

From Rotterdam to New York: a self-built taxi aiming to cross the Atlantic for music, stories, and encounters.



photo: Jip Moeken (*New York Taxi*, King's Day, Heemraadsplein, Rotterdam, 2025)

NY Taxi (2021–ongoing)
Steel, aluminum, car parts. 500 × 190 × 160 cm.

Portfolio Rowan van As, 2025

Rowan van As (b. 1991, Goes, NL) is a visual artist based in Rotterdam.

He transforms real-life materials and experiences into works that merge sculpture, performance, and encounter. Mixing humor with everyday reality, his projects range from playful sound experiments to large-scale works like a self-built New York taxi.

Recent exhibitions include Arti et Amicitiae (Amsterdam), Statens Museum for Kunst (Copenhagen), and Brutus (Rotterdam).



Contact:

asvanas@gmail.com

+31 6 36 30 52 27

www.rowanvanas.nl



photo: Aad Hoogendoorn (Petromelancholia, Brutus, 2023)

New York Taxi (2021–ongoing) Replica of a classic New York taxi built in Rotterdam.

NEW YORK TAXI (2021–ongoing)

Steel, aluminum, car parts, 500 × 190 × 160 cm

From Rotterdam to New York: Rowan van As has built a fully functional replica of a 1960–90s New York taxi from steel and aluminum. The plan is to take it across the Atlantic as a moving stage for stories and music, leading to a film inspired by *Space is the Place*, *Taxi Driver*, and *Night on Earth*.



The taxi in an early stage, RoRo Buiten, 2019



photos: Florian Cramer (Brutus performance, 2023) and Jacqueline Fuijkschot



photos: Florian Cramer (Wild summer of art, Brutus, 2022)

Dizzy's Trumpet (2022) Large-scale tribute to Dizzy Gillespie's iconic bent trumpet.

DIZZY'S TRUMPET (2022)

Foam, PVC, discarded cooking oil cans, 250 × 150 × 100 cm

A large-scale tribute to Dizzy Gillespie's legendary bent trumpet, recreated in foam, PVC, and metal from discarded cooking oil cans. A playful homage to jazz history and the multicultural spirit of Rotterdam.





photos: Alena Schmick

East Village View Fruit Exchange (2017) Installation inspired by a found photo of an old New York deli & fruit store.

EAST VILLAGE VIEW FRUIT EXCHANGE (2017)

Wood, cardboard, real fruit, 300 × 250 × 200 cm

An installation based on a found photo of an old New York deli and fruit store, built from wood, cardboard, and real fruit. Characters like the Newspaper Boy and the Ultra-Orthodox Jew appeared during the live show, playfully comparing Antwerp to New York. Afterward, all the fruit was given away, returning the project's budget to the city.



ANTWERP CITY YOUR SO PRITTY (2015)

Foam, wood, acrylic resin, musical instruments, 150 × 100 cm × 60 cm

A street performance in Antwerp with a mussel-shaped piano playing Antwerp City, a song about beauty and decay. Inspired by Istanbul's mussel vendors and my Zeeland roots, a region famed for mussels, the work brought music to city crossroads amid passing cars.



SCREAMING SEAGULLS (2013)

Found objects, recliner chair, acrylic on wood panel, 200 × 120 × 60 cm

A worn 1990s recliner with a decaying base that screeched like seagulls inspired a painted childhood beach memory, linked to the chair in a playful audiovisual assemblage.



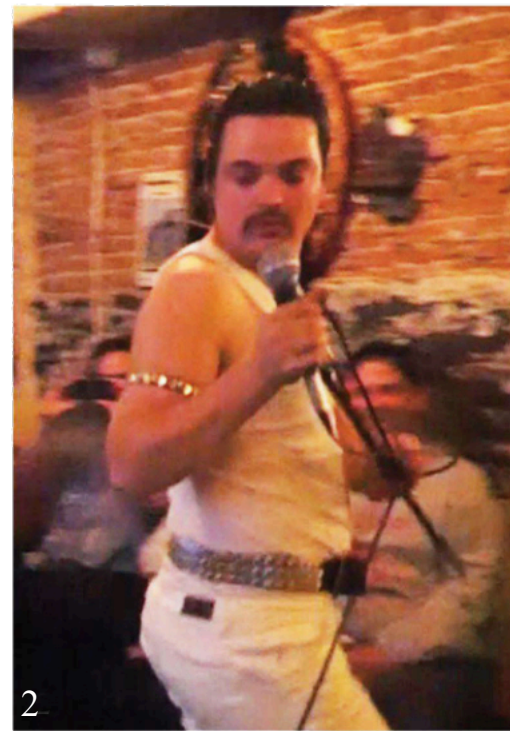


TOP GUN (2024) Live at MURF/MURW Festival, Theater De Nieuwe Vorst, Tilburg, mock-up of the film and commentary on American propaganda.

