

PRESS RELEASE

## How can citizens with a refugee background remember their first place of residence in the Netherlands when there are no traces left?

Thousands of Dutch people share memories of time spent at an AZC throughout the country, but there is little to no physical archive of this part of Dutch heritage. How can citizens with a refugee background remember their first place of residence in the Netherlands when there are no traces left?

How can we reflect and commemorate places where we had to inhabit for a certain, unknown period? Places where memories were created, that were detrimental to the forming of one's identity and that even gave a sense of home? How do we remember these places that oftentimes no longer exist? What does it mean for the people involved when these places vanish without a trace, without any physical archive?

*While Awaiting an Unknown Future* presents the work of two artists — Karen G. and Ribal El Khatib — made during their stay in an asielzoekerscentrum (AZC - asylum seekers' centre).



Image: Maarten Nauw / Framer Framed

**ADDRESS**Oranje- Vrijstaatkade 71  
1093 KS Amsterdam  
The Netherlands**OPENING HOURS**Tue - Sun  
12:00 - 18:00**CONTACT**info@framerframed.nl  
www.framerframed.nl  
@framerframed

Architect and artist Ribal El Khatib started working on his body of work *The Gap* whilst awaiting an unknown future in six different AZCs. He encountered the exact same interior everywhere. *The Gap* showcases furniture as a recurring sight in different capacities. Recognisable to anyone who has ever lived in an AZC.

Ten years ago, Karen G., former inhabitant of AZC Klompjan in Markelo, built an accurate maquette of the AZC he lived in. The AZC in Markelo was closed in 2012 and with it the community it embodied for its inhabitants, disappeared. The maquette became an object of remembrance to many.

Framer Framed collaborated with the artists, Milena Mulders and Hanneke Verbeek on this self-contained exhibition, which is in dialogue with Gluklya's current exhibition *To those who have no time to play*.

**We are pleased to invite you to the exhibition *While Awaiting an Unknown Future* for a review. Get in touch with us by emailing [press@framerframed.nl](mailto:press@framerframed.nl) for interview and image requests.**

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**Exhibition Dates** 3 Nov - 22 Jan 2023, Tue - Sun 12:00-18:00 (Free entry)

**Artists** Karen G. and Ribal El Khatib

**Opening** 3 Nov 2022, 17:00-19:00 — Open for the public (Reserve a spot)

**Artists Milena Mulders, Hanneke Verbeek, Ribal El Khatib, Karen G, Poet Babeth Fonchie and Journalist Mina Etemad will be joining us at the opening, where director Dennis Overeem's short docu *Tussenlanding* will also be screened.**

**Location** Framer Framed, Oranje-Vrijstaatkade 71, 1093 KS Amsterdam

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This exhibition is part of the project *Tussenlanding: een tastbare herinnering aan tijdelijkheid*. It was made possible in part by the Fonds voor Cultuurparticipatie / Verken de Faro-werkwijze, the DOEN Foundation and VSB Fund.

### **Framer Framed Supported by**

Ministerie van Onderwijs, Cultuur en Wetenschap; Amsterdams Fonds voor de Kunst; Stadsdeel Oost.

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