

Curriculum Vitae Ellen Spijkstra

Born: 1957, Hattem, the Netherlands. Has been living and working in Curaçao since 1980 (1985-1986, USA)
www.ellenspijkstra.com

EDUCATION:

- 1989-1991 New York Institute of Photography (correspondence course)
1985-1986 School for American Craftsman of the Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY, USA
1974-1979 Academy Minerva, School for Fine Arts and Design, Groningen, The Netherlands

Member of the International Academy of Ceramics AIC-IAC



Recipient of the Premio Cola Debrot 2023

EXHIBITIONS (selected):

SOLO

- | | | |
|---------------|--|--------------------|
| 2019 | Ellen Spijkstra - An artistic journey, Het Curaçaosch Museum | Curaçao |
| 2015/18/21/24 | Open Atelier Route, Studio Girouette | Curaçao |
| 2013 | Oud en Nieuw, Avila Beach Hotel | Curaçao |
| 2009 | Met Huid en Haar, Art Studio Insight Gallery | Aruba |
| 2009 | Ellen Spijkstra, Photography and Ceramics, Galerie Taptoe , Brussels | Belgium |
| 2008 | Global Local, Galerie Bloemhof | Curaçao |
| 2008 | Imágenes de Curazao, Photoimagen, The French Embassy Gallery , Santo Domingo | Dominican Republic |
| 2006 | Ellen Spijkstra, Blow-up Gallery , Amsterdam | Netherlands |
| 2005 | Baranka Korsou, Gallery Alma Blou | Curaçao |
| 2005 | Waterwerk, Het Curaçaosch Museum | Curaçao |
| 2004 | Waterwerk, Dutch Maritime Museum , Amsterdam | Netherlands |
| 2003 | Passage of time, Art Studio Insight Gallery | Aruba |
| 2000 | Curaçao Harbor Tour, Maritiem Museum Curaçao | Curaçao |
| 1993 | Lustrum Prijs, Het Curaçaosch Museum | Curaçao |
| 1989 | De Ellen Spijkstra, Ceramista Holandesa, residenciada en Curacao, Taller Escuela Arte Fuego , Caracas | Venezuela |
| 1988 | Ceramic sculptures and photographs, Het Curaçaosch Museum | Curaçao |

GROUP

- | | | |
|---------|---|--------------------|
| 2026 | Latin American and Caribbean Exhibition, Grand Bowl , Jingdezhen | China |
| 2025 | Zwarte Pracht, Beeldende kracht uit de Cariben, Slot Zeist , Zeist | Netherlands |
| 2025 | Curaçao-Turkey, Passage Gallery of the Yasar University , Izmir | Turkey |
| 2024 | A-Z, Landhuis Bloemhof | Curaçao |
| 2023 | Sorry, Landhuis Bloemhof | Curaçao |
| 2023 | Dynamics in Ceramics, Zanolino Gallery | Curaçao |
| 2022 | Virtual show AIC-IAC Members Best 2022 https://assets.artplacer.com/virtual-exhibitions/?i=4662# | |
| 2022 | Photography. People Architecture Nature, Landhuis Bloemhof | Curaçao |
| 2021 | Art for the Senses, 25th anniversary exhibition Gallery Alma Blou | Curaçao |
| 2020 | work on permanent display in the Cathedral of Thorns of Herman van Bergen | Curaçao |
| 2019 | Traveling exhibition: Relational Undercurrents: Contemporary Art of the Caribbean Archipelago, Delaware Art Museum , Wilmington, DE | USA |
| 2019 | idem, Portland Museum of Art , Portland, ME | USA |
| 2018/19 | idem, Patricia and Philip Frost Art Museum FIU , Miami, FL | USA |
| 2018 | idem, Wallach Art Gallery , New York, NY | USA |
| 2018 | AIC Members' Thematic Exhibition New Orientalia, New Taipei City Yingge Ceramics Museum , Yingge | Taiwan |
| 2017 | Relational Undercurrents, Museum of Latin American Art , Long Beach, CA | USA |
| 2017 | Tula, Historia Kompartí, Villa María | Curaçao |
| 2017 | Isla i Arte den Nos Bida, Het Curaçaosch Museum | Curaçao |
| 2016 | First Shangyu Celadon Modern International Ceramic Exhibition, Shangyu Museum , Shangyu | China |
| 2016 | Zagreb Ex-Tempore 2016, Zagreb | Croatia |
| 2016 | First Art and Design Symposium, Passage Gallery of the Yasar University , Izmir | Turkey |
| 2016 | Traveling exhibition: Imago Mundi, The Rubelle and Norman Schafler Gallery , Brooklyn, NY | USA |
| 2015 | idem, Fondazione Giorgio Cini , Venice | Italy |
| 2015 | Gyeonggi International Ceramic Biennale 2015, Icheon World Ceramic Center , Icheon | S. Korea |
| 2014 | Elit-Tile, the 5th World Ceramic Tile Triennial, Museo Arte Moderno , Santo Domingo | Dominican Republic |
| 2013 | Tropisch Koninkrijk, Museum de Fundatie , Zwolle | Netherlands |
| 2012 | Ellen3, Gallery Alma Blou (trio-expo) | Curaçao |
| 2012 | Contemporary Dutch photography, Blow-Up Gallery, Nieuwersluis | Netherlands |
| 2011 | Brionplein , Royal family visit, hosted by the Curaçao Government | Curaçao |
| 2011 | Island Reflections: The Art of Curaçao, DePree Art Center , Holland, Michigan | USA |
| 2011 | Clay Works Away, Cifte Hamam , Skopje | Macedonia |
| 2010 | Antepasado di Futuro, Het Curaçaosch Museum | Curaçao |
| 2010 | Primero Trienal Internacional del Caribe, Museo Arte Moderno , Santo Domingo | Dominican Republic |
| 2010 | IV International Tile Triennial, Centro León , Santiago | Dominican Republic |

