

## BRITT KOOTSTRA

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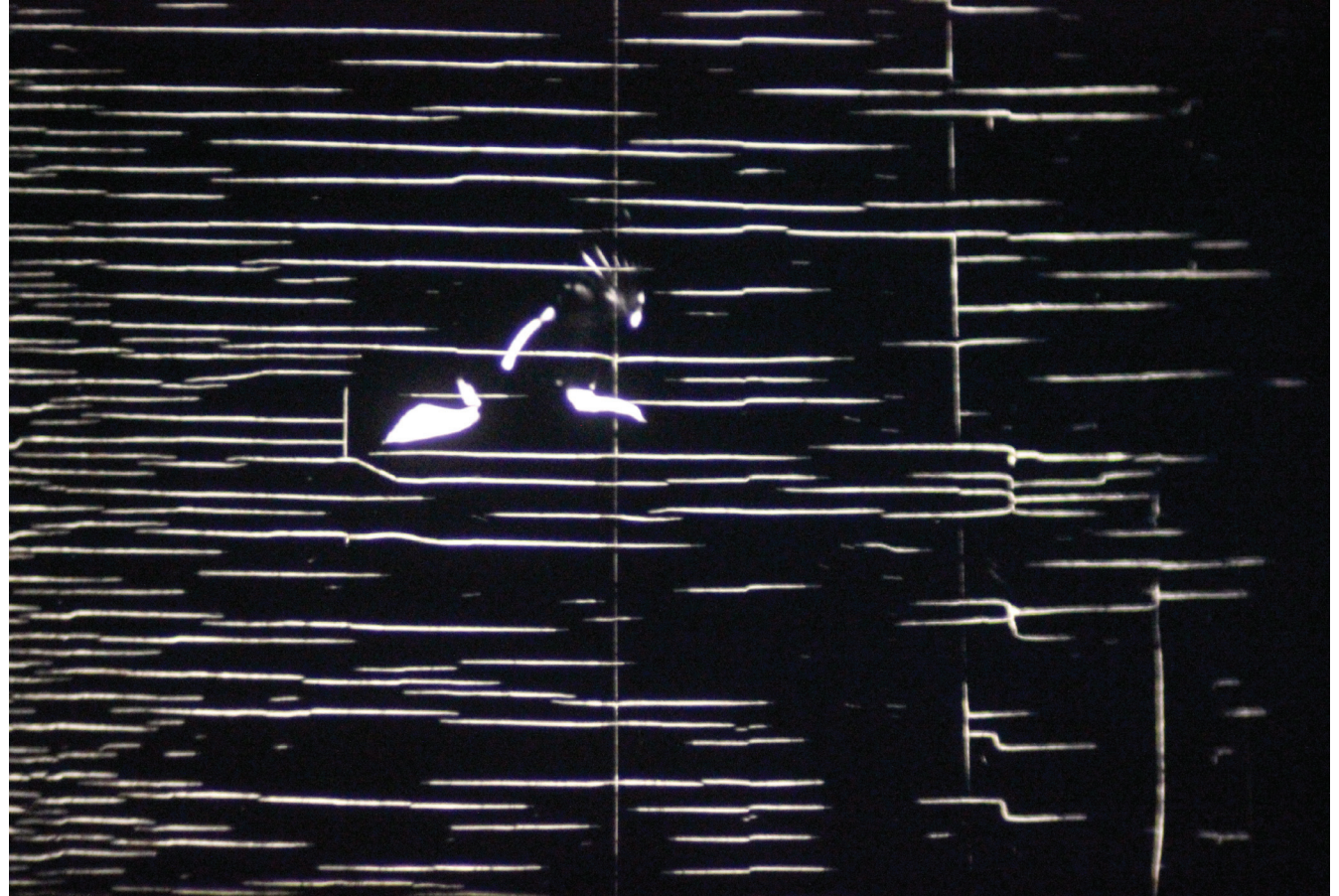
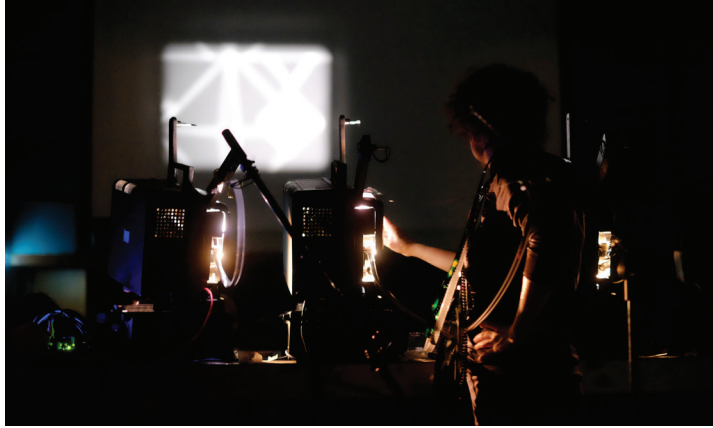
At times drawing from early film history, when film was above all a tribute and celebration of the medium itself, my works make use of the fact that film is both a concrete medium of colour, light and sound and an illusory vehicle for intangible concepts. I use the medium of analogue film for film installations, short films and live cinema performances.

