



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

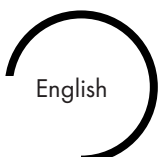
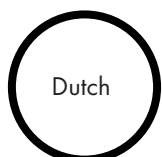
#2 personal

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

- **2019/2020**
'Polarities', Mu Artspace, Eindhoven
Fungkee | Fungal Supercoating
- **2019**
Dutch Design Week, Veem gebouw, Eindhoven
Lab in Progress
- **2019**
Het Klimaatmuseum, Utrecht Centraal Station
The Microbial Vending Machine
- **2019**
GOGBOT Festival, Grote Kerk, Enschede
The Microbial Vending Machine
- **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

prices & nominations

- **2019**
Winner Bio Art & Design Award 2019
€25.000 to develop the 'Fungal Supercoating'
- **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 Drenpelprijs Award
Form Follows Organism

publications/media

- **2020**
the low countries, The Netherlands
Biodesigner Emma van der Leest is
Growing a Sustainable Future
- **2019**
VPRO De Toekomstbouwers, television show
Episode 3: Emma van der Leest
- **2019**
'Do it Ourselves Together book by Jeroen Junte
The Microbial Vending Machine
ISBN: 978-94-6208-520-6
- **2019**
Elle Decoration, The Netherlands
Designer in Beeld: Emma van der Leest
- **2019**
Laka Perspectives book, Poland
Let's Grow Clothes - chapter in book
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
Biocouture Studio