural Matter', curatorial series, co-curator at LIMA

2018

'Cultural Matter', curatorial series, co-curator at LIMA

2017

'Cultural Matter', curatorial series, co-curator at LIMA

Researcher at 'Lectoraat Kunst Theorie & Praktijk', KABK, The Hague, NL

Stimuleringsfonds Digitale Cultuur, Advisory committee member

2016

Advisory committee future strategy STEIM foundation, STEIM, Amsterdam NL

Researcher at 'Lectoraat Kunst Theorie & Praktijk', KABK, The Hague, NL

2015

'The Lima Collection 2015 / medium specific', curator and presentation, LIMA, Amsterdam, NL

'Internet Yami-ichi / Black Market', curator at De Brakke Grond, Amsterdam, NL

'Post-Internet', mini symposium, curator / organizer at ArteEZ, Arnhem, NL

2014 – 2016

Game Fund, Advisory committee member

2014

'Data Culture', curator at New Horizons Festival, Rotterdam, NL

Creative Industries Fund E-culture, temporary advisor

2012 - current

'Browser Based', research group net related art www.browserbased.org

2010

research programme, lectoraat kunst in de publieke ruimte, Rietveld Academy, Amsterdam, NL

2008

'[Unfinished Business / Dutch Abstracts](#)', [Kunstverein Medienturm](#), Graz, AT (curator)

2005 - 2013

chairman of the curatorial commission Art et Amicitiae, Amsterdam, NL

2004

'[The Anatomy of the Now](#)', Arti et Amicitiae, Amsterdam, NL (curator)

Lectures, workshops, teaching

2022+ (Discontinues lectures due to amount)

2021

Guest advisor, Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunsten, Amsterdam, NL

2021

External assessor graduations DOGTime BA programme, Gerrit Rietveld Academy, Amsterdam, NL

2019

Artist talk, Media Art Meetup IV: Net Art, V2_, Rotterdam, NL

Guest Lecture, VAV faculty Gerrit Rietveld Academie, Amsterdam, NL

2018

Guest Lessons, DOGTime, Gerrit Rietveld Academy, Amsterdam, NL

Guest Lecture, VAV faculty Gerrit Rietveld Academie, Amsterdam, NL

Artist talk, Resonate Festival, Belgrade, RS

2017

Guest lecture, Worm, Rotterdam, NL

Guest Lecture, VAV faculty Gerrit Rietveld Academie, Amsterdam, NL

Artist talk, 'Sleep Mode', Het Nieuwe Instituut, Rotterdam, NL

2016

Artist Talk, 'LRLX', New York City, USA

Talk, UNFOLD #3 'Reinterpreting the Digital', LIMA, Amsterdam, NL

External assessor graduations MADTech MA programme, Frank Mohr Institute, Groningen, NL

Workshop 'Internet Art', Artscience faculty, KABK The Hague, NL

Masterclass 'Internet Art', Sinopia Art Consultancy, Amsterdam, NL

2015

Artist talk, MOTI museum, Den Bosch, NL

Artist talk, Showroom MaMa, Rotterdam, NL

Artist talk, 'InternationaI' Symposium, Rotterdam, NL

Artist talk, 'Post Internet' mini symposium, ArtEZ, Arnhem, NL

Masterclass 'Internet Art', Gerrit Rietveld Academy, NL

External assessor graduations Artscience BA and MA programme, The Hague, NL

2014 - 2022

tutor / lecturer, KABK Academy, The Hague, NL

2013 - 2022

tutor / lecturer, ArtEZ Academy, Arnhem, NL

2013

Artist talk, Setup, Utrecht, NL

'The Digital Space', curator workshop Gerrit Rietveld Academy

Grants, residencies, awards

2018

Artist in Residence, Somalgors74, CH

Grant project 'Fatschadas', Creative Industries Fund, NL

Artist in Residence, Artphy, Wessinghuizen, NL

Net based award 2018 nomination, House for Electronic Arts (HeK), Basel, CH

2017

Stipendium for Established Artists, Mondrian Fund, NL

2009

Artist in Residence, Künstlerhaus Buechsenhausen, Innsbruck, AT

2006

Artist in residence, ACAF, Alexandria, Egypt (funded by Mondrian Fund)

Project grant, Mondrian Fund, NL

2005

Artist in residence, MuseumQuartier, Vienna, AT (courtesy: MedienTurm)

2003

Startstipendium, Mondrian Fund, NL

Travelsubsidy, Mondrian Fund, NL (for Abstraction Now, Vienna)

Reviews, interviews and publications

2018 (discontinued reviews due to amount)

2017

'HTML is mijn steen en beitel', Lisa Vos, NRC-Handelsblad, NL

'Jan Robert Leegte beeldhouwt met het internet', Toon Heesakkers, creators.vice.com

'Sculpting the Internet', Het Parool, NL

2016

'Sculpting the Internet', Filippo Lorenzin, Furtherfield.org, UK

2015

'Negen kunstwerken over de natuur die je gezien moet hebben,...', Marian Cousijn, de Correspondent, NL

'Jan Robert Leegte', Juliet Art Magazine, IT

catalogue of 'The Electronic Superhighway', Omar Kholeif, Whitechapel Gallery

catalogue of 'Expeditie Land Art', Sandra Smalenburg, Kunsthal KAdE

'Rondleiding, Surf mee langs de beste internetkunst', Marian Cousijn, de Correspondent, NL

2013

'Jan-Robert Leegte: Minecraft', Maartje Knepper, Kunstbeeld

2012

'A quest for silence and bewilderment in Minecraft's vast expanses.', Annet Dekker, Metropolis M

'Negative Entropy: Jan Robert Leegte's Remake of Robert Smithson's Spiral Jetty in Minecraft', Giampaolo Bianconi, Rhizome.org

'An Interview with New Media Artist Jan Robert Leegte', Michelle Kasprzak, Akimbo.ca

2011

'Content, Form, Im-material', Cont3xt.net

2010

'The One Idea, One Result Method', Interview with Cont3xt.net