Philosopher and sociologist Henri Lefèbvre (1901-1991) defined everyday life as the intersection of “illusion and truth, power and helplessness; the intersection of the sector man controls, and the sector he does not control”. Here a perpetually transformative tension occurs between different, at times incongruent and antagonistic rhythms: the body’s polymetric bundles of physiological rhythms, social rhythms, and customised rhythms. My works balance upon the above mentioned intersection.

My work invites the viewer to enter up a space of an elsewhere, that connects the ulterior to the interior. Where patterns are re-interpreted so that they connect the actual and the imagined, conventional truth and subjective experience, structure and agency.

My working method is defined by the experimental approach to narrative and non-narrative film making and different modes of representation. It elicits a radical restructuring of our experiences.

Nowadays, there seems but little space for an emergence of the other - a situation, a routine, a person that is different; a space for those who fail to fit in. The objective is to open up a third space, where the physicality of the medium and the ephemerality of concept are juxtaposed in equivalence. Taking apart the physical and conceptual elements of the medium film to create new cross connections. Revealing and unraveling the organism. An investigation into the perception of analogue film and the image’s surface.



## Northern Lights

Northern Lights is a live cinema performance, using 5 projectors and hand-processed and handmade 16 mm filmloops. Several filmloops run simultaneously on the projectors, together creating a cinemascope-shaped image. The sounds are generated by the optical soundtrack on the same filmloops. Sound is by Arvid van der Rijt. The performance is around 45 minutes long.

