

Biography Celia Swart

Celia Swart (1994, NL) is a saxophonist and a contemporary music composer.

After completing her bachelor degree in composition (2018) from the Royal Conservatory in The Hague, where she has studied with Yannis Kyriakides, Guus Janssen, Peter Adriaansz and Diderik Wagenaar she has written compositions for orchestras such as Ricciotti Ensemble and the Residentie Orkest and ensembles such as Nieuw Ensemble and Kluster5. She also plays and writes music for her own modern jazz group SWART, which released the debut album *Lost In* in October 2018

Her music can best be described as abstract, a sense of drama and with a touch of minimalism elements. The emphasis in her music is on the harmonic colors in the sound world and the melodic emotions that fits within the storytelling. This visual attitude is reflected in the creation of her drawings, stop-motion animation and photography that go hand in hand with her music and are therefore part of her work practice.

In 2018 she was nominated for the Tera de Marez Oyens Award for her composition *Boven Hoge Gebouwen*, which was written for Kluster5 and in 2019 she is nominated for the International Rostrum of Composers 2019 (Argentina). Her music has been played at venues and festivals like Bang on a Can Loud Weekend (USA), Muziekgebouw aan 't IJ, Bimhuis, TivoliVredenburg and Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival (UK) and is broadcasted on radio and TV like NPO Radio4, BBC Radio3 (UK) and NPO1 Vrije Geluiden.

She is currently working on a new composition for the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra with Remy van Kesteren as a soloist, and her new audiovisual work *elevation of self-validation* will be performed in the new program of Kluster5 "*Perceived Reality*".