

PRESS RELEASE

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A FUNERAL FOR STREET CULTURE

A Critical Celebration and Mourning of Counter Culture

An ongoing project by Metro54 and curator Rita Ouédraogo hosted by Framer Framed



Image: Nos kultura (2000-2021) by JeanPaul Paula © Eva Broekema / Framer Framed

Dates 10 June - 8 Aug 2021

Presented by Metro 54

Curators Metro54 & Rita Ouédraogo

Contributions by Kenneth Aidoo | Frédérique Albert-Bordenave | Oko Ebombo

KIOSK Rotterdam | Cédric Kouamé | Cengiz Mengüç | Narges Mohammadi

Bodil Ouédraogo | JeanPaul Paula | Pris Roos | Stephen Tayo

Pillars of Autumn - Tobi Balogun, Walter Götsch, Wes Mapes & Dion Rosina

Graphic Design Lydienne Albertoe

Spatial Design Setareh Noorani & Jelmer Teunissen



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A Funeral for Street Culture is a collaborative and multidisciplinary project curated and conceived by Metro54 and Rita Ouédraogo that digs deep into the world and sorrows of contemporary street culture, its influencers, shape-shifters and failures. It brings together a selection of artists, activists, designers and practitioners – working across all sorts of disciplines, genres and visual languages.

Street culture has always been a global mode of cultural expression, rebellion and hijacking – transforming elements of culture, art and design along the way. The streets are not only the socio-geographical site for playfulness, collaboration and solidarity but also form the place where relations with state and society are reconfigured; such as the refuelled worldwide Black Lives Matter protests this past year.

This culture-making, owned by the communities from whom it originated, urges us more than ever to re-evaluate our relationship and notion of the street amidst the coronavirus pandemic. But what happens when this culture gets commodified by brands and institutions? To what extent are these processes of institutionalisation and hypercommercialisation a death sentence to street culture? Is there still room for a counterculture when the counter becomes mainstream?

Together with artists, poets, designers, thinkers and hustlers, *A Funeral for Street Culture* looks into these questions and explores the ways street culture both interweaves with and departs from design, performativity, queerness, fashion, activism and cultural appreciation. As such, it is a critical celebration of street culture – taking the shape of meetings, installations, performances, conversations and mourning.

In a parallel public program, Metro54 and Rita Ouédraogo take over Framer Framed and invite collaborating artists and guests to curate digital and intimate gatherings that trouble and excite the ways of seeing – seeking ways of being together in times of duress.

Metro54 is a platform for young artists, thinkers, activists, writers and hustlers who push the boundaries of their (art) disciplines, with special attention to the talents who draw their inspiration from global and contemporary urban culture.

Rita Ouédraogo is a curator, writer, researcher and community programmer, whose work is informed by her interest in African diaspora, institutional racism, decolonising institutions, popular culture and social issues.

A selection of participating artists:

Setareh Noorani & Jelmer Teunissen: For this group show & public program architect and artist Setareh Noorani and designer Jelmer Teunissen created a non-hierarchical spatial design, which plays with the notion of the insider-outsider and allows the visitor/guest to walk, halt, rethink, pause and mourn.

Pris Roos is an artist, curator, researcher and storyteller working with different media such as painting, spoken word, video, performance and installation. By focusing on observation and careful listening to the people she meets, she reflects on topics such as identity, migration and memory.

JeanPaul Paula is a creative director, stylist, photographer and director, whose work bends fashion and popular culture through the lens of gender, kinship and (dis)belonging.

Framer Framed is supported by

Ministry of Education, Culture and Science; Amsterdams Fund for the Arts; The City of Amsterdam and Cultural Participation Fund

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