2009	Dependencia, Landhuis Knip	Curaçao
2009	Arte Bèbè, The Rif Fort	Curaçao
2008	Artists from Curaçao, Het Curaçaosch Museum	Curaçao
2007	2 nd annual Dutch Caribbean Art Exhibition, Kas di Arte	Bonaire
2007	275 years Snoa, Maritiem Museum Curaçao	Curaçao
2007	It'a all about women, Gallery Alma Blou	Curaçao
2006	ASNA Clay Triennial, Ahmed Pervaz Gallery , Karachi	Pakistan
2006	First APC Festival, Museo de Arte Moderno , Santo Domingo	Dominican Republic
2006	Arte Bèbè, Mon Art Gallery	Curaçao
2006	The Caribbean in the Age of Modernity, National Library , Port of Spain	Trinidad
2005	De Koninklijke Hoed; Steengoed, Studio Girouette	Curaçao
2004	Cocktail di Arte, Heerlijkheid van Ermelo	Netherlands
2003	Resusita, The Rif Fort	Curaçao
2003	Keramika Sisak 1700, Galerija Zvonimir , Zagreb	Croatia
2003	1Bíenial Internacional Del Mosaico Contemporáneo, Buenos Aires	Argentina
2003	Vision +, V Caribbean and Centro American Biennial, Galeria Nacional de Belles Artes , Santo Domingo	Dominican Republic
2002	Arte, di nos e ta, Central Bank	Curaçao
2001	Arte, di nos e ta, TENT- CBK , Rotterdam	Netherlands
2000	Seventh Biennial of Havana, Centro Wifredo Lam , Havana	Cuba
2000	Sixth Taiwan Golden Ceramics Awards Exhibition, Taipei County Yingko Ceramic Museum , Taipei	Taiwan
2000	Mon Petit Art Gallery , San Juan	Puerto Rico
2000	Laman Chiki, Waaigat	Curaçao
2000	Two pictures. One story (Diana Blok & Ellen Spijkstra), Maritiem Museum Curaçao	Curaçao
1999	Arte '99, Magazina di Arte	Curaçao
1999	The Curaçao Connection, S.B.K. Kunstcentrum Haarlem	Netherlands
1999	La Vida Urbana en la Región del Caribe, Palacio de Bellas Artes , Santo Domingo	Dominican Republic
1999	Auto Retrato Nobo, Instituto di Cultura	Aruba
1997	5th World Triennial Exhibition of Small Ceramics	Croatia
1995	11 Antilliaanse en Arubaanse kunstenaars, Artoteek den haag	Netherlands
1992	Un Abraso ku Koló, Het Oude Slot , Heemstede	Netherlands
1991	Gala di Arte, World Trade Center	Curaçao
1990	La Ceramica desde Curaçao, Taller Escuela Arte Fuego , Caracas	Venezuela
1988	Potpourri, Gallery '86	Curaçao
1988	Bida i Koló, Stedelijk Museum Schiedam , Schiedam	Netherlands
1986	Directions, Däwson Gallery , Rochester	USA
1986	Atrium Gallery , Rochester (2 p.)	USA
1985	Keien, kiezels, stenen, keien, Het Curaçaosch Museum (duo)	Curaçao
1983	Galerie 't Wemme , Zuidwolde (3 p.)	Netherlands
1979	Cultureel Centrum Oosterpoort , Groningen	Netherlands

