

1 BIO

Luxembourg based artist, Julie Wagener [*1990 - Bogotà, Colombia] , first started out as an illustrator. Soon the strictly commercial creation process felt artificial and passive and the need to develop personal projects and find new ways to work and create was gradually increasing. Eventually it was figurative painting that set the corner stone of a alternative visual language which articulates her confrontation with modern day society. Julie Wagener has since created a small put striking body of work that treats primarily subjects like mental health and the questioning of the concept of 'identity'.

EDUCATION	2003 2010	LYCÉE DES GARÇONS DE LUXEMBOURG Highschool / Gymnasium Graduation with focal point in arts
	2010 2013	ESA SAINT-LUC BRUXELLES BA Arts plastiques, visuels et de l'espace Graduation with focal point in illustration
SOLO EXHIBITONS	2020	SPHERES OF SILENCE Galerie Nei Liicht (LU)
	2022	WHERE IS THE LIGHT COMING FROM Reuter Bausch Art Gallery (LU)
GROUP EXHIBITONS SELECTION	2020	TRIENNALE JEUNE CREATION Casino - Forum d'Art Contemporain Luxembourg (LU)
	2021	SOFT AGITATORS Saarländische Galerie Berlin (D)
	2023	GROUP SHOW Reuter&Bausch Art Galery
DISTINCTIONS	2021	PRIX DE RÉVÉLATION grand financed by the Ministry of Culture (LU) and issued by the Cercle Artistique du Luxembourg
COLLECTIONS	2020	COMMUNE DE DUDELANGE (LU)
	2021	MUSÉE NATIONAL D'HISTOIRE DE L'ART (LU)
	2022	MINISTÈRE DE LA CULTURE (LU)
	2023	MUSÉES DE LA VILLE DE LUXEMBOURG
OTHERS	2021 - present	BOARD MEMBER OF THE AAPL (ASSOCIATION DES ARTISTES PLASTICIENS DU LUXEMBOURG)

2 ARTISTIC STATEMENT

I am interested in how the individual of the 21st century acquires its notions of self-awareness : the contextualisation of one's existence, the building of identity, and the forging of meaning. In this context, it is feelings of loneliness, distress, abandonment and alienation towards modern day society that represent the core subjects of my work.

Emotional detachment, apathy and feelings of helplessness are not rarely the reactions of a society stunned by the impact of geo-political, socio-economical and environmental emergencies. Living in a perpetual state of anxiety and existential dread is nothing uncommon and the people affected by depression, burn-out, anxiety disorders, substance abuse and suicidal thoughts, are documented in alarming numbers. Experienced by the masses but most of the time lived through alone, the symptoms of mental and physical exhaustion, isolation and despair remain signs of weakness in a system that glorifies the successful, productive and happy individual. The ongoing stigmatisation and the upkeep of taboos and clichés inside of society, reinforce feelings of guilt and solitude in affected people and consequently block the way towards dialogue, empathy, acceptance and, ultimately, change. Overall I seek to denounce a very specific aspect of a overall questionable capitalist consumer society.

My recent work translates these concerns into ambiguous representations and stagings of the human body. I provide minimal to no spatial context nor do I complete the storytelling by providing explicit narrative clues. Vulnerable, distant and tense, the portraits find themselves on the verge of anonymity - the individual is not attributed any specific characteristics as to make a broader dialogue possible which consequently makes the setting elude any specific interpretation. Opposing cold colours to a range of prominent reds and subtle greens, I put together disconcerting but nevertheless trivial scenes, which radiate a silent and underlying violence.

4 **PRESS** (selection)

- 2019** **ARTBOX** Sarah Rock, RTL
- 2020** **CONTRE LE TEMPS** Marianne Brausch, Lëtzebuerger Land
- 2020** **MIRAGE ET SILENCE** Marie-Anne Lorgé, Tageblatt
- 2020** **SPHERES OF SILENCE** Kerstin Thalau, 100komma7
- 2022** **WHERE IS THE LIGHT COMING FROM** Godefroy Gordet, culture.lu
- 2022** **OUT OF THE SOCIAL BODY** Lis Hausemener, Museomag

5 CONTACT INFO

POSTAL ADDRESS

Julie WAGENER
1535 Creative Hub
115 rue Emile Mark
Building C - Studio 206
L - 4620 Differdange
Luxembourg

EMAIL ADDRESS

info@juliewagener.com

WEBSITE

www.juliewagener.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

www.instagram.com/atelier.juliewagener

REPRESENTATION

Reuter-Bausch Art Gallery [LU]
www.reuterbausch.lu