

Richard van Kruijsdijk



"As a musician, I don't feel bound to one particular instrument, and as an artist I don't feel confined to one particular discipline. Although most of my work is musical, I have always felt it was just one way of expressing myself."

The headline of Richard's first interview, when he graduated (with honorable mention) from the Royal Academy of Art in 's-Hertogenbosch said: "No difference between a guitar and a paint brush". Richard always switched between, and combined disciplines according to his vision of what the particular work needs. At the arts academy, he explored painting, photography, and graduated with a short 16mm film which was shown in several theatres and at the Dutch Film Days, Utrecht (NL). During his last year at the academy, he signed his first record contract after a solo concert in Paradiso, Amsterdam. That marked the start of many releases, tours and musical collaborations.

Richard honed his composition and production skills as a member of German eclectic industrial band **Phallus Dei**, "trip noir" duo **Sonar Lodge** and downtempo trio **Strange Attractor**. These bands and other musical projects brought him on many stages throughout Europe, and in studios with many musicians from different musical realms: Peter Christopherson (Coil, Psychic TV), Edward Ka-Spel & Niels van Hoorn (The Legendary Pink Dots), Graham Lewis (Wire), Jarboe (Swans), Gitane Demone, Daniel Johnston, Blaine L. Reininger & Winston Tong (Tuxedomoon), Richard Sinclair (Hatfield & The North), David J. (Bauhaus), Merzbow, Markus Stockhausen, and others. Richard also worked with a string of Dutch top jazz/impro musicians. He is a founding member of **Daisy Bell**, an indietronics

group with Dyane Donck and Evelien van den Broek as well as **Palais Ideal**: a retro post-punk duo with John Edwards. Other projects include a duo with **Bart van Dongen**, the guitar duo **Wolf Soup** with Raphael Vanoli, the new dark electro duo **Dead Lights** and his new solo project **Epic Rick** (ex Cut Worms).

In 2000, Richard co-founded the record label **Music for Speakers**. Since then, Music for Speakers has reached a cult status amongst lovers of adventurous electronic music.

Since 2010, his musical work extended largely into the field of compositions for modern dance companies, scoring modern dance pieces for (mostly) choreographers **Jens van Daele** (BE) for Jens' company Burning Bridges and **Itamar Serussi** (ISR) for companies around the world: Scapino Ballet (NL), Edge (UK), CCN Ballet de Lorraine (FR), Balletto di Roma (IT), Hessisches Staats Ballett (DE), Pennsylvania Ballet (USA), Fanclub (DK), Oper Ballett Graz (AT).

Since 2020, he mainly works with **Keren Rosenberg** (ICK) and **Ed Wubbe** (Scapino Ballet Rotterdam).

He simultaneously kept working as a graphic artist, creating videos, collages and publicity design and is currently also active in the field of **multimedia installation art**: solo, and as a duo with light designer Ate Jan van Kampen.

Richard's musical work can be heard in a broad range of international venues: From alternative pop clubs throughout Europe to avantgarde festivals (Sonic Acts) and festivals for modern composed music (November Music; Minimal Music Festival). From museums (Museum De Pont, Tilburg; Biennale Venice) to prestigious theaters (Schouwburg Amsterdam; The Royal Opera House, Londen).

In 2019, he started **MASS production**: a new foundation through which he will develop his autonomous multimedia works and initiate new collaborations.

Richard's studio is based in Eindhoven, the Netherlands.

www.richardvankruijsdijk.com