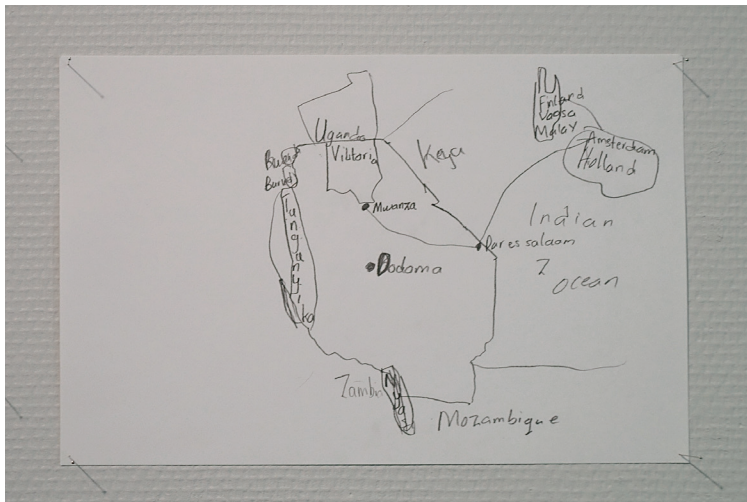
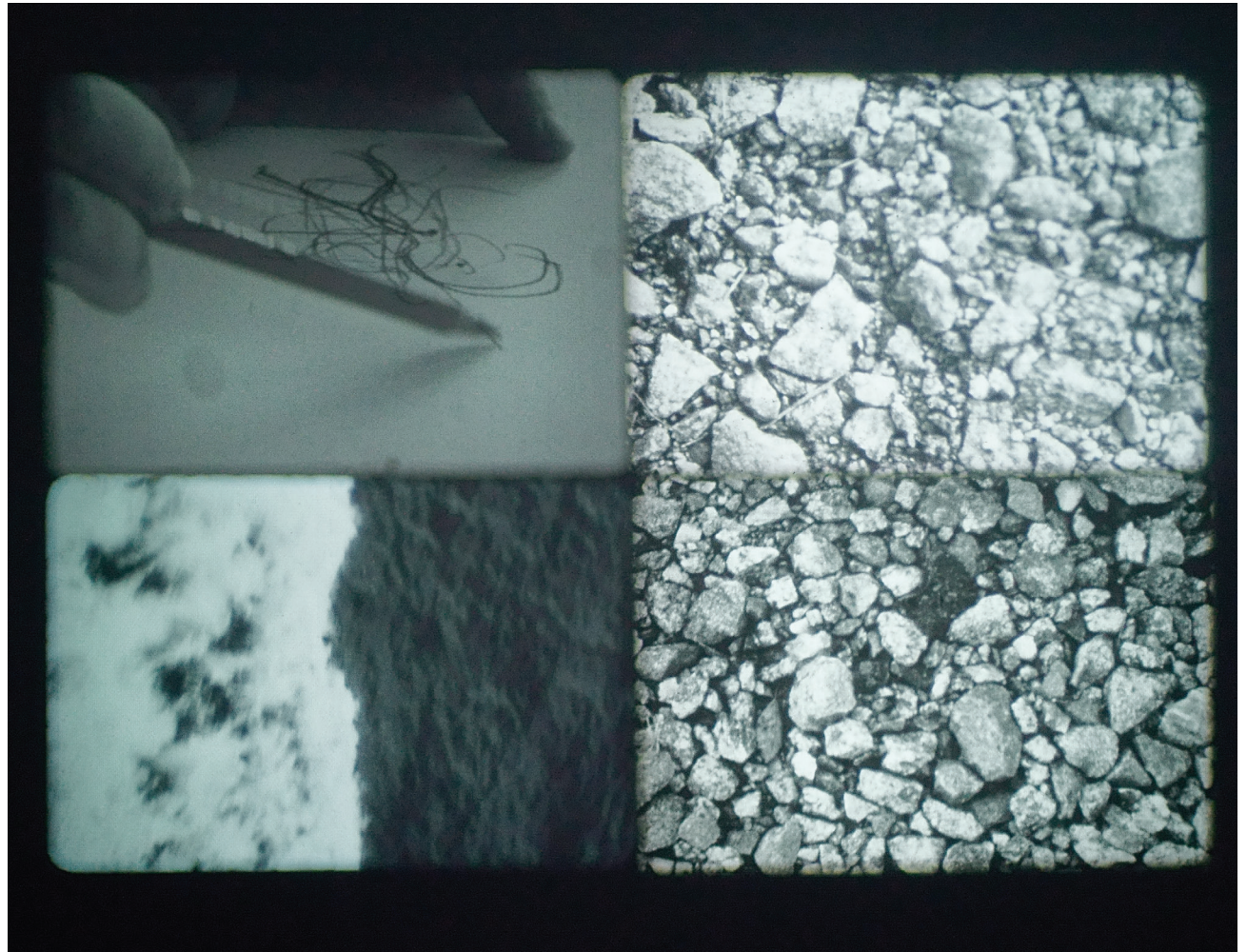
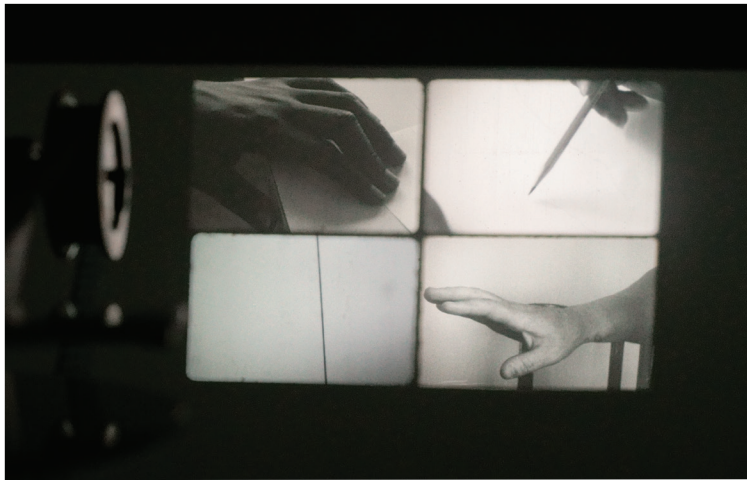
Black and white images of faintly recognisable things that we are surrounded by show themselves as we arrive in the dusk. Artificial lights arise and pop up in a dreamlike landscape of light and darkness.

From the pulsating filmloops, colours start to emerge from the black and white images.

The result is as mesmerising and hypnotizing as northern lights can be. As the last colours disappear, the lights fade away into the darkness again.

live cinema performance with 5 16mm filmprojectors and filmloops, sound,  
i.c.w. Arvid van der Rijt  
2014-2015





## Tracing Places

Tracing Places is a multi-layered project dealing with migratory movements across the globe.