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS (selected):

Art Hotel Curaçao (ceramics)	Curaçao
Beeldentuin Terrafuse (ceramics)	Aruba
Marriott Courtyard (ceramics)	Curaçao
Curaçao Medical Center (ceramics)	Curaçao
Gemeenschappelijk Hof van Justitie (photographs)	Curaçao
Blue Bay Sculpture Garden (ceramics)	Curaçao
Shangyu Museum (ceramics)	China
Aruba Bank (photographs)	Aruba
Maduro & Curiels Bank (ceramics & photographs)	Curaçao
Hyatt Regency Hotel (ceramics & photographs)	Curaçao
Avila Beach Hotel (ceramics & photographs)	Curaçao
Resen Ceramics Museum, Resen (ceramics)	Macedonia
Centro Wifredo Lam, Havana (ceramics)	Cuba
Centrum Beeldende Kunsten Rotterdam (photographs)	Netherlands
Stedelijk Museum Schiedam (photographs)	Netherlands
Het Curaçaosch Museum (ceramics)	Curaçao

AWARDS:

2023	Premio Cola Debrot 2023, Curaçao (oeuvre)
2015	Honorable Mention, Gyeonggi International Ceramic Biennale 2015, S. Korea (ceramics)
2014	Best Work of Art Tile, Élit-Tile 2014/2015, Premio Fundación Susana de Moya, Dominican Republic (ceramics)
2000	Award final selection, Taipei County Government, Taiwan (ceramics)
1999	Honorable Mention Arte '99, Curaçao (photography)
1993	Curaçao Museum Lustrum Prize, Curaçao (ceramics and photography)
1990	Award of Merit, international photo competition 'Romance', New York Institute of Photography, NY, USA (photography)
1989	Third Prize, international photo competition 'Architecture', New York Institute of Photography, NY, USA (photography)
1988	First Prize, Twilight competition 'Oud en Nieuw', Curaçao (photography)
1985	Best of category, The Strong Art Show & Sell, Rochester, NY, USA (ceramics)
1985	First Prize, photo competition Inner wheel, Curaçao (photography)

SPECIAL PROJECTS/RESIDENCIES:

2025 April 21-28, **cultural exchange Curaçao-Turkey**, 4th International Art & Design Symposium of the Yasar University, Izmir, Turkey
2019 May 6-10, workshop mold making at **Instituto Buena Bista**, Curaçao
2019 April 2, guest artist/speaker at the **Northern Illinois University** (NIU) at the School of Art and Design
2017 May 8-Juli 1, guest teacher at the **Ateliers '89**, Aruba
2016 July 15-August 15, Artist-in-residence at the **Shangyu Celadon Modern International Ceramic Center**, Shangyu, China
2016 April 18-25, invited by the **Yasar University**, Izmir, Turkey, for their 1st International Art & Design Symposium
2013 **TEDxCity2.0** talk: 'Ellen Spijkstra finds beauty through her lens', Curaçao
2013 May-June, 'Hokjesgeesten', a collaborative project with **Instituto Buena Bista** and the Capriles Clinic, Curaçao
2012 January 9-February 3, workshop Raku & Primitive Firing, **Ateliers '89**, Aruba
2010 December, workshop Ceramic Murals for St Albertus College, **Instituto Buena Bista**, Curaçao
2010 March 29-30, talk and demo at Mannheim Central High School and **Ceramics Studio Dennis Maust**, Lancaster, PA, USA
2001 August 1-23, artist in residence, **Resen International Ceramic Colony**, Resen, Macedonia
2000 November 4-24, artist in residence, **Taller Varadero**, Cuba, (7th Biennial of Havana)
1990 October 22-28, workshop Hand-Built Double-Walled Bowls, **Taller Escuela Arte Fuego**, Caracas, Venezuela
1989 April 17-29 & May 15-27, workshop Raku & Primitive Firing, **Taller Escuela Arte Fuego**, Caracas, Venezuela

