

PEQUOD CO.

Ana Navas
Quito, 1984

Lives and works in Rotterdam.

Ana Navas' practice is a combination of various art forms, including sculpture, video, painting, and performance. In doing so, it focuses on user, design, and art objects in the broadest sense of the word. As a sort of researcher, she explores the genealogy – the origin and development history – of such objects. She uses both a historical and a fictional approach to raise questions about the relationship between form and function and between "original" and "copy" of objects. In humorous and inventive ways Ana Navas shows that what we are – or better what we are required to be – is constructed and communicated through simple and seemingly inoffensive objects and behaviors. How is it possible that an object, such as an ironing board, is anchored in the collective memory of millions of people around the world? And how does the meaning of universal forms change in different contexts? According to Navas, this subject is important for artists and the process of creating art and design works. Where do makers get their inspiration and creativity from? To what extent is it possible to come up with an object or idea entirely on your own? Or are they by definition merged elements of things that you have seen before? And if so, to what extent can you actually claim that something is your idea?

In addition, Navas investigates how art is perceived outside the art context and where visual arts and disciplines such as design, ethnography, fashion, decoration and the relationship between "high" and "popular" culture touch each other and make connections with each other. Who decides whether an object is a piece of art, craft industry, or trivial decoration?

She attended the Staatliche Akademie der Bildenden Künste in Karlsruhe, where she graduated as a Meisterschülerin (MA) with Franz Ackermann.

She then was a resident at De Ateliers Amsterdam and has done many residency programs including Vila Sul-Goethe Institute, Salvador de Bahia; FLORA Ars+Natura (through a Mondriaan Fonds grant), Bogota; Charco-Granero (edition curated by Manuela Moscoso), León, Guanajuato; Foundation Fiminco, Romainville-Paris.

In 2022 she received the illySustainArt during ARCOMadrid; for 2020 she was granted the NN Group Art Award (Netherlands) and in 2018 the Kunstfonds Germany and the Kunstakademie Karlsruhe awarded her with the Kalinowski Prize. She has received the fellowships of Kunststiftung Baden-Württemberg and the Landesgraduiertenförderung Baden-Württemberg.

Her work has been widely exhibited in Latin America and Europe, in places such as: Liverpool Biennial, Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden; Galerie der Stadt, Sindelfingen; P/////AKT, Platform for contemporary Art, Amsterdam; El cuarto de máquinas, México City; Cobra Museum, Amstelveen; Nest, The Hague; Sperling, Munich, among others. By the end of 2022 she will be participating at the biennial show of the Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam *Proposals for Municipal Art Acquisitions 2022*.

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Studies

Master's degree in Fine Arts, Academy of Fine Arts Karlsruhe, 2010 - 2011, Karlsruhe, Germany
Bachelor in Fine Arts (Diploma), Academy of Fine Arts Karlsruhe, 2004 - 2010, Karlsruhe, Germany

Solo shows

2025

Amuleto, Crisis, Lima, Peru

2024

Dear Awkwardness, Park, Tillburg, The Netherlands
A Veil as a Glaze, Oude Kerk, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

2023

Altered heroes, Manifold Books, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Cuando las nubes eran las olas, with Mirtru Escalona-Mijares, commissioned by the Alexander Calder Foundation, EMPAC Concert Hall, New York, USA

2022

Zigzag & other Ws, Sperling, Munich, Germany

2021

Aura significa soplo, curated by Fabiola Iza, Pequod Co., Mexico City, Mexico

2020

Caracol, Sagrada Mercancía, Santiago de Chile, Chile

2019

El barro, la culebra y sus principios, Crisis, Lima, Peru
To Roll (One's) Sleeves Up, Tegenboschvavreden, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Ich traute mich, sie zurückzugeben, weil sie nich bissfest waren, Sperling, Munich, Germany
Rarely True, De Nederlandsche Bank, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
13 Is a Lucky Number, SCHUNCK*, Heerlen, The Netherlands
Sumas y restas (in collaboration with Kiko Pérez), Instituto Cultural de León, León, Mexico

2018

Medias de repuesto en gaveta de escritorio, Ladrón, Mexico City, Mexico
To Cut One's Hair by the Moon, Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden 45cbm, Baden-Baden, Germany
NAP II (in collaboration with Nadia Naveau), Tegenboschvavreden, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

2017

I Had to Think of You, Galerie der Stadt Sindelfingen, Sindelfingen, Germany

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Amethyst Babyccino (in collaboration with Daniela Baldelli), Rinomina, Paris, France

2016

Placing a Mirror at the Entry Area Is a Gracious Way to Welcome Wealth In, P/////AKT, Platform for contemporary art, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

A fake crocodile can make you cry real tears, NIXON, Mexico City, Mexico

2015

Sometimes, When I Am Alone, I Use Comic Sans, Tegenboschvavreden, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Ornament (?), *Made of Feathers*, *String*, *Stride On Projects*, Karlsruhe, Germany

2014

Offspring 2014, De Ateliers, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

I Don't Care if This Has Been Standing Here For Centuries, It's Ruining My Zen Garden, Kunststiftung Baden-Württemberg, Stuttgart, Germany

Group shows

2024

Two To Tango, Sperling, Munich, Germany

Reproductive Matters, Künstler: innenhaus, Bremen, Germany

2023

You're gonna need a bigger boat: echoes of future identities, tegenboschvanvreden, Amsterdam, Netherlands

First Impressions, Gastatelier Leo XIII, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

mano a mano, tegenboschvanvreden and Galerie Onrust, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