PERFORMANCES

Selection

1. *Gabberpipi*, 2019
2. *Freddie Mercury*, 2018
3. *Taxi Jamsession, Brutus*, 2023
4. *Angel dust (Correct)*, 2019
5. *Noise act with piezo-mic*, 2025
6. *Zware Noten, Roodkapje*, 2025
7. *Performance at Extrapool*, 2023
8. *Goodiepal & Pals*, touring, 2018



SMALL TALK AT THE KRUISKADE (2023)

A Costume is Music — Sun Ra

A street performance for Charlois Fashion Week (initiated by Nada van Dalen) with costumes inspired by Rotterdam's multicultural Kruiskade. From the 2018 *Fernandes Suit* to the handmade *SPAM Costume*, the series blends *soul-food*, humor, and digital culture.





*Small Talk at the Kruiskade
A Costume is Music*



photos: Jip Moeken and
Hessel Stuut

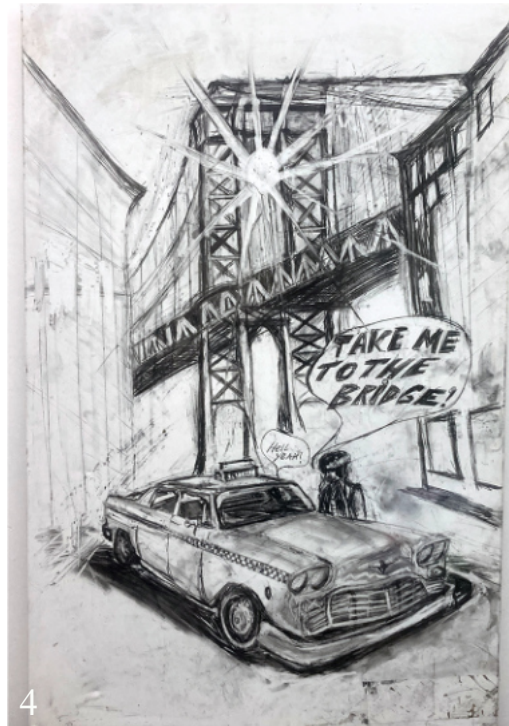
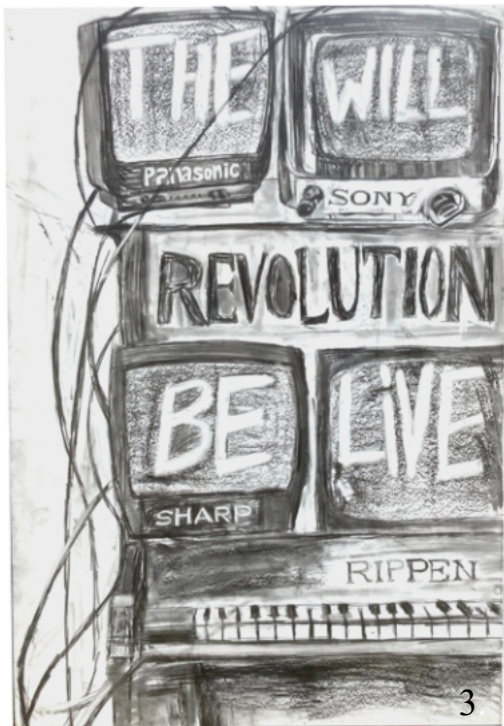


RECENT WORKS

1. *We're the flowers in the bin*, 2024
2. *The little Earth*, 2025

Graphite stick on old refrigerator doors (photos 3, 4, 5)

3. *The revolution will be live*, 2025
4. *Take me to the bridge*, 2024
5. *Prins Gold Jewelry*, 2024



VARIOUS EXHIBITIONS

Selection

Collective (photos 1, 2, 3)

