

Nina De Vroome (NL, 1989)

www.ninadevroome.be

You receive images and meanings which are arranged. Nina de Vroome is Dutch artist, filmmaker, teacher and author. She studied film at KASK / School of Arts Ghent and graduated with *Waves* (2013). Her filmography includes *Een idee van de zee [A Sea Change]* (2016) and *Het geluk van honden [A Dog's Luck]* (2018). Her films were shown at international festivals such as Visions du Réel and International Film Festival Rotterdam. She is a writer and editor for the Sabzian platform. As a teacher she is involved in various educational projects.

As a visual artist she makes collages. Her collages are simple, often combining a handful of cut-outs. With her visual collages she tries to change understandings and interpretations. De Vroome believes that all images already contain a set of meanings. These meanings are arranged and have intentions. Making collages can break the individual meanings. Doing so she evokes new layers of interpretation. She is intrigued with history and sciences, but also with the contemporary global world. Often her collages have historic elements in environments constructed by humans.

De Vroome also engages in collaborations as a sound engineer and editor. She lives and works in Brussels (BE).

ABOUT THE WORK

'Akenaton' (2015)

41,5cm x 35,5cm x 3,0cm

Cut-out paper, glue, custom oak frame by Atelier Derycke

When De Vroome starts working on a new collage she often flips to various old books. The photos, drawings and images are rapidly tearing past. After a while she stops. The images that she remember or that come back into her mind are special. These images need to be combined. They have a connection and it is merely her job to visualise this connection.

The Akenaton collage is a journey, a small act of time-travelling. The collage itself is something impossible: one image is the surface of the moon, a photo from an old history book and the second image is a stèle - a giant Egyptian sandstone depicting the father of Toetanchamon with his family. Intriguing fact is the similarity in the texture and surface of the sandstone and the moon-surface. If we take a closer look to the stèle we can see a carved sun in the right corner. The sun in Ancient Egyptian was the most important object and deity. Ra himself was the guardian of the sun. Khonsu was the Moon-god. And just like yin-yang in Ancient China, Ra and Khonsu too were connected. From a scientific perspective this makes sense too: the moon is a rock and does not produce warmth and light. It borrows light from the sun. In reality they are also intertwined.