

# Tanya Leighton

## JIMMY ROBERT

Born 1975 in Guadeloupe  
Lives and works in Berlin and Paris  
Professor at Universität der Künste, Berlin

### Education

2005 Rijksakademie, Amsterdam  
1999 Goldsmiths College, London

### Solo Exhibitions and Commissioned Performances

- 2024 *Joie Noire: Jimmy Robert*, Artspace Aotearoa, Auckland
- 2023 *Asymmetrical Grammar*, Moderna Museet, Malmö  
*Pausing* (organised by François Piron as part of *Exposed*, Palais de Tokyo, Paris), Centre National de la Danse, Paris-Pantin
- 2022 *All dressed up and nowhere to go*, Kunsthalle Baden-Baden  
*Water binds me to your name* (as part of Phenomenon 4), Kerenidis Pepe Foundation, Anafi, Greece  
*Frammenti*, Thomas Dane, Naples  
*la musique dans la chambre*, Künstlerhaus Bremen
- 2021 *Appui, tendu, renversé*, CRAC Occitanie in Sète, France  
*Technique et Sentiment*, Tanya Leighton, Berlin  
*Tobacco Flower*, The Hunterian, Glasgow International, Glasgow  
*Mirror Language*, Museion, Bolzano, Italy
- 2020 *Akimbo*, Nottingham Contemporary, Nottingham  
*Plié*, Leopold Hoesch Museum, Düren, Germany
- 2018 *Many shades of Brouwn*, Stieger van Doesburg, Amsterdam
- 2017 *Imitation of Lives*, Performa 17, The Glass House, New Canaan, Connecticut  
*European Portraits*, Peer, London  
*Wanna talk about reading?*, Western Front, Vancouver
- 2016 *Descendances du nu*, CAC - La Synagogue De Delme, France
- 2015 *Abolibibelo*, Migros Museum für Gegenwartskunst, Zurich  
*A Clean Line that Starts from the Shoulder*, Museum M, Leuven, Belgium  
*It's not lame... it's Lamé*, Tanya Leighton, Berlin  
*Textile languages*, Thalie Art Project, Brussels
- 2013 *Draw the Line*, The Power Plant, Toronto  
*F230 Rose Dragée*, Stigter van Doesburg, Amsterdam  
*Made to Measure, 1857*, Oslo
- 2012 *Vis-à-vis*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago  
*Under the Influence: Marguerite Duras and Jimmy Robert*, Picture This, Bristol  
*Langue matérielle*, Jeu de Paume, Paris  
*Lemon Rose* (in collaboration with Ian White), Jeu de Paume, Paris
- 2011 *Counter-relief* (in collaboration with Maria Hassabi), CCS Bard, New York
- 2010 *Le bonheur d'être dupe (pas de deux)*, Art: Concept, Paris  
*Consensus rouge noir*, South London Gallery, London

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- Here and Now*, in collaboration with Saskia de Keyser, Emma Hedditch & Ian White, Julia Stoschek Foundation, Düsseldorf
- 2009 *Reprise*, Center for Contemporary Art, Kitakyushu, Japan  
*Follow Fluxus 2009 / Jimmy Robert - Suspended closure, suspended*, Nassauischer Kunstverein, Wiesbaden  
*Grey Flannel Suits Any Man*, Sorcha Dallas Gallery, Glasgow  
*If I Can't Dance Tonight with Jimmy Robert*, Frascati Theater, Amsterdam  
*Trio A* (with Ian White and Pat Catterson), MoMA, New York
- 2008 *Elegantly Wasted*, Neuer Aachener Kunstverein, Aachen  
*Légèrement manipulés*, Centre d'art contemporain de Brétigny  
*Figure de Style*, CUBITT, London
- 2007 *Metallica*, FLACC, Genk  
*Salonishesque Tendencíes*, Maison Grégoire, Brussels  
*Marriage à la mode et cor anglais* (in collaboration with Ian White), STUK, Leuven  
*Act Out*, (with Emma Hedditch and Emily Roysdon), Studio Voltaire, London
- 2006 *Manifold Centerfold*, White Light, Düsseldorf
- 2004 *Art Now - Jimmy Robert / Ian White - 6 things we couldn't do, but can do now*, Tate Britain, London
- 2002 *Brown Leatherette*, Platform, London

#### Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2024 *flipping through pages keeping a record of time: Theresa Hak Kyung Cha & Jimmy Robert*, (curated by Jacob Korczynski), Participant Inc, New York  
*Motion Capture: Recent Acquisitions in Media and Performance*, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis
- 2023 *Drawing Probable Conclusions*, Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam  
*The Trembling Museum*, The Hunterian, Glasgow  
*It Go Have To Adjust*, SAVVY Contemporary, Berlin  
*Sediments. The Matter-Image*, Salonul de proiecte, Bucharest  
*touch. Politiken der Berührung (The Politics of Touch)*, EMOP European Month of Photography, Amtsalon, Berlin  
*Horizons Olfactifs*, Fondation Espace Écureuil pour l'Art Contemporain, Toulouse
- 2022 *Still Alive*, 5th Aichi Triennale, Aichi, Japan  
*The Scripts Found in a Bottle, Found in a Can, Found in a Discourse*, curated by Matt Morris, The Green Gallery, Milwaukee  
*Portrait of a Movement. Renate Lorenz & Pauline Boudry* (curated by Övül Ö. Durmusoglu), Centro de Arte Dos de Mayo, Madrid  
*When I State that I Am an Anarchist* (curated by Pierre Bal-Blanc), PLATO Ostrava, Czech Republic
- 2021 *A Time to Embrace and to Refrain from Embracing*, 6th Ural Industrial Biennial, Ekaterinburg, Russia  
*Balade Charlottenburg*, The French Institute, Berlin

- Wild Frictions*, CAC Cincinnati and Kunstraum Kreuzberg, Berlin  
*Crocodile Cradle*, curated by Simon Moretti, PEER, London
- 2020 *Studio Berlin*, Boros Foundation at Berghain, Berlin  
*OF REFRAINS AND LIMINAL SPACES*, Suprainfinit, Bucharest  
*Sâr Dubnotal*, CAC Brétigny, Brétigny-sur-Orge, France  
*Duro Olowu: Seeing Chicago*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago
- 2019 *...and other such stories*, Chicago Architecture Biennial  
*Displacement and Togetherness*, Cultuurcentrum Strombeek, Grimbergen  
*Stars are Closer and Clouds are Nutritious Under Golden Trees*, MMAG Foundation, Amman  
*Hybrid Sculptures*, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam  
*Tender Buttons*, Künstlerhaus Bremen  
*Relational Undercurrents: Contemporary Art of the Caribbean Archipelago*, Portland Museum of Art, Oregon
- 2018 *Relational Undercurrents: Contemporary Art of the Caribbean Archipelago*, Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum, Miami  
*Picture Fiction: Kenneth Josephson and Contemporary Photography*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago  
*A Strong Desire*, PS120, Berlin  
*Prosecute my Posture*, Garage, Rotterdam  
*Nothing Will Be As Before*, Tanya Leighton, Berlin  
*Any Frame is a Thrown Voice*, Camden Arts Centre, London  
*Relational Undercurrents: Contemporary Art of the Caribbean Archipelago*, The Miriam & Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery, Columbia University, New York
- 2017 *Moving/Image*, Arko Art Center, Seoul, Korea  
*Rest In the Furrows of My Skin*, Kunsthaus Hamburg  
*Palace Potemkin*, National Gallery / The Palace, Sofia
- 2016 *The Museum of Rhythm*, Muzeum Sztuki, Łódź, Poland  
*AIMIA AGO Photography Prize*, Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto  
*SCIC Friche la Belle de Mai*, Actoral Festival, Marseilles  
*Collective Exhibition / Interprétations à l'œuvre*, Astéride/ Friche la Belle de Mai, Marseille  
*Künstlich Natürlich*, Sabot Gallery, Paintbrush Factory, Cluj, Romania
- 2015 *After Dark*, Musée d'art moderne et contemporain, Geneva  
*2nd Chapter: The Eclipse of an Innocent Eye*, National Gallery of Prague  
*Et bien dansez maintenant!*, CAC De Pontmain  
*Shadow Scenes*, Cinnamon Colomboscope, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- 2014 *8th Berlin Biennial*, Berlin  
*11ème Biennale de l'art africain contemporain*, Dak'Art, Dakar  
*Mile-Long Paper Walk*, MoMA, New York  
*All that falls*, Palais de Tokyo, Paris  
*Textile languages*, Thalie Art Project, Brussels
- 2013 *A buddy for a text*, Forum Stadtpark, Graz  
*Surface Tension*, Oakville Galleries, Toronto  
*In a Sentimental Mood*, Galerie des Galeries, Paris  
*LA Existencial*, Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions, Los Angeles