OTHER WORK RELATED ACTIVITIES:

2018-present board member of the Sculpture Garden Blue Bay
2018-present board member of the Curaçao Style Foundation
2013-2016 member of the jury Short Movies, Big Stories of the CIFFR
2009-2020 board member of the Cultuur Kameleon
2006-present co-organizer of the Open Atelier Route Curaçao
1990-2008 organizer of more than 30 workshops in my Studio Girouette by, among others, Rick Hirsch (US), Richard Notkin (US), Scott Meyer (US), Seka (VE), Yih-Wen Kuo (TW/US), Enric Mestre (ES), Toni Hambleton (PR), Jimmy Clark (US), Pauline Wiertz, (NL) Henk Wolvers (NL), Martin Möhwald (DE)
1982-'85/1987/'88 teacher LO Handvaardigheid
1982-'85/1987/'88 examiner LO textiel and LO tekenen for Ministry of Education, Culture and Science
1981-2011 ceramic classes at my Studio Girouette
1981-1985 teacher handicrafts HAVO/VWO/MBO

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS IN WHICH WORK HAS APPEARED:

-International Academy of Ceramics, **Shaping Global Masterpieces**, 35 artists from 21 countries, 2025, ISBN 978-2-9701969-0-7
-Michiel van Kempen, Zwarte Pracht, 2025, Uitgeverij van Oorschot, page 89,262,268,437,486
-Lisette Bragg- van der Heijden, **Art Magazine - Art Hotel Curaçao** no 1, 2025, page 11, 19 - 27 and 32
-Jan Gulmans, Antilliaans Dagblad, **Wat mooi is mag gezien worden**, July 6, 2024, page 14
-Judice Ledebor, Napa, **De artistieke reis van Ellen Spijkstra. n.a.v de Premio Cola Debrot 2023**, Dec 9, 2023, page front, 4 and 5
-Sasha Dees, Het atelier van Ellen Spijkstra (Curaçao), <https://trendbeheer.com/2022/12/24/het-atelier-van-ellen-spijkstra-curacao/>
-Jennifer Smit, Prikkelende expositie van fotografie, **Antilliaans Dagblad**, Febr 8, 2022, page 8
-Tessa Jol and Renske Werner, Thuis bij kunstenaar Ellen Spijkstra op Curaçao, **Zin**, April 2021, page 90-97
-Judice Ledebor, Napa, **De artistieke reis van Ellen Spijkstra. n.a.v de Premio Cola Debrot 2023**, Dec 9, 2023, page front, 4 and 5
-Sasha Dees, Het atelier van Ellen Spijkstra (Curaçao), <https://trendbeheer.com/2022/12/24/het-atelier-van-ellen-spijkstra-curacao/>
-Jennifer Smit, Prikkelende expositie van fotografie, **Antilliaans Dagblad**, Febr 8, 2022, page 8
-Tessa Jol and Renske Werner, Thuis bij kunstenaar Ellen Spijkstra op Curaçao, **Zin**, April 2021, page 90-97
-cover picture **Kristòf**, Sociaalcultureel Tijdschrift, Curaçao, Jaargang XXI-1, 2020
-Sasha Dees, Ellen Spijkstra – An Artistic Journey – Curaçao Museum, **Trendbeheer**, December 10, 2019
-Mels Boom, **de kleine k** nr 60, 2019, page 13-19
-José Manuel Noceda Fernández and Lusetta Verboom, **catalogue An Artistic Journey**, The Curaçao Museum, 2019
-Jan Gulmans, **Beeldende kunst van Curaçao, Aruba, Bonaire, Saba, Sint Eustatius en Sint Maarten**, 2019, LM Publishers, page 56, 63, 80, 83, 203, 204, 206, 207
-Debbie Austin, The Open Atelier Route 2018, **Melange Travel and Lifestyle Magazine**, January 2018, page 212-215
-Suzanne van Samsbeek, Mediteren met mijn handen, **La Vida-Curaçao**, No 8, December 2017, page 72-74
-Ellen Spijkstra, The New-Artist-in-Residence Center in China, **New Ceramics**, No 2 2017, page 46,47
-Gail Johnson, Isla i Arte den Nos Bida, **Focus Magazine**, February 2017, <https://focusmedia.nl/nieuws/nos-bida.html>
-Nicole Pieternella, In de stoel van Ellen Spijkstra, **Napa**, November 26, 2016, page 1.4 & 5
-**Shangyu Daily**, China, August 15, 2016, page 3
-Jan Gulmans, 'Spijkstra als keramisch ambassadeur', **Antilliaans Dagblad** 2014, May 10, page 14, 15
-Jolande Wood, **Islas del Caribe: naturaleza-arte-sociedad**, Editorial Clacso, Cuba, 2012, page 202-204
-Felix de Rooy and Jennifer Smit, **Curaçao Classics**, KIT publishers, 2012, page 118,119 and 136-139
-Jeff Greenwald, 'Where art imitates ocean life', **San Francisco Chronicle**, May 18, 2012
-Scott Meyer, 'Ellen Spijkstra's quiet search', **Ceramic Arts & Perception**, International, no 76, 2009, page 28-30
-Marjan Unger, Marianne de Tolentino a.o., **Global Local, Ellen Spijkstra, ceramics & photography**, Uitgeverij d'jonge Hond, 2008, 134 pages ISBN 978-90-89100-73-3
-Jimmy Clark, 'Caribbean ceramics', **New Ceramics**, International, no 5, 2008
-Nancy Wilstach, 'Artist travels 2,000 miles to help fire kiln at UM', **The Birmingham News**, AL, USA, 2008, page 1B, 2B