When Things Are Beings, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands

2022

Proposals for Municipal Art Acquisitions 2022, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Las ConSuelos, in collaboration with Sofia de Grenade and Sarina Scheidegger, Ausstellungsraum Klingental, Basel, Switzerland

Transferring Cultures into Bodies, tegenboschvanvreden, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

State of Cling, omstand, Arnhem, The Netherlands

2021

Trojan Taco, curated by Marisol Rodríguez, Espacio Temporal, Pantin, France

Pleins Feux!, Fondation Fiminco, Paris, France

Ablar ha defesios, hablar adefesios, defesios ablar ha, collective invocation by Víctor Palacios, Pequod Co., Mexico City, Mexico

/// She Spins the Thread, She Measures the Thread, She Cuts the Thread, NEST, The Hague, The Netherlands

2020

Etwas mehr als Arbeit, Kunstverein Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany

Al aire, libre (curated by Tiago Pinto), online project

2019

El Nudo, Carreras Mugica, Bilbao, Spain

Yoga to Go, Die Putte, Ulm, Germany

2018

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Justo x Bueno, Binario, Bogota, Colombia
NAP II (in collaboration with Nadia Naveau), Tegenboschvavreden, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Kiosko, Fundación Alumnos 47, Mexico City, Mexico
Callar la protesta, La Fortaleza, Mexico City, Mexico
Still Water. Politiken des Wassers, Hospitalhof Stuttgart, Stuttgart, Germany
Primitivo fallido, Los 14, Mexico City, Mexico

2017

15 / Love, De School, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Humble, Garage, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Espejo negro, elefante blanco, El cuarto de máquinas, Mexico City, Mexico
Correspondencias de Ultramar #4, Sala Mendoza, Caracas, Venezuela
Amethyst Babyccino (in collaboration with Daniela Baldelli), Rinomina, Paris, France
Puras cosas nuevas, Pantalla Blanca, Mexico City, Mexico
Breve, Abra Caracas, Caracas, Venezuela

2016

Early Spring, Gallery Tegenboschvavreden, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Apartment Group Show, Apartment_19, Karlsruhe, Germany
Rompeflasche, Centro de Arte Contemporáneo, Quito, Ecuador
15 años de intercambio, ENPEG La Esmeralda, Mexico City, Mexico
St: rung, Akku, Stuttgart, Germany

2015

Objects Foods Rooms, Galería Proyecto Paralelo, Mexico City, Mexico
Velada de Santa Lucía Remix, Hamburg, Germany
Salón de Jóvenes con FIA XVIII, Centro de Arte Los Galpones, Caracas, Venezuela
Tofu Absorbs Flavor (a project by Daniel Jacoby and Gerard Ortín), Gallery Sabot, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
New Harmony (in collaboration with Sara Wahl), Im Hinterzimmer, Karlsruhe, Germany

2014

Eau de Cologne, Kunstverein Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
The Hidden Picture, Cobra Museum Amstelveen, Amstelveen, The Netherlands
Summer In the City, Gallery Tegenboschvavreden, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Easily Broken, Gallery Tegenboschvavreden, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Fairs

2025

BEDROCK, Liverpool Biennial, Liverpool, England

2024

Material Art Fair, Mexico City, Mexico

2023

Art Cologne, Cologne, Germany
Material Art Fair, Mexico City, Mexico

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2022

Estación Material Guadalajara Vol. 2, Guadalajara, Mexico

The Armory Show in collaboration with Leo Marz, Pequod Co., Javits Center, New York, USA

2021

Liste Art Fair, Basel, Switzerland

Residencies

2023, MAKE Eindhoven in alliance with Mondriaan Fonds, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

2020-2021, Fondation Fiminc, Romainville, France

2020, Sagrada Mercancía, Santiago de Chile, Chile

2019, Granero—CHARCO, Leon, Mexico

2019, EMPAC—Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (research residency), New York, USA

2019, SCHUNCK (with the support Mondriaan Fonds), Heerlen, The Netherlands

2018, Escuela Flora Arts Natura (with the support Mondriaan Fonds), Bogota, Colombia

2017, Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris, France

2016, Goethe Institut, Salvador de Bahía, Brazil

2015, Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores, Mexico City, Mexico

2015, CEAAC (Centre Européen d'Actions Artistiques Contemporaines), Strasbourg, France

2012-2014, De Ateliers, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

2012, Forumkunst, Regional Council's Art Grant, Karlsruhe, Germany

Grants and awards

2022, XV illySustainArt Prize Award, illycaffè for artists at ARCOMadrid, Spain

2020, NN Art Award, NN Group, The Netherlands

2018, Kalinowski Grant, Stiftung Kunstfonds, Germany

2015, Salón de Jóvenes con FIA XVIII (Honorable Mention), Caracas, Venezuela

2014, Stipend of the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, Denmark

2014, Stipend of the Kunststiftung Baden-Württemberg, Stuttgart, Germany

2011, Stipend of the Landesgraduiertenförderung Baden-Württemberg, Stuttgart, Germany

2010, Fondo Nacional para la Cultura y las Artes, Oaxaca, Mexico

Publications

Tiene palabras, ella (co-authorship with Sarina Scheidegger), ESPAC, 2020

A fake crocodile can make you cry real tears, CEAAC, 2016

Collections

Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Kadist, France

De Nederlandsche Bank, Netherlands

ABN Ambro, Netherlands

LAM Museum, Netherlands

Akzo Nobel Art Foundation, Netherlands

Kunstsammlung des Landes Baden-Württemberg, Germany