

learning with HORSES

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About me

I was born the middle child of Belgian-Luxembourgian parents, whose own parents were teachers and tailors. I spent my childhood and teenage years in The Hague, in a cultured, privileged family. After the Lycée Français, I transferred to the International School. Barely 18 and against all expectations, I decided to study textile design – I was yearning for freedom and creativity. Two years later, my younger brother Vincent was killed in a motorbike accident: an immeasurable sorrow. In the years that followed, I took on challenge after challenge, as if to put life to the test.



Over the past 20 years, I developed a [widely branched art practice](#) in which I work with communities and their habitats to give a voice to social and ecological issues. I feel blessed to experience so many beautiful encounters in my work. I also was involved in setting up and running art courses and publish [books](#) at the intersection of art and science. With my next book, *Being Horse*, I want to contribute to a more nuanced understanding of the horse-human relationship across time and cultures.

It is thanks to my sister [Isabelle](#) that I was introduced to horses at an early age. Horse riding at the local riding school was fun, but also unsettling - was this the only way to interact with these beautiful hooved creatures?

Around the age of 40, horses galloped back into my life - first through a dream, then with work periods in Iceland and Brittany to develop my own horsemanship.

I am currently exploring my own riding skills and 'being human' with [Centered Riding](#) (Sally Swift), the [Three Tenets](#) (Zen Buddhism) and [The Art of Rewilding](#) (Natasha Lythgoe), among others. I am also a member of the Professional Association for Horse Coaches ([Beroepsvereniging voor Paardencoaches](#)). Within this network I am drawn to horse welfare and the coaching industry's code of ethics.



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