

## Workshop Merz Akademie, 2020

### Titel workshop: Making lockdown portraits

As a portrait photographer I am always close to people to make a personal and therefore human portrait in which the distance between the person portrayed and the viewer narrows, does not increase. I try to make an image of someone that you can keep looking at and that - because of its simplicity - offers space for your own fantasy, interpretations and projections. But how do you do that when you are in quarantine? Or in a lockdown? How do you make a portrait that matters?

In this workshop 'Making lockdown portraits' you will learn to make a good quality portrait without having to leave the house and where the person you are portraying may be miles away from you or at the other side of the world if you please. All you need for that is a camera, a computer and an internet connection. We are going to portray through programs such as FaceTime.

During this week you will learn what to pay attention to, how to give directions and instructions to your sitter in order to get the results that you want. You will also learn how to ensure that the quality of the images - despite limitations and artifacts - can still be good for printed matter. We will also pay attention to the post processing of the portraits you will make. I hope it will be a fun week where you can finally meet up with your grandparents, friends around the world or unknown people and learn to make a wonderful portrait of them via the internet.

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Jitske Schols (b. 1969, Rotterdam, Holland) works with a variety of mediums including photography, drawing, collage and print making. Her main focus is portrait photography. She gained the Dutch National Portrait Prize in 2017.

After working for 20 years in communications, Schols decided to commit herself to photography. In short time she built up an impressive oeuvre with an own unique signature. She is known for her portraits in national dailies like Het Parool or AD Magazine if it wasn't for the highly appreciated series of portraits, entitled 'Zinvol Leven' every Monday in the Volkskrant. Her portraits are black and white or with faded colours and immediately recognizable by their combination of simplicity, melancholy and rawness.

Jitske Schols is represented by Galerie Caroline O'Brien. Works by her were shown at the Scheepvaartmuseum in Amsterdam in the exhibition 'Ode to an Amsterdammer' organized by Dutch National Portrait Gallery and in the same museum in the exhibition 'MS Oranje | Koers gewijzigd'. She exhibited at Photo Festival Naarden with her photo essay on the life and times of Anna Witsen: 'Songs for soprano'. Schols won the Dutch National Portrait Prize in 2017 for the best portrait in the previous year.

[www.jitskeschols.com](http://www.jitskeschols.com)