- Edo pop: the graphic impact of Japanese prints*, Japan Society, New York
- 2012 *The Imaginary Museum*, Kunstverein München, Munich  
*Iemanjá Claus*, Galerie Diana Stigter, Amsterdam  
*Iemanjá Claus*, Galeria Mendes Wood, São Paulo  
*Alice in Wonderland*, Museo d'arte moderna e contemporanea di Trento e Rovereto, Rovereto  
*Exposição*, Teatro Ipanema, Brazil  
*LUX/ICA Biennial of Moving Images*, ICA, London
- 2011 *Benefizauktion Zug.*, Neuer Aachener Kunstverein, Aachen  
*Drawing 2011 – Biennial Fundraiser*, The Drawing Room, London  
*The Other Tradition*, WIELS Centrum voor Hedendaagse kunst, Brussels  
*Alice in Wonderland*, Tate Liverpool, Liverpool
- 2010 *From Dusk Till Dawn*, Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven  
*Life: A User's Manual*, Art Sheffield Biennale, UK  
*Alchemy Box*, Maison d'Art Bernard Anthonioz, Nogent-sur Marne  
*An Affirmative Attitude*, Hollybush Gardens, London  
*Just a Matter of Time*, Galerie Kadel Willborn, Karlsruhe  
*Here and Now*, Julia Stoschek Foundation, Düsseldorf  
*Bagna Cauda*, Art: concept, Paris
- 2009 *Rotterdam Dialogues: The Critics, The Curators, The Artists*, Witte de With, Rotterdam  
*Taj Mahal Travelers*, Galerie Nordenhak, Stockholm  
*Two or Three Things I Know About Her*, Four, Dublin  
*L' image cabrée*, Fondation d'Entreprise Ricard, Paris  
*Antidote 5*, La Galerie des Galeries Lafayette, Paris  
*30 Seconds Off an Inch*, Studio Museum Harlem, New York  
*SLOW MOVEMENT ODER: Das Halbe und das Ganze*, Kunsthalle Bern  
*Celebration*, Galerie Isabella Bortolozzi, Berlin  
*Notorious*, Le Plateau, Paris
- 2008 *Un-Scene*, WIELS Centrum voor Hedendaagse Kunst, Brussels  
*5th Berlin Biennial*, Berlin  
*Time Crevasse*, Yokohama Triennial  
*Gwangju Biennial*, South Korea  
*Persona*, Centre d'art contemporain du parc Saint-Léger  
*It Can Start Whenever You Want*, Westlondonprojects, London
- 2007 *Re-Make/Re-Model*, Sorcha Dallas Gallery, Glasgow  
*Act Out*, (with Emma Hedditch and Emily Roysdon), Studio Voltaire, London  
*Miracle Goodnight*, White Light, Düsseldorf  
*ZES*, Harris Lieberman Gallery, New York  
*ZES*, Marc Foxx Gallery, Los Angeles  
*Works on Paper*, Art: Concept, Paris
- 2006 *Just in Time*, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam  
*Being, in Brussels*, Argos, Brussels

Performances, Festivals and Screenings

- 2023 *Joie noire*, Centre national de la danse, Paris-Pantin
- 2022 *Water binds me to your name (as part of Phenomenon 4)*, Kerenidis Pepe Foundation, Anafi, Greece
- 2019 *Old masters*, David Roberts Art Foundation x Ministry of Sound, London  
*Joie Noire*, KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin  
*Joie Noire*, KAAI Theater, Brussels
- 2018 *Metallica in Prosecute my Posture*, Garage, Rotterdam  
*A Clean Line that Starts from the Shoulder*, Salonul de proiecte, Bucarest
- 2015 *Metallica*, Tanya Leighton, Berlin  
*A Clean Line that Starts from the Shoulder*, Playground Festival, Leuven
- 2013 *Counter-relief* (in collaboration with Maria Hassabi for Performatik festival), KAAI Theater, Brussels
- 2012 *Consensus Rouge Noir*, Picture This, Bristol
- 2011 *Consensus Rouge Noir*, Kunsthalle Basel
- 2011 *Metallica*, WIELS, Brussels
- 2008 *Metallica*, Neuer Aachener Kunstverein, Aachen  
*Marriage à la mode et cor anglais* (in collaboration with Ian White), CAC Brétigny, Paris  
*Marriage à la mode et cor anglais* (in collaboration with Ian White), De Appel, Amsterdam
- 2007 *Marriage à la mode et cor anglais* (in collaboration with Ian White), I.C.A, London  
*Le ping-pong d'amour*, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London
- 2006 *Prospectif Cinema*, Centre Pompidou, Paris
- 2005 *The Artists' Cinema*, Frieze Art Fair

#### Awards

- 2018 The Bessies (nominated: Outstanding Production)
- 2016 AIMIA AGO Photography Prize (shortlisted)
- 2009 Follow Fluxus-After Fluxus
- 1999 Andrei and Nicholas Tooth Award