- Sinaya Wolfert, **Curaçao Artists**, 2007, page 156 - 167
- M.J., 'Waterwerk', **De Telegraaf**, The Netherlands, February 17, 2005
- Henry Parisius a.o., **Geraffineerde Kunst / Refined Art**, 2004, KIT Publishers Amsterdam, page 26-28, photo 22-43
- Adi Martis & Jennifer Smit, **Arte, Dutch Caribbean Art**, 2002, KIT publishers, The Netherlands, page 98, 99
- Bernd Pfannkuche, 'Ellen Spijkstra, Keramik aus der Karibik', **Neue Keramik**, Germany, March/April 2001, page 20-24
- Makiri Mual, 'The Curaçao Connection', **Glas en kristal, aardewerk en porselein**, The Netherlands, July 1999, page 71-78
- Nelly Barbieri, **El Movimiento Cerámico en Venezuela**, 1998, Consejo nacional de la Cultura, Venezuela, page 117
- Yih-Wen Kuo, 'Curaçao', **Ceramic Art**, Taiwan, December 1996, page 124-128
- Nicole Henriquez and Jennifer Smit, **Ellen Spijkstra Ceramics & Photography**, 1994, The Curaçao Museum Foundation, 30 pages, ISBN 99904-0-110-1
- Amable Lopez Melendez, 'Ellen Spijkstra, Ceramista holandesa se destaca en Curazao', **Hoy**, Dominican Republic, June 27, 1992
- Nelly Barbieri, 'Entre Tornos', **El Nacional**, Venezuela, November 7, 1990
- Mariveni Rodriguez, 'Ellen Spijkstra, La Ceramica como Arte', **El Nacional**, Venezuela, May 27, 1989

VIDEO / TV PRODUCTIONS:

- 2013 **Roest & Koraal**, a cinematic portrait of the interaction between the island of Curaçao and the artist Ellen Spijkstra by Felix de Rooy and Kirk Claes
- 2011 **Curaçao - Island Reflections**, a series of 10 portraits of artists who live and work on the Caribbean island of Curaçao by Felix de Rooy and Kirk Claes
- 2007 **Ellen Spijkstra**, by Quirijn Dalen Meurs, Curaçao
- 1999 Olivier Jansen en Hugo Kaagman, **'Blauw Curaçao'**, Television Production Amsterdam TVA, The Netherlands
- 1998 Carrilho Multimedia Studio, **'Mirador'**, Curaçao