



### **Marie Cécile Thijs**

(Dutch, 27.12.1964 - )

#### Amazon 1

Lambda C-print on dibond with matted plexi, framed  
90 x 90 cm / 35.4 x 35.4 inch

#### **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 pavilion 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

2019 SOLO Marie Cécile Thijs -  
SmithDavidson Gallery Amsterdam, The  
Netherlands

2019 "Panorama Tulipland 3.0 - Building  
blocks for a new museum", Museum de  
Zwarte Tulp, Lisse, The Netherlands

2019 Art New York, SmithDavidson  
Gallery, Miami, USA

2019 Photo London, SmithDavidson  
Gallery, Miami, USA

2018 Solo exhibition 'Tussen Hemel en  
Aarde', Museum Jan Cunen, Oss, The  
Netherlands

2018 BLOOM, Karmelklooster, Drachten,  
The Netherlands

2018 The Unusual Is Natural, Palazzo  
Saluzzo Paesana, Turin, Italy

2018 Miami Country Day School, Miami,  
USA

2018 TEFAF Maastricht, SmithDavidson  
Gallery, Maastricht, The Netherlands

2018 WE ARE FOOD - over de kunst van  
voedsel, Museum Jan Cunen, Oss, The  
Netherlands

2017 FOOD! Eten in de kunst en design  
van nu, Museum Nairac, Barneveld, The  
Netherlands

2017 Solo Exhibition, Kunsthal Rotterdam,  
The Netherlands

2017 Solo Exhibition, 'Marie Cécile Thijs'  
Galerie Catherine Niederhauser, Lausanne,  
Switzerland

2017 TEFAF Maastricht, SmithDavidson  
Gallery, Maastricht, The Netherlands

2017 Solo exposition Marie Cécile Thijs,  
Casa Tua, Aspen, Colorado, USA

2016 'Stills in Motion', 10 Corso Como  
Gallery, Shanghai, China

2016 'Argentum' Solo  
Exhibition, SmithDavidson Gallery  
Amsterdam, 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.