
Rebecca Topakian

French, born in 1989. Co-founder of el-Atlal residency in Jericho. Member of artist run space Doc!, Paris. Resident of La Cité Internationale des Arts in Paris.

After two bachelors in Philosophy (where she was interested in ethics) and Geography (where she was focusing on the geography of representations) Rebecca Topakian pursued her studies at ENSP - National photography school in Arles, where she graduated in 2015. Through books and exhibitions that always pay great attention to the way it is showed, she tries to produce a photographic work which de-qualifies the subject and is anti-narrative, playing with the aesthetics of documentary and more poetic and intimist forms. Her interests brought her to work on the themes of individual identity in its relation to the crowd, the group, the community or collective history. She has been very inspired by the notion of «whatever singularity» developed by Giorgio Agamben and, through visually varied works, seeks to represent the individual as a knot of relations that is caught in a network of intentions, imaginaries and projections.

Solo & duo shows

2018 Dame Gulizar and other love stories, AGBU, Erevan, ARM

2018 Infra-, Caravanserail, Londres, UK

2017 Infra-, Galerie du Rayon Vert, Quin - zaine de la Photographie Nantaise, Nantes, FR

2017 Les Fidèles, duo show, Espace T2, commissariat BLBC, Paris

2017 Infra-, Biennale de la Photographie de Mulhouse, CCFF Freiburg-en-Bris- gau, DE

Group shows (selection)

2018 (upcoming) BIT20 - Biennale de l'Image Tangible, Paris, FR

2018 Dreaming Alive, Focus: Armenia, Vienna Contemporary fair, Vienna

2018 La Flamme double, Les Brassuers, BIP Liège, BE

2017 GOD ONLY KNOWS, curated by The Tropicool Company, Galerie TORRI, Paris, FR

2017 Inventeurs d'aventures, curated by Gaël Charbau, La Villa Arson, Nice, FR

2017 CO-OP Thread Count, curated by Der Greif, Unseen Photo Festival, Amsterdam, Netherlands

2017 Cycles, Biennale de Mulhouse, Mulhouse, FR

2017 Festival Circulation(s), Le Centquatre, Paris, FR

2016 Interstices, Festival MAP Toulouse, FR

2016 Nazdralvje!, curated by Born and Die, Galerie Arondit, Paris, FR

2016 Échanges de vues, Galerie Les Filles du Calvaire, Paris, FR

2015 Interstices, Chez Agnès B., Paris



2015 Olympus engage une conversation photographique, Les Rencontres d'Arles, Arles, FR

Slideshows and screenings

2017 Les fantômes du souk, film, le 61, FR

2017 Busan International Photo Festival, Busan, Korea

2014 Fotolstanbul, Besiktas International Festival of Photography, Istanbul, Turkey

2013 Self Publish Be Happy 89+, Marathon 89+, Serpentine Gallery, Londres, UK

Books

2017 Infra-, 600 copies, Classe Moyenne Éditions

2017 Infra-, 30 copies, Casual Gabber pack

2016 Nadzdravlje!, multiple box, Éditions Born and Die

2014 Habana Frikis, selfpublished, 24 copies

Grants, prizes and residencies

2018 Résident of la Cité Internationale des Arts de Paris, 2018-2019

2018 Shortlist Author Photobook Prize, Les Rencontres d'Arles for nfra-

2018 Creation grant, Armenia Art Foundation

2018 Resident ACSL Art-Commune, Yere-van, Arménie

2018 Travel grant, STEP Travel, Compagnia di San Paulo

2017 Finalist, Prix Mentor

2017 Selection Festival Circulation(s)

2015 Residence The Independant Air, Silkeborg, Denmark

2014 Residence «La recherche de l'art», INSERM, Paris

2014 Grant «Initiatives Jeunes», region PACA, France

2014 Grant «Défi Jeunes», CROUS, France

2013 Selection «SPBH 89+», Self Publish Be Happy with Serpentine Gallery

Exhibition catalogues

2017 Busan Photo Festival

2017 Circulation(s)

2015 Échanges de vue, Filigranes

2015 Les Rencontres d'Arles 2015, Actes Sud

2015 Échappées belles, Diaphane

2014 Les Rencontres d'Arles, Actes Sud

Interviews (radio, video, written)

2018 CivilNet: interview with Ani Paitjan

2018 ArmenPress: interview with Roza Grigorian



2018 radio Démons de Minuit, with Arnaud Idelon and Samuel Belfond, La Station Gare des Mines

2017 Interview with Fabien Ribéry, L'intervalle

2017 Radio Transe, Radio Néo

2017 Radio Campus

2017 Les amours alternatives

2016 Interview with Aude Lavigne, Les Carnets de la création, France Culture

Public talks

2018 Talk by The Eyes, Paris Photo, Grand Palais, november 11th

2018 Talk, Alliance Française in Yerevan, Arménie

2016 JEEP, Festival Circulation(s), le Centquatre

2016 Conference EXTRAFORT, Recyclart, Bruxelles, Belgium

2015 Talk, Olympus, with Natacha Wolynski, Espace Fanton, Arles

Publications (selection)

2018 Tsugi : La nuit au révélateur, par Arnaud Idelon

2018 Bookwitty : Les meilleurs livres sur le clubbing

2017 Der Greif: Artist Feature

2017 Reset: Al Qamar, magazine par Marielle Chabal

2017 ID Vice, 10 photographers

2017 Der Greif #10

2017 Expo Paris

2017 Grazia, by Léa Chauvel-Levy

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2016 Art Press (septembre), by Etienne Hatt

2016 De l'air

2016 Novo, numéro spéciale Biennale de la Photographie de Mulhouse

2015 Lunettes Rouges, 18 juillet

Education

2015 MA in Photography with honors, ENSP, Arles

2010 BA in Philosophy with honors

2010 BA in Geography with honors

