

1 CV

Julie Wagener (*1990 - Bogotà, Colombia) , is a Luxembourgish artist who lives and works in Luxembourg. She first started out as an illustrator. Gradually the ambition to find new ways of expression and develop personal projects was increasing. It is figurative painting that sets the corner stone of an additional artistic practice which articulates her confrontation with contemporary society. Wagener's work primarily treats subjects like mental health and the correlation of 'the concept of well-being' and the perception of the self (*das Selbst-Verständnis*).

EDUCATION

2010
2013 **ESA SAINT-LUC BRUXELLES**
BA Arts plastiques, visuels et de l'espace
Graduation with focal point in illustration

SELECTED SHOWS AND PROJECTS

2025 **DUO SHOW with Arny Schmit** Reuter&Bausch Art Galery (LU)
2024 **LUXEMBOURG ART WEEK**
2023 **GROUP SHOW** Reuter&Bausch Art Galery (LU)
2022 **LUXEMBOURG ART WEEK**
2022 **WHERE IS THE LIGHT COMING FROM** Reuter Bausch Art Gallery (LU)
2021 **SOFT AGITATORS** Saarländische Galerie Berlin (D)
2020 **SPHERES OF SILENCE** Galerie Nei Liicht (LU)
2020 **TRIENNALE JEUNE CREATION** Casino - Forum d'Art Contemporain Luxembourg (LU)

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**

RESIDENCIES

2024 **Re : CONNECT** Abbaye Neumünster (LU)

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 contemporary 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 an 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. On the verge of anonymity the represented portraits or scenes do not are not attributed any identifying 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 seemingly trivial scenes, which radiate a silent and underlying violence.

4 PRESS SELECTION

- 2019** **ARTBOX** Sarah Rock, RTL
- 2020** **CONTRE LE TEMPS** Marianne Brausch, Lëtzebuenger 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
- 2024** **LE FABULEUX DESTIN DE ...** Sarah Braun, culture.lu

5 CONTACT INFO

POSTAL ADDRESS

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EMAIL ADDRESS

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WEBSITE

www.juliewagener.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

www.instagram.com/atelier.juliewagener

REPRESENTATION

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