



### CHAIRS MISSING

Written and directed by Bea de Visser  
Original format: RED 4k, No dialogue, 18 minutes

#### Logline:

**A cinematic performance where all drama is excised, remains invisible. A post-narrative, staged documentary image of an almost deserted pool, a day before its demolition.**

#### Synopsis:

Brief encounters in a semi enclosed public space, the pool. These short meetings are more suggested than actually proposed, because the action ultimately always occurs off-screen. In a stream of repetitive patterns without an added music score, no text and the lack of a plot, we cannot escape from the underlying tension that is evoked when we are witnessing people who possibly meet one another in an empty, barren public space. Nowhere is uncovered to what is actually happening. The only genuine person is the man we follow and maybe his visions during the last days before the demolition of the pool. Visions, history and reality that converge?

.... A man walks through the hallways past lockers and cubicles. A boy plays in one of the lockers. A girl walks into a dressing room, opens the door, but does not enter. A boy walks past the grandstand where a young woman stares into the water. A woman swims her baby to the edge of the pool. The building is filled with sounds: water, machinery, leaking outside noise like the sound of emptiness. And old man steps off the high dive ...

We come to know anything about the people we 'follow' or meet. Everyone seems calm and happened to come by. It derives the film its quality as stylized documentary observation or film essay. Yet there is turmoil and tangible threat.

#### Artist statement, project note

Bluntly: I want to tell a story without a story to tell ...  
What interests me is what will be actually shown.  
My strong inclination for the (dance / drama) performance in the film stems I think from a background of music / sound performance and painting. I choose especially for the physical approach

of performance and the drama based on images. Interesting for me are musicality, rhythm, tone and timbre, sometimes cruel absurdity, perversion and the balance between the banal and the human spiritual identity.

The grid of my work stems from interrogation of the visual logic in combination with a strictly visual poetry. My strategy emphasizes the importance to challenge our preconceptions of what film can and must touch.

#### Bea de Visser

Bea de Visser (1957) is part of a generation of artists experimenting with the medium of video and exploring its possibilities. Since the nineties she is working on a cinematic oeuvre, which touches several genres: film, photography, painting and installation.

#### Cast:

man in work clothes SIMON VERSNEL (actor) and former visitors, professional swimmers, a bath superintendent and a baby.

producer ANOTHERFILM BEA DE VISSER

assistant producer HANS EIJSSES

scenario and director BEA DE VISSER

camera GREGG TELUSSA

camera under water JAN WICH

steadicam PETER VAN VUGT

lighting GERWIN NYSINGH

sound MATT KEMP

editor BEA DE VISSER

music FRED FRITH

sound design BEA DE VISSER

sound mixage RANKO PAUKOVIC

colorist BAREND ONNEWEER

graphic design STUDIO BEIGE

translation CJ OLDENHOF

the film was supported by:

Rotterdam Media Fund

VSB Fonds

DKC Rotterdam

CBK Dordrecht

Gemeente Dordrecht

Materiaalfonds

#### Technical data

Multi format exhibition

Exhibition format: multi channel projection, hard disk  
(under construction)

Screening format: HD digital file/ Blu-Ray/ DCP.  
Other formats are available

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**SCREENINGS:**

2013

- premiere multi-channel installation (to be announced)
- Videographe, one channel installation for the exhibition project by sound artist Chantal Dumas, Montreal, Canada
- Ciné Cercle2, Espace Cercle Carré (Montréal), Canada
- (looped single channel installation) Art Souterrain, Montréal, Quebec, Canada

2012

- Clermont-Ferrand Short Film Festival
- Rencontres International, Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin, Germany
- April, Rencontres Internationales Paris/ Madrid/ Berlin, Reina Sophia Museum, Madrid
- October, Festival du Nouveau Cinéma de Montréal, Quebec, Canada
- KasselDokfest, Kassel, Germany

2011

- De Unie, Rotterdam, NL
- Cannes Court Métrage, France
- Art Film Fest, Slovak Republic
- International Short Film Festival Saõ Paulo, Brazil
- LantarenVenster, Rotterdam, NL
- Dutch Film Festival, Utrecht, NL
- International Festival New Media and New Film, Split, Croatia
- LantarenVenster, Rotterdam, NL
- Dordrechts Museum, NL
- Rencontres International, Centre Pompidou, Paris, France

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**BEA DE VISSER**

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Bea de Visser worked since the nineties on a cinematic oeuvre, which touches different genres: film, performance, and installation. Her work focusses on language of movement and posture, reflection on sound, language and their interpretation, and how we locate ourselves and are positioned in social space.

She started her career in the early 1980-s; she works as a sound and performance artist in the trendy club scene and artists spaces. Today, her work is shown at international exhibitions, her movies shown at international film festivals worldwide.

Since 2011 under the organization Anotherfilm, that besides providing advice and production services to filmmakers and artists, Bea de Visser is the consultant for the art collection of the Lievensberg Ziekenhuis in Bergen op Zoom. Besides she teaches skills like production, direction, concept development and scenario on a non-regular basis at among others the University of Arts, at the Art & Media Department (HKU) in Hilversum. Under the name Anotherfilm Bea de Visser curates programs for among others the Urban Explorers Festival 2013.

Bea de Visser works from 2010-2011 as a guest advisor at the Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunst in Amsterdam. She is from 2010 to date the chairman of the board of Short4Dordt Film Festival for Young Talent in Dordrecht.

Her films include: Mama Superfreak (2009), Roses and Fall (2006), Vanya (2005), Just a Minute Yoko (2004), The Second Memory (2004), The Barren Land (2001), Another Another (1999), A Breath Hush (1996).

Besides she made music videos, films for theatre design and wrote scenarios for feature film projects.

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