



Emma van der Leest Design & Research
 Willem Buytewechstraat 215b
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about

Emma van der Leest is trained as product designer, but has great interest in the field of biofabrication. Biodesign incorporates living organisms e.g. bacteria, fungi, algae or cells into the design process. By discovering materials and processes, that nature has designed but hasn't patented, we can search for new grown materials that are completely compostable and minimize the usage of hazardous resources that can cause huge damage to our ecosystem.

As product designer, she collaborated with different disciplines, from scientists, physicists, artists and designers. Through a strong design, Emma tells a compelling story. She highlights the crossovers with craft, scientific research and new production techniques. Emma is trying to create an environment where boundaries dissolve, and where different disciplines benefit and learn from others.

skills



biodesign



product design



circular design



consultancy & research



education & lectures

tools & personal

#1 design

Adobe Photoshop
 Adobe Illustrator
 Adobe InDesign
 Sketch Up

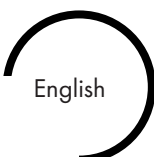
#2 personal

Flexible
 Friendly
 Passionate
 Collaborative

#3 laboratory

Basic media
 Basic culturing
 Basic biology
 Basic chemistry

language



education

- 2011 - 2015
 Bachelor product design
 Willem de Kooning Academy, Rotterdam
cum laude
- 2015
 Honours degree BSc.
- 2007 - 2011
 Vocational school, spatial design
 CIBAP, Zwolle

internships

- 2014
 BioCouture Ltd. Design Consultancy in biofabrication
 intern design, research, consultancy & laboratory skills
 London, England
 www.suzannelee.info

work experience



2019 • present

Researcher Biobased Art & Design
 Professorship Willem de Kooning Academy



2016 • present

Founder & creative director BlueCity Lab
 BlueCity, Rotterdam • www.bluecitylab.nl



2017 • present

Biodesign & sustainability lecturer
 Design Academy, Eindhoven



2017 • present

Biodesign & sustainability lecturer
 Willem de Kooning Academy, Rotterdam



2015 • present

CEO Emma van der Leest Design & Research
 www.emmavanderleest.com



2014 • present

Product Associate
 Biofabricate Conference New York City
 www.biofabricate.co



exhibitions

- 2019
Dolf Henkes Price, TENT, Rotterdam
The Microbial Vending Machine
- 2018
Dutch Design Week, Klokgebouw, Eindhoven
Biocouture bag collection
- 2016
Dutch Design Week, Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven
Earth Jewellery
- 2015
Best off graduation show, Witte de With Kwartier, Rotterdam
Form Follows Organism
- 2015
Salone del Mobile, Milan, Italy
Growing Materials Project
- 2015
London Design Week, London, England
The Compostable Burial Urn

prices & nominations

- 2019
Nominee Dolf Henkes Price, TENT, Rotterdam
Oeuvre price
- 2018
Winner Border Sessions Award
Oeuvre price €5000
- 2016
Nominee Henri Winkelman Award
Oeuvre price
- 2015
Nominee Drempelprijs Award
Form Follows Organism

publications

- 2019
Laka Perspectives book, Poland
Let's Grow Clothes
ISBN: 978-83-947975-2-2
- 2019
Beeldenmagazine, The Netherlands
'Cross-over in de kunst: Emma van der Leest'
- 2017
FD Newspaper, The Netherlands
'Het Levende Lab'
- 2016
Metro Newspaper, The Netherlands
BlueCity Lab
- 2016
Form Follows Organism - the biological computer
book & e-publication
- 2015
Publish Magazine, The Netherlands
Form Follows Organism
- 2015
Mrvica Magazine, Croatia
Form Follows Organism
- 2014
Stichting Volkskracht Magazine, The Netherlands