GALERIE
LA FOREST DIVONNE
PARIS+BRUSSELS



Elsa&Johanna

Elsa Parra (born 1990) and Johanna Benaïnous (born 1991) have been collaborating since 2014 under the name of the duo Elsa & Johanna.

Working at the crossroads of photography, performance and video, they have been creating visual narratives since their meeting, of which they are the interpreters. The use of autofiction, at the heart of Elsa & Johanna's work, allows them to stage characters freed from their own identity, questioning the contemporary individual, the notions of self-representation and anonymity.

Their work has been exhibited at the Salon de Montrouge (2016), the MAC/VAL, Paris Photo and the Festival d'Hyères (2019). In 2020, they are finalists for the Prix Découverte Louis Roederer at the Rencontres d'Arles, they are part of the Société Générale Contemporary Art Collection, they are commissioned by the Palais de la Découverte and they are part of the exhibition «Staging Identity» at the MathildenhöheInstitut in Darmstadt alongside Pipilotti Rist and Cindy Shermann.

Their photographs are part of the collections of the CNAP, the Fond d'Acquisition d'Art Contemporain de la ville de Paris and the Société Générale, among others.

In 2021, the artists hold their first retrospective exhibition entitled «The plural life of identity» at the Städtische Galerie in Karlsruhe, Germany. In 2022 Elsa & Johanna open the Season at the MEP Studio in Paris with an exhibition dedicated to their latest project «The Timeless Story of Moormerland», produced in Germany.

PERSONAL EXHIBITIONS

2026 *The Timeless Story of Moormerland*, Biennale Images Vevey, Vevey, Switzerland
Séquences, Galerie La Forest Divonne Paris, France

2025 *Ce que vaut une femme - Les 12 heures du jour et de la nuit*, Centre National de Bretagne, Rennes, France
Lost & Found, Centre Photographique Marseille, Marseille, France
A Cabin With a View, Un été au Havre, curated by Gaël Charbau, Le Havre, France
Ce que vaut une femme : Les Douze heures du jour et de la nuit, Château de Haroué, Centre des Monuments Nationaux, France
Beyond the Shadows, Gallery Kana Kawanishi, Tokyo, Japan

2024 *Beyond the Shadows*, Institut Français du Japon, Tokyo, Japan
Beyond the Shadows, 17th Lyon Biennale, MAC Lyon, France
Séquences, Moulin Blanchard, Perche-en-Nocé, France
A Couple of Them, Bus Station on Bordeaux Boulevards, Off-site, France
Climbing into Another Skin, Mai Mano House, Budapest, Hungary
Chronicles of the Ordinary, Galerie La Forest Divonne, Bruxelles, Belgium

2023 *The Blurring Days, The Timeless Story of Moormerland*, Galerie La Forest Divonne, Paris, France
Beyond the Shadows, T3 TOKYO Festival, Tokyo, Japan
Samples, Moulin Blanchard, Le Champ des Impossibles, Perche-en-Nocé, France
A Couple of Them, Pont Saint-Ange, Paris, France
Palace Odyssée, Métro Champ-Elysée Clémenceau, Paris, France

2022 *Les douze heures du jour et de la nuit*, Maison Auguste Comte, Paris, France
The Timeless Story of Moormerland, Studio de la Maison Européenne de la Photographie, Paris, France

2021 *Palace Odyssée*, Etincelles du Palais de la découverte, Paris, France
The Plural life of identity, Städtische Galerie, Karlsruhe, Germany
Palace Odyssée, Galerie La Forest Divonne, Paris, France
Find the Truth, Paris Photo, Grand Palais, Galerie La Forest Divonne, Paris, France
Festival air de fête, invité par le FRAC Bretagne, Saint-Briac-sur-Mer, France
A Couple of Them, FMAC Paris, murs de la Caserne Baudoyer, Paris, France

2020 *Silver Springs*, Galerie La Forest Divonne, Brussels, Belgique
Les Rencontres d'Arles, exposition *Find the truth*, Galerie La Forest Divonne, France

2019 Paris Photo, Galerie La Forest Divonne, Grand Palais, Paris, France
Rosarium - C'est le soleil qui finira par nous perdre, curated by Ann Stouvenel, Mains d'Oeuvres, Saint Ouen, France

2018 *A Cross Perspective*, Galerie La Forest Divonne, Festival Photo Saint-Germain, Paris, France

