



### **Marie Cécile Thijs**

*(Dutch, 27.12.1964 - )*

#### Chikpeas

Signed and numbered on reverse

Lambda C-print on Diasac  
70 x 70 cm / 27.6 x 27.6 inch

#### **ABOUT**

##### **Food Portraits**

A series with culinary portraits of food. Tranquil and yet dynamic and slightly surrealistic, affecting the essence of food. Like pink oyster mushrooms under a bell jar, storm in glasses of water, distilled Umami and artichoke dripping in oil. There are also pictures showing terroir, chanterelles growing on bread, weighted seabass in salt and bleeding beetroot.

Winner of the first place in the 7th Photography Masters Cup 2014 (Chickpeas) and awarded in the IPA 2013 (International Photography Awards).

#### **BIOGRAPHY**

*(Marie Cécile Thijs)*



Marie Cécile Thijs is a Dutch artist with a distinctive signature. Her portraits are still lifes and her still lifes become portraits. Objects become characters. They move away from their daily destination, away from time and space. That provides intriguing creations, where elements like tranquility, dynamics and sometimes also humor meet. In her work the unusual is natural.

Photographs of Marie Cécile Thijs - in terms of light and color - are reminiscent of the Golden Age. The old masters in painting are a major source of inspiration. At the same time her work is totally contemporary. She is specialised in staged photography, and created the series *White Collar*, *Food Portraits*, *Cooks*, *Horses* and *Human Angels*, which are still in progress to this day.

For the serie *White Collar* (since 2009) she photographed an authentic seventeenth century ruff collar from the collection of the Rijksmuseum Amsterdam,

which she later processed in her portraits using digital techniques.

Marie Cécile Thijs gained fame with her autonomous work. In addition, she has portrayed many writers, politicians and artists. She has been fascinated by photography since her youth, but began her career as a lawyer. In her late twenties, she rediscovered the camera and a few years later made the shift to life as a photographer. "For me it was love at second sight," says Marie Cécile Thijs. Meanwhile, she has many exhibitions and has received international awards. In 2014 she won the first prize in the International Photography Masters Cup with her photograph 'Chickpeas'. In 2010, the photograph 'Girl with White Collar at Table' was selected for a photo prize by the curator of the Museum of Contemporary Photography in Chicago. Her work is included in several museum collections, among those are the Rijksmuseum Amsterdam and Rotterdam Museum.

Marie Cecile Thijs had her first retrospective in Museum aan het Vrijthof Maastricht in 2015. Also her work has been exhibited at TEFAF Maastricht and Art Miami in the same year.

In 2016 she was part of the exhibition *Dutch Identity* in Museum De Fundatie Zwolle. Also her photographs were exhibited in the EU 2016 paviljon in Amsterdam on the occasion of the chairmanship of the European Union as part of the selection of the National Portrait Gallery. Most recent she took part in the Exhibition 'Beauty and the Beast' in the Museum of Photographic Arts in San Diego and the exhibition 'Hemels Rembrandt' at the Rembrandt Tower Boardroom, Amsterdam.

SmithDavidson Gallery hosts the solo exhibition 'Argentum' by Marie Cécile Thijs at the Amsterdam gallery in 2016.

In 2018, some of the iconic Food Portraits by Marie Cécile Thijs will be present during the exhibition "WE ARE FOOD - OVER DE KUNST VAN VOEDSEL" to be held at the Jan Cunen Museum from 25 February to 16 September.