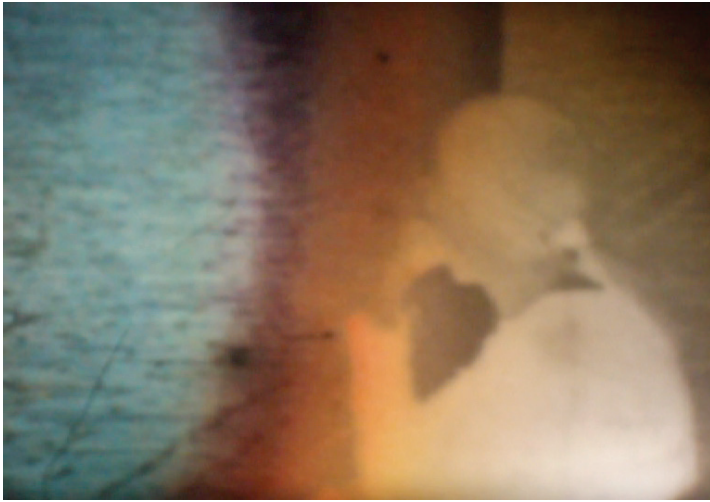
The film installation is a 4 channel 16mm film loop. Gestures of hands show routes and point out invisible places. Horizons and lines make marks in landscapes, just as a pencil makes it mark across a piece of paper. White noise is created by still images of the ground. The images alternate in sequences of various lengths. The film installation draws a parallel between individual gestures and marks on one hand and generic marks in the landscape on the other.

Migrants carefully reconstructed their trip to their current place of residence, elaborating into detail regarding their starting point, the route, the experiences they had on the trip and their first impression upon arrival. Their hand drawn maps show the unsuspected movements migrants make to end up in a specific place.

The map of the world reinterprets the individual maps and merges them into one. It defamiliarises our view on the traditional world map by showing an alternative based on individual recollections of travels.

filminstallation with 16mm filmloops, handdrawn maps, soundmosaic, map of the world  
i.c.w. Arvid van der Rijt  
2014





## One can see only what one already has seen

This multi-layered work deals with the basic movements and at the same time complex feelings, that tedium can evoke. Thereby reflecting on this state of being and questioning our perception.

The performance explores both the phenomenon of ennui and the concept of performance.

With the aid of an audio-guide the visitor perceives a number of performers and whilst re-negotiating the concept of performance turns into a performer himself.

The abstract concept of tedium becomes a person with a face.

The silent filmloop influences our direct point of focus and turns it towards transitory human rhythms.

The newspaper article is a performative text. It takes the reader on a journey into the illusion of the written word whilst at the same time reflecting on this transcendent experience.

performance for 4 performers, audioguide, super8 silent filmloop, text  
2013

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### EDUCATION

2002\_2004 MFA Fine Arts, Sandberg Institute, Amsterdam, NL  
1998\_2001 BFA Mixed Media, AKI Art Academy, Enschede, NL  
1996\_2001 BFA Teaching degree Fine Art and Art History, AHK, Amsterdam, NL

### SELECTED EXHIBITIONS/SCREENINGS

2016 *Ann Arbor Filmfestival, Ann Arbor, USA*  
2015 *L'Alternativa Independent Filmfestival, Barcelona, ES*  
2015 *Mänttä Art Festival, Mänttä, FI*  
2015 Red Spot, Supermarket Art Fair, Stockholm, SE  
2014 Bothnia Biennale, Vaasa City Art Hall, FI  
2014 AAVE Festival, Helsinki, FI  
2014 Supermarket Art Fair, Stockholm, SE  
2013 Pixels&Presence, Vaasa City Art Hall/ Eskus Helsinki, FI  
2013 October Filmfest, Ritz, Vaasa, FI  
2013 Toronto Urban Film Festival, CA  
2013 Spotlight, Galleri GRO, Jakobstad, FI  
2012 Schmalfilmtage Revisited, Dresden, DE  
2012 Pixel, YLE Fem, FI  
2011 Film Anarchy, 25FPS, Zagreb, HR  
2010 Dancing 3, Suburban Video Lounge, Rotterdam, NL  
2010 Sound of Shadow, Ketelhuis, Amsterdam, NL  
2010 Ö, Vaasa City Art Hall/ Elverket, Ekenäs, FI  
2010 International Film Festival Rotterdam, NL  
2009 Performance Art Event, Wolfart Projectspace, NL  
2009 Film Front Festival, Gorcums Museum, NL  
2008 Salford Filmfestival, UK  
2008 Straight 08, Kino International, Berlin, DE  
2008 One Minute Film&Video Festival, Aarau, CH  
2008 Open Air Filmfest Weiterstadt, DE  
2008 Dresdner Schmalfilmtage, DE  
2008 Niemand is ooit verdwaald, P/////AKT, NL

### GRANTS

2015 projectgrant Konstsamfundet  
2014 projectgrant Arts Promotion Centre Finland  
2014 projectgrant Svenska Kulturfonden  
2014 working grant Regional Arts Centre Ostrobothnia  
2013 projectgrant Svensk-Österbottniska Samfundet  
2010 projectgrant Svenska Kulturfonden

### MEMBERSHIPS

artist association MUU ry, Platform ry, Dots: association for audiovisual art

### DISTRIBUTION

Filmbank, Amsterdam, NL