2017 *Le Reflet de la cuillère*, Espace des femmes, Paris, France
Festival Photo Saint-Germain, Paris, France
Los Ojos Vendados, Etro, Saint-Germain, Paris, France

2015 *A Couple of Them*, Beaux-arts de Paris, France

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026 *Translations, Arsenia Sirente - Elsa & Johanna*, See Galerie, Paris, France
Elles, L'expo en plein air, Châteaulin, France

2024 *1974 – Passé, présent, futur*, Villa Benkemoun, Arles, France
Le Sport à l'Epreuve, Les Rencontre d'Arles 2024, Arles, France
A Couple of Them, Parcours art et patrimoine en Perche, Perche-en-Nocé, France

2023 Artistic Posters of the Paris 2024 Games, Quai de la Mégisserie, Paris, France
Art Brussels, Galerie La Forest Divonne, Brussels, Belguim
Expo Chicago, Galerie La Forest Divonne, Chicago, United States

2022 *Entres les mondes*, Palecete Santo Estevao Alfama, Lisbon, Portugal

2021 *A Couple of Them*, Hyperfestival, Place Baudoyer/Hôtel de Ville, Paris, France
Je te laisse les clefs, H Gallery, Paris, France
Beyond the shadows, Art Paris Art Fair, France
Prix Balzac 2021, Maison de Balzac, Paris, France
Art Paris Art Fair, Galerie La Forest Divonne, Grand Palais éphémère, Paris, France

2020 *Per Se*, Festival Photo Saint-Germain + Photo Days, Galerie La Forest Divonne, Paris, France
Find the truth, Jimei X Arles, Jimei Photo Festival, Jimei, China
Art Paris Art Fair, dans le parcours *Un regard sur la scène française*, under the artistic direction of Gaël Charbau, Galerie La Forest Divonne, Grand Palais, Paris, France
Staging Identity, Institut Mathildenhöhe, Darmstad, Germany
Not So Crazy Girls, curator Naomie Rubins, Espace Futur, Paris, France
Heartland, Art Paris Art Fair, invited by Gaël Charbau, Grand Palais, Paris, France
Ensemble, Galerie La Forest Divonne, Brussels, Belgium

2019 *Some of us*, commissariat Jérôme Cotinet-Alphaize, Carlshütte, Büdelsdorf, Germany
34ème Festival International de Photographie de Hyères, Villa Noailles, France
Art Paris Art Fair, Galerie La Forest Divonne, Grand Palais, Paris, France
Lignes de vies, une exposition de légendes, commissariat Franck Lamy, Musée d'Art Contemporain du Valde-Marne (MAC / VAL), Vitry-sur-Seine, France
100% L'Expo – Sorties d'écoles, Grande Halle de la Villette, Paris, France
Festival International de Journalisme, Couthures-sur-Garonne, France
Qu'est-ce que tu regardes ? Espace Beaurepaire, Paris, France
POSTURE(S), Galerie La Forest Divonne, Brussels, Belgium

2018 FIAC 2018 – stand du FMAC, Grand Palais, Paris, France
30 ans – Anniversaire de la Galerie La Forest Divonne, Galerie La Forest Divonne, Paris, France
Prix Picto de la mode, Palais Galliera, Paris, France
Les Apparences, La Graineterie, Houilles, France
L'homme qui marchait dans la couleur, Galerie du Crous, Paris, France
La figure seule, Château de Poncé, Poncé, France
Millennials au féminin, Galerie Havas, Puteaux, France
Le redoublement, Artinkk, Bruxelles, Belgique
Profils, Pavillon Blanc, Centre d'art Henri Molina, Colomiers, France

2017 *Kaléidoscope*, commissariat Jean de Malherbe, Galerie La Forest Divonne, Brussels, Belgium
Morceaux choisis, commissariat Jean de Malherbe, Galerie La Forest Divonne, Brussels, Belgium
La Galerie du Club des AD, Arles, France
Jeune création 67, Paris, France
Ubique, les vacances immobiles, Glassbox, Paris, France
Proyecta, Imaginando otros posibles, commissariat Sandra Maunac, Madrid, Spain
Le quatrième sexe, commissariat Marie Maertens, Espace Coeur, Paris, France
Festival Circulation(s) #7, le Centquatre, Paris, France