## LITERATURE

2018 - Elle Décor Italia

2015 - 'Foodportraits by Marie Cécile Thijs

2014 - 'Characters' by Marie Cécile Thijs

## EXHIBITIONS

- |      |  |      |  |
|------|--|------|--|
| 2018 | Solo exhibition 'Tussen Hemel en Aarde', Museum Jan Cunen, Oss, The Netherlands    | 2017 | Solo Exhibition, Kunsthal Rotterdam, The Netherlands   |
| 2018 | BLOOM, Karmelklooster, Drachten, The Netherlands                                   | 2017 | Solo Exhibition, 'Marie Cécile Thijs' Galerie Catherine Niederhauser, Lausanne, Switzerland                                  |
| 2018 | The Unusual Is Natural, Palazzo Saluzzo Paesana, Turin, Italy                      | 2017 | TEFAF Maastricht, SmithDavidson Gallery, Maastricht, The Netherlands   |
| 2018 | Miami Country Day School, Miami, USA   | 2017 | Solo exposition Marie Cécile Thijs, Casa Tua, Aspen, Colorado, USA   |
| 2018 | TEFAF Maastricht, SmithDavidson Gallery, Maastricht, The Netherlands               | 2016 | 'Stills in Motion', 10 Corso Como Gallery, Shanghai, China   |
| 2018 | WE ARE FOOD - over de kunst van voedsel, Museum Jan Cunen, Oss, The Netherlands    | 2016 | 'Argentum' Solo Exhibition, SmithDavidson Gallery Amsterdam, The Netherlands   |
| 2017 | FOOD! Eten in de kunst en design van nu, Museum Nairac, Barneveld, The Netherlands | 2016 | 'Hemels Rembrandt' in collaboration with Rembrandthuis, Rembrandt Tower Boardroom, Amsterdam, The Netherlands                |
|      |  | 2016 | 'Mix and Match' Exhibition, SmithDavidson Gallery Amsterdam, The Netherlands   |
|      |  | 2016 | 'BAL', Soestdijk Palace, Baarn, The Netherlands  |
|      |  | 2016 | 'Beauty and the Beast, the Animal in Photography', MOPA, San Diego, USA  |
|      |  | 2016 | Art New York, New York, USA  |
|      |  | 2016 | TEFAF Maastricht, SmithDavidson Gallery, The Netherlands   |
|      |  | 2016 | Palm Beach Jewelry, Art and Antique Show, Palm Beach, Florida, USA   |
|      |  | 2016 | Exhibition Museum de Fundatie - Dutch Identity, Zwolle, The Netherlands  |
|      |  | 2016 | Pavillion Chairmanship European Union, Amsterdam, The Netherlands  |
|      |  | 2015 | Art Miami   SmithDavidson Gallery, December 1st until December 6th, Miami  |
|      |  | 2015 | Art Silicon Valley / San Francisco   SmithDavidson Gallery, San Francisco, USA   |
|      |  | 2015 | Solo Exhibition Museum aan het Vrijthof, Maastricht, The Netherlands   |
|      |  | 2015 | TEFAF Maastricht, The Netherlands  |
|      |  | 2014 | 1st Place - International Masters Cup   Category Food   Chickpeas  |
|      |  | 2014 | Exhibition at Sotheby's Paris, France  |
|      |  | 2014 | Presentation on Mediawand Rotterdamse Schouwburg   |
|      |  | 2014 | Participation The Big Art Calender Rotterdam   Rotterdamse Kunstkalender   |
|      |  | 2013 | Publication Book Characters   Publisher Lecturis   |
|      |  | 2013 | Portrait Salinero included in the collection Rijksmuseum Amsterdam   |
|      |  | 2013 | Top 3 International Masters Cup - Category Fine Art   White Collar & Majestic  |
|      |  | 2013 | Part of selection committee Fotofestival Naarden   |
|      |  | 2012 | Exhibition Melkweg Gallery The Last Dance   Highlights by curator Suzanne Dechert  |
|      |  | 2012 | Awarded in the International Photography Awards IPA   Unicorn  |
|      |  | 2012 | Exhibition at New York photofestival Photoville   Cooks, New York, USA   |
|      |  | 2012 | Nominated for a Magneet for Campaign Jonge Meesters for lawfirm Pels Rijcken   |
|      |  | 2011 | Awarded in the International Photography Awards IPA   White Collar & Cooks   |
|      |  | 2011 | Awarded in the Hasselblad Masters Competition   White Collar   |
|      |  | 2011 | Exhibition Fotofestival Naarden, The Netherlands   |
|      |  | 2011 | Exhibition in Supreme Court The Hague   Legal Practitioners, The Hague, The Netherlands                                      |
|      |  | 2010 | Selected by the Museum of Contemporary Photography Chicago for the Art of Photography Show 2010   White Collar. Chicago, USA |
|      |  | 2010 | Awarded in Masters Cup of the International Color Awards   Human Angels  |
|      |  | 2009 | Selected by FotoMuseum Antwerpen for international exhibition, Antwerp, Belgium  |
|      |  | 2007 | Solo exhibition Melkweg Gallery Amsterdam   Portraits, The Netherlands   |
|      |  | 1999 | Photobook Roomse Rituelen, publisher Ad. Donker Rotterdam  |

## COLLECTIONS

The work of Marie Cécile Thijs is included in the permanent collection of Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, the Musée National d'Histoire et d'Art Luxembourg in Luxembourg, and the Museum of Photographic Arts MOPA in San Diego, USA.