#### Selected Bibliography

- 2023 Susan Mansfield, "Category-shredding exhibition of African art and artefacts looks at new ways of addressing colonialism", *The Art Newspaper*, December 2023  
*Motor Danse Journal*, October 2023  
Léon Kruijswijk, *King Kong Magazine*, March 2023  
Alain Elkann Interview with Jimmy Robert, *Specchio*, March 2023
- 2022 María Inés Plaza Lazo, *Arts of the Working Class*, November 2022  
Guillaume Lasserre, "Jimmy Robert", *Zéro Deux*, March 2022  
Anya Harrison, "Jimmy Robert", *Artforum*, February 2022
- 2021 Bettina Krause, "Made in Berlin: Jimmy Robert", *Zoo Magazine No. 70*, Spring issue  
Sable Elyse Smith (commissioned by Swiss institute), "TOUCH", *FEAR*

- TOUCH POLICE*, April 2021
- 2020 Chloe Carroll, "Jimmy Robert: Akimbo", *Art Monthly N. 441*  
 Alex Stubbs, "Jimmy Robert's Akimbo at Nottingham Contemporary",  
*Leftlion*, October 2020  
 Matthew McLean, "Jimmy Robert's Body Body Language", *Frieze*  
 May issue
- 2019 Eleonora Milani, "Jimmy Robert: Reworking Performativity", *Flash Art*,  
 no. 328, November-January 2019/2020  
 Harry Burke, "Interview: Artist Jimmy Robert on the Body, Space, and  
 Power", *Pin-Up*, Fall Winter 2019/2020  
 Karolin Meunier, "Affectional Leaps", *Texte Zur Kunst*, January 2019
- 2018 "Imitation of Lives", *Esse*, no. 93, 2018
- 2017 Maxwell Donnewald, "Body Language", *Pin-Up*, Fall Winter 2016/2017  
 "Caribbean Art", *Art Basel Year 42* (cat.), 2017  
 Will Fenstermaker, "Jimmy Robert with Will Fenstermaker", *The  
 Brooklyn Rail*, November 2017
- 2016 Juliet Hemke, "Image Failure: Jimmy Robert Constructs A New Canon",  
*Blouin Artinfo*, 3 October 2016  
 Elke Buhr, "Und sie bewegt sich doch", *Monopol*, January 2016
- 2015 "Berliner Zimmer", *Tagesspiegel*, Fall 2015  
 Jan Kedves, "In the Loop", *Frieze*, June 2015  
 Jude Stewart, "The Process", *The Believer*, Summer 2015
- 2014 "Berlin Biennial: Jimmy Robert", *Africanah.com*, June 2014
- 2013 Daniel Quiles, "Jimmy Robert: Museum of Contemporary Art",  
*Artforum*, January 2013
- 2012 Naomi Beckwith, "Jimmy Robert: vis-à-vis", Chicago, Museum of  
 Contemporary Art, August 2012
- 2010 Brooks Adams, "Jimmy Robert at Art:Concept", *Art in America*, 1  
 December 2010  
 Ara H. Merjian, "30 Seconds off an Inch", *Frieze*, March 2010
- 2009 Joanna Fiduccia, "Smoothing It Over", *Art on Paper*, September/  
 October 2009  
 Stefania Palumbo, "System of Touch", *Mousse Magazine*, June 2009
- 2008 Joanna Fiduccia, "Jimmy Robert", *Artforum*, June 2008  
 Kirsty Bell, "Jimmy Robert—Touch and Appropriation; film, dance and  
 gesture", *Frieze*, May 2008  
 T.J. Demos, "Jimmy Robert at Cubitt Gallery", *Artforum*, April 2008

#### Catalogues

- 2024 *The Man Who Envied Women*, Bierke, Berlin (forthcoming)
- 2020 *Revue*, Leopold-Hoesch-Museum, Düren  
*Plié*, Leopold-Hoesch-Museum, Düren
- 2014 *Draw the Line*, The Power Plant, Toronto
- 2012 *Vis-à-vis*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago
- 2008 *Elegantly Wasted*, Neuer Aachener Kunstverein, Aachen
- 2005 *Jimmy Robert*, Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunsten, Amsterdam

## Public Collections

FRAC Grand Large – Hauts-des-France, Dunkirk

Centre National des arts Plastiques, Paris

Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam

Museum Of Contemporary Art, Chicago

Moderna Museet, Malmö and Stockholm

FRAC – Ile-de-France, Paris

Museum of Modern Art, Warsaw

LACMA – Los Angeles County Museum of Art

Walker Art Center, Minneapolis

The Hunterian, Glasgow