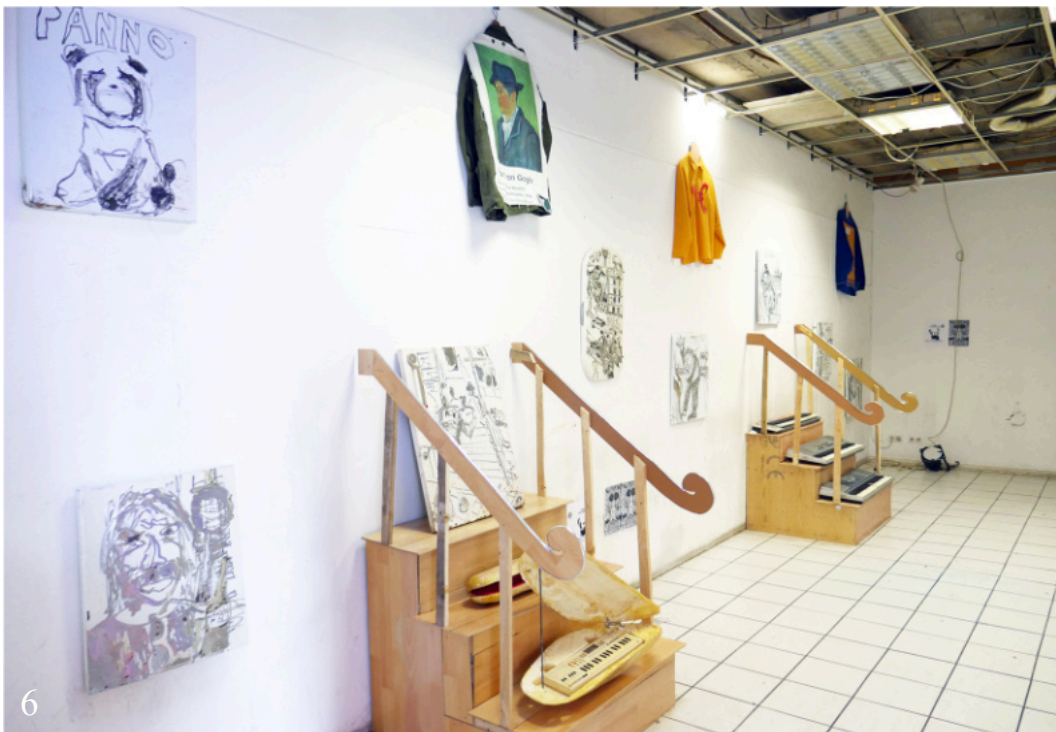
With Frank Koolen, Mike Moonen, Vincent Bijleveld and Thijs Franssen.

1. *Houd Moed*, SIGN projectspace, Groningen, 2016
2. *Altijd Wat*, B32, Maastricht, 2014
3. *Geniet er van*, Kunstpodium T, Tilburg, 2020

Other exhibitions, (next page)

4. Recidency 'Wearables', SIGN, Groningen, 2022
5. *Unboxing the Goodiepal collection*, SMK, Copenhagen, 2020
6. *Stop, Look, Listen*, (Solo) West-Germany, Berlin, 2019
7. *Everything is on the one*, Arti et Amicitiae, Amsterdam, 2024





FROM THE ARCHIVE

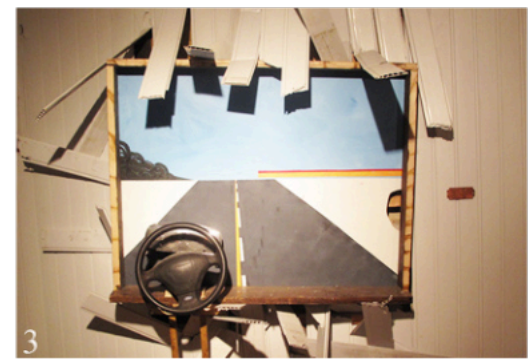
1. *Straathelden 010*, 2011
2. *The inactive hand*, 2014
3. *Outrun*, 2013
4. *Sunny side up*, 2013
5. *Donutface*, 2013
6. *Wes' Quarted of Queer*, 2011
7. *Ship of Babylon*, 2016
8. *Streetprojector*, 2014



1



2



3



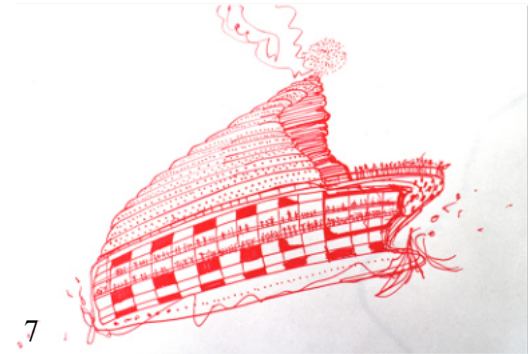
4



5



6



7



8

ROWAN ARAN VAN AS

www.rowanvanas.com

asvanas@gmail.com

[@rowanvanas](#) (Instagram)