BACHELOR'S PROGRAMMES



Royal Academy of Art The Hague

www.kabk.nl

About KABK

Are you interested in the world around you and do you want to produce work that has a significant role in society? Then a four-year Bachelor's programme at the Royal Academy of Art (KABK) is something for you. Curious, independent and self-assured artists and designers – these are what the KABK is looking for. During the Bachelor's you will have a lot of freedom to work on your personal interests and ambitions and you will be prepared for today's professional art world, in the Netherlands and abroad. The KABK is an international art school and all classes are in English.

Bachelor's programmes

- Fine Arts
- Photography
- Graphic Design
- Interactive/Media/Design
- Interior Architecture & Furniture Design
- Textile & Fashion

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Read more about our Bachelor's, Master's, PhD track and preparatory courses at www.kabk.nl or follow our instagram @royalacademyofart.thehague

Fine Arts

The Fine Arts programme aims to align the past of fine art with its present and future. We embrace history and tradition and root our discourse in the contemporary while researching and imagining the future of fine art as an indispensable contributor to culture, society, and ecology. The Bachelor's in Fine Arts is a fouryear programme that centres on the enmeshment of theory, research, and practice-emphasising critical and speculative reflections on art and its role in our societies and future(s). You are therefore encouraged to work across disciplines and to experiment, research, reflect, and contextualise your work. With the guidance of our tutors and workshop staff, guests and visiting experts, you develop your artmaking through peer reviews, project presentations, critiques, and tutorials. You can obtain the degree either through the full-time programme or the Amalgam part-time programme that aims to blend non-artistic and artistic approaches, fostering collaboration and community thinking.



Graduation work by Lakisha Apostel, We Shared a Belly (BA Fine Arts, 2023). Photo: Eric de Vries

Graphic Design

The Graphic Design bachelor's programme prepares you to be an analytical thinker and versatile designer. Through collaboration and exploration, you will address real-world issues, shaping the evolving role of designers. In today's digitally focused world, the curriculum ensures you are equipped with the necessary skills and adaptability for the professional landscape. It combines courses rooted in traditional graphic design skills with new media such as interactive design and coding, providing a wellrounded education. Supported by a strong theoretical foundation in art and design history, philosophy, and research, you will deepen your understanding of design discourse. Additionally, the programme emphasises the development of practical skills needed for success in the field, including professional networking, portfolio building, and internship guidance. Ultimately, upon graduation, you will be prepared for various career paths in sectors such as design studios, museums, NGOs, media and software development. This reflects the diverse career opportunities available to graphic designers.



Interior Architecture & Furniture Design

Learning by doing is the motto for this programme. Practice and theory go hand in hand to develop new insights into the disciplines of design & architecture, with a focus on ecologies and cohabitation. Over four years you will experiment with various materials, techniques, and methods, acquiring practical skills. You will choose electives in architecture or design, focus on your professional practice, including an internship, and work independently on (research) projects leading up to your graduation project. You will learn to be versatile and investigative. Field trips will help you understand your future practice. You will work on professional design cases in teams, both within and outside the academy. After graduating, you will be able to set up a studio, work with other designers or find your own way in the field of art & design, which may also include pursuing a master's programme.



Collective project of IAFD year 3, Transtecture (BA Interior Architecture & Furniture Design, 2023). Photo: Kostantin Maksimov

Interactive / Media / Design

Do you have a keen interest in the impact of media that now affect every aspect of our lives and our natural environment, both positively and negatively? Do you have strong social awareness and feel the urgency to act? At I/M/D you will learn to use technology to design interventions that can influence and change our society for the better. You will explore and work to improve the interaction between people, machines nature and cultures. You will not only be taught the professional skills to work in the creative industries but will also develop a strong design identity, founded on critical discourse. I/M/D graduates create the professional fields of the future by combining disciplines such as design, art and technology in sectors ranging from environmental protection and education to film and gaming. Our graduates often pursue careers in design agencies, media labs or NGOs, or start their own creative businesses.



Graduation work by Gaetan Langlois-Meurinne, Pursuit of Ilinx (BA Interactive / Media / Design, 2022). Photo: Charlotte Brand

Photography

Photography is a wide field with multiple possibilities for image-making, meaning-making and sharing the stories of our worlds. To develop your independent practice in this field, our four-year study programme helps you to define your interests and solidify your original and informed photographic voice. The programme is centred on the making and understanding of images. It starts with a variety of short-term photography assignments, progressing towards longer-term, self-directed projects. In a collective learning setting you will work with peers from different international backgrounds. Whether you choose to use photography to tell a story entangled with a lived reality, or as a starting point for a creative and critical inquiry into contemporary visual culture, your work will have strong engagement with the world and a desire to activate impact. By the time you graduate, you will direct your work, recognise your audience, and be equipped with all skills to position your own practice in the field of photography.



Graduation work by Ben Christ, a still from "On a Day Like Yesterday" (BA Photography, 2024)

Textile & Fashion

The Textile & Fashion department at the KABK has a unique profile. It is the only programme in the Netherlands where textile and fashion come together in one study programme, creating an inspiring and versatile curriculum. Over four years, you will discover and develop your own style and vision on fashion and textiles. You will do this by conducting in-depth research into the role and impact of fashion and textiles of the past, present, and future.

As a Textile & Fashion student, you engage with the ever-changing spirit of times: how it shapes our clothes, our surfaces, and the world around us. You will be encouraged to push boundaries, embrace the unknown, and find your own creative voice. This process, combined with your natural talent, lays the foundation for your unique artistic signature.



Bachelor Wide Education

During your bachelor studies, you will also follow bachelorwide courses beyond your own discipline. These learning pathways give you tools to develop and deepen your artistic practice through exploration and collaboration.

In the first year, Common Ground invites you to reflect on your surroundings, create together, and settle into the academy. Through research, collaboration, reflection, and shared experiences, the programme strengthens the KABK community and helps you feel at home.

From the second year onwards, you take various courses and discover new ways to create, research, and reflect. You learn techniques, explore materials, and investigate different topics with your peers, looking outside your discipline and sharing your process with others.



