

Gundega Strauberga (1996) is a Latvian photographer, filmmaker, designer and visual researcher, based in The Hague, Netherlands. She is a cross-disciplinary artist, merging her design education (*BA Design Academy Eindhoven 2016-2020*) with photography, research and visual storytelling (*MA "Photography & Society", KABK 2023-2025*). She has always been interested in how the appropriating and recontextualizing can offer new perspectives on what we think we already know. With these recurring tools and methods Gundega has been exploring an array of topics such as traditional crafts versus capitalistic values (*Budget Airlines: Cheap Destinations*), climate change and biblical narratives (*Poor Man's Bible*), the fuzzy distinctions between nature and culture (*Roses Are Blue, Violets Are Red: An Anthropocentric Arcadia*), and,

most recently, dancing on the margins of memory and imagination by exploring her capacity for self-narration driven by an absence of images (*Paper Pictures*).

What these case studies share is that they loosely fall into brackets of several themes, such as the *artifice, mythologies* (both personal and collective), and *critical nostalgia*. The current focus of her practice engages with the absence of personal archives and the complexities of memory, identity and photographic representation. Gundega's work has been exhibited in numerous museums and events across Europe, such as the Museum of World Cultures in Amsterdam, VanAbbe Museum, Milan Salone del Mobile, CentroCentro in Madrid, and more.

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## jobs

**2025** Art production for studio DRIFT and TEAL

**2025** Art direction and visuals for NONHUMAN NONSENSE

**2022-2023** Envisions Agency / Design research, editorial, visual content, exhibition production, art direction

**2021-2023** Yksi Expo / Art direction, curating

**2021** Dutch Invertuals / Design research, archiving & curating

**2020** Sophie Rowley / insternship

## education

**2023-2025** Royal Academy of Art, The Hague (KABK)

/ Photography & Society (MA)

**2016-2020** Design Academy Eindhoven

/ Bachelor of Arts and Design (BA)

**2012-2016** Riga School of Art and Design (RDMV)

## funding & awards

**2026** Shortlisted for Sonntag Grant for Photography

**2025** Latvian State Culture Capital Foundation (SCCF)

**2023** Culture Moves Europe grant by European Union and Goethe-Institut

**2023** Latvian State Culture Capital Foundation (SCCF)

**2022** Building Talent grant by Stimuleringsfonds Creatieve Industrie

## residencies & workshops

**2026** Utopias Lahti residency

/ by Utopias Lahti Festival, ISSP and NŌUA

**2025** TRACTS Audiovisual Remix

/ Film Essay workshop / Porto, Portugal

**2025** 'Dynamic Identities'

/ research project at Živi Atelje DK / Zagreb, HR

**2018** International Summer School of Design (MAD)

/ Sigulda, LV

## screenings

**2025** ROOTS Film Festival / "Paper Pictures: What Is The Lifespan of a Calendar?" film premiere / Filmhuis, Den Haag

## teaching

**2025** KABK Open Day educational activities

**2024** BA Photography KABK student mentor

**2021** MBO Koning Willem 1 College student coach

## initiatives

**2026** Svelme Sauna / with Ieva Jakusa

/ A Baltic sauna ritual and gathering space

**2025** SOFA TALK(S) / with Aline Papenheim

/ a platform for emerging & established creatives to network, share insights and pose questions about navigating today's creative economy / hosted at foundation FOTODOK

## talks / lectures

**2021** Creascope / talk for the workshop "How to start your sustainable business in the creative field"

**2020** WDE Talks at Pakhuis de Zwijger

/ interview and presentation of Beachcombers

## exhibitions

**2025** 'As Water Softens Stones' / graduation show

Royal Academy of Art The Hague, KABK / Den Haag, NL

**2025** 'Push, Pull, Shift' / results of a week-long research

project in a group exhibition at Živi Atelje DK / Zagreb, HR

**2024** '00:05:59' / group exhibition of projects made in

partnership with Doggerland Foundation, Paradise

/ Den Haag, NL

**2024** 'Fragments in Transit' / curating of a one-day group

exhibition by the MA "Photography & Society"

/ Thessaloniki, GR

**2024** 'Cheap Destinations' with Ieva Jakuša

/ Kim? Contemporary Art Centre / Rīga, LV

**2023** 'Roses Are Blue, Violets Are Red: An Anthropocentric

Arcadia' / Wereldmuseum Amsterdam / Amsterdam, NL

**2022** 'Beachcombers' at 'Dulce Agua' exhibition

/ CentroCentro / Madrid, ES

**2022** 'Beachcombers' at 'Tomorrow's Materials' exhibition

/ Brightlands Chemelot Campus / Geleen, NL

**2021** 'Cheap Destinations' for 'Geo Design: Budget Airlines'

with Ieva Jakuša / Van Abbe Museum / Eindhoven, NL

**2020** 'Poor Man's Bible' at 'Rethinking Plastic' exhibition

/ Yksi Expo / Eindhoven, NL

**2021** 'Beachcombers' at 'Missed Your Call' exhibition

/ Salone del Mobile / Milan, IT

**2021** 'Beachcombers' at Romanian Design Week

/ Combinatul Fondului Plastic / Bucharest, RO

**2021** 'Beachcombers' at 'Art & New Materials : Design for a

Better Future' exhibition / Museum De Domijnen / Sittard, NL

**2020** 'Beachcombers' at 'Rethinking Plastic' exhibition

/ Yksi Expo / Eindhoven, NL

**2020** 'Poor Man's Bible' at Dutch Design Week / online event

**2020** 'The Cabinet of Anthropogenic Specimens' at Rossana

Orlandi Guiltless Plastic Prize / Milano Design City / Milan, IT

**2019** 'We Dit It' for Benji Knewman x Nike design challenge /

Zuzeum Art Museum / Rīga, LV

**2019** 'Care Instructions' at 'Reframing Textiles' exhibition

/ Textile Museum Tilburg / Tilburg, NL

**2018** 'Kaas' at 'A Glimpse of Riga' exhibition

/ Quartair Contemporary Art Initiatives / Den Haag, NL

**2018** 'Franky Shop' at 'Manifestations' exhibition

/ Dutch Design Week / Eindhoven, NL

**2018** 'Common Roots' at 'Biomimicry' exhibition

/ Sigulda Castle Quarter / Sigulda, LV

**2018** 'Franky Shop' for 'Frankenstein, I Think Therefore I Am'

/ Museum TwentseWelle / Enschede, NL

**2016** 'Where Are My Flip-Flops?' / solo exhibition / Rīga, LV