2016 *Une inconnue d'avance*, commissariat Gaël Charbau, Villa Emerige, Paris, France
Felicità, commissariat Alexia Fabre, Palais des beaux-arts, Paris, France
Dress codes, commissariat Alexandra Dhainaut, Mains d'OEuvre, Saint-Ouen, France
Parcours Saint-Germain, Le Mont St Michel, Paris, France
Vertige en terrain plat, commissariat « Mathilde s'expose », Fondation Brownstone, Paris, France
Salon de Montrouge #61, commissariat Ami Barrack, Beffroi de Montrouge, France

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE COLLECTIONS

Cnap (Centre national des arts plastiques), Paris, France
Fonds d'art contemporain – Paris Collections, France
Modern Art Museum Städtische Gallery, Karlsruhe, Germany
Collection d'Art Contemporain Crédit Agricole, Paris, France
Collection d'Art Contemporain Société Générale, Paris, France
Collection Photographique du Palais Galliera (Musée de la mode de la Ville de Paris), France
Collection Départementale d'Art Contemporain de la Seine Saint-Denis, France
Collection Photographique de la Villa Noailles, Hyères, France
Collection Picto Foundation, Paris, France
Collection Dior Lady Art, Paris, France
Palais de la Découverte, Paris France
FMAC (Fond Municipal d'Art Contemporain de la Ville de Paris), France

AWARDS

2026 Winners of the Grand Paris Express «Tandem» programme for the creation of *La Grande Echappée*, a permanent artwork in Bry-Villiers-Champigny station, in collaboration with archi

tect Thomas Richez, under the direction of José-Manuel Gonçalvès.

2023 Laureates of the Artistic Posters for the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games

2021 Nominated for Le Prix Balzac 2021 (Prize of the Friends of Balzac)
Carte Blanche “Lady Dior as seen by”

2020 Laureates of the Société Générale × Beaux-Arts de Paris Collection Award
Nominated for the 2020 Louis Roederer Discovery Award, Les Rencontres d’Arles
Carte Blanche granted by the Palais de la Découverte and Gaël Charbau

2019 Winners of the Public Prize at the 34th International Festival of Hyères
Winners of the 2019 Voice of a Woman Awards with the short film ‘Coup de Bol’, NYC
Bronze Cube ADC Award 2020 from The One Club for ‘Coup de Bol’, NYC

2017 Winners of the 2nd Prize of the 2017 Picto Fashion Award
Selected for the ‘Etro’ Carte Blanche
Selected for the official visuals of the ‘Festival Photo Saint-Germain’
Selected by the ‘Galerie du Club des AD 2017’
Invited to the ‘Circulation(s) Festival 2017

2016 Nominated for the Emerige Revelations Grant
Nominated for the 61st Salon de Montrouge
Finalists for the HSBC Photography Award

RESIDENCIES

2023 Capsule Residency, Le Champ des Impossibles, Perch-en-Nocé, France
2018-2019 Centre d’art Mains d’Œuvres, Saint-Ouen, Paris, France

INTERVIEWS (selection)

Elle Magazine, par Soline Delos
Saywho par Marie Maertens
Made in Mind Magazine par Flavia Rovetta
Les Inrockuptibles par Ingrid Luquet-Gad
France Culture par Aude Lavigne
L’Officiel par Felix Besson
Fisheye Magazine par Marie Moglia

PRESS (selection)

Elle Magazine, by Soline Delos
Mu in The City, by Gilles Bechet
9 Lives, by Pascal Therme
The Art Newspaper, by Alain Berlan
Libération, by Jérémy Piette
IDEAT, by Béatrice Andrieux
Stylist, by Stéphane Durand
Slash Paris, by Guillaume Benoît
Libération, by Jérémy Piette
LensCulture, by Alexander Strecker
Télérama Sortir, by Frédérique Chapuis
Libération, by Clémentine Mercier
L’Œil de la Photographie, by Jonas Cuénin

BIBLIOGRAPHY

2022 What a Woman Is Worth – The Twelve Hours of Day and Night, The Eyes Publishing

2021 Elsa & Johanna, Fanny Taillandier, La Martinière Publishing, “Percevoir” collection, edited by Simon Baker, foreword by Simon Baker, 2021, 128 pp
Beyond The Shadows, H2L2 Publishing, texts by Gael Charbau, Salomé Brustein, Eugénie Adda, Baptiste Gourden, Arthur Larrue, 2021, 174 pp

2017 Kaleidoscope, text by Arthur Larrue, Galerie La Forest Divonne Publishing, 30 pp