

ARTIST STATEMENT

By Eva Schippers [update jan 2024]

1. *I love to make things.*

2. As an artist I make things. Objects, tools or spaces. The function as a stage or a backdrop to stand in front of [alone or in a group], searching for ways to address and engage the audience: Never by force, always as a proposition.

3. As a performer I make connections between various images, actions and objects and whatever medium is necessary to talk about humanity, our possibilities and our strategies. To seek with others to depart from a space of connection, together.

4. I use the future as a space of possibilities, a space for other ideas, people as a group that has overcome issues that form our reality here and now. A space to keep the imagination going. A space that keeps you on your toes, always ask yourself, never assume you already know. As Hannah Arendt said, never get into a dialogue if you already know the outcome. not divided because we want to keep our individuality, not being separated by language or cultural background, honestly trying to learn from each other and don't be afraid to change your own opinions.

Last 10 years I have been using the notion of emergency situations, because this shows people in a different light, like you are picked up for a moment, and everything is different, enlarged, important. Can you act? Did you ever experience an accident? To discuss these kind of situations I used recognizable materials, think of red and white barrier tape, sirens, inflatable objects like airbags.

Recently I have realized that emergency was actually a personal desire, a desire to feel emergent, lifted up, something to fight for, to be relentless as an artist. The Netherlands, in all its assumed safety, made it difficult to really experience and be passionate. Since the recent events in the world I don't search for this emergency anymore, it is here and I am a deeply worried citizen. In this process of understanding I have found my own emergency:

As an artist I love to make things, as a performer I use these things or spaces to propose a dialogue with the other. In this dialogue I use my own experiences as a worried citizen about feeling urgent. I get inspired by the potentiality of the future.