SAELLE CRAD



INDEX FILMOCRAPHY



ABOUT ME

Since I was ten years old, the camera has been my means of expression. I film, photograph, and experiment with images, movement, and language. Early on, I realized that this medium is more than just a tool for me: it's a mirror, an amplifier, a form of resistance.

My work revolves around the question of what it means to be human. I'm interested in how external influences – social, political, spatial – affect the body and mind. How bodies relate to one another. How closeness or distance forms.

I'm often part of my own works – my body becomes a means of communication: in performances, self-portraits, as a character, an image, or a fragment.

I work in fiction, but also occasionally in documentary formats—analog and digital, physical and theoretical. Research plays a central role in my process. I work with numbers, statistics, and academic texts—even when the outcome turns out surreal, ironic, or provocative. I'm drawn to structures, to power, language, and images. To the construction of reality—and how art can manipulate it.

I see art as a collective process. I work across disciplines, seek dialogue with others, and integrate different perspectives into my projects. Through collaborative thinking and production, new forms often emerge – ones that defy clear categorization, and that's exactly what fascinates me.

As a filmmaker, my focus is on fictional cinema. I'm interested in new narratives, alternative production methods, and collective processes. I work as a screenwriter, director, and producer – constantly searching for hybrid forms between cinema, theater, and installation.

My art is often personal, but never private. It is an attempt to share and an invitation to think, to feel, to disagree.

INFOS

based in Karlsruhe & Ulm, DE www.isabelle-konrad.com konradisabelle@gmail.com @isabelles_brain +49 17680796654 2025–2019 PORTFOLIO

PROJECTS







IT'S OKAY NOW

It's okay now is my autofictional media art diploma project—a collaborative work with Gloria Müller, deeply interwoven with our memories, origins, and identities. At its core lies the practice of remembering—as reflection, as dream, as an attempt to grasp the past. Through fictional scenes, documentary material, and personal archives, a narrative form emerges that oscillates between reality and fiction. My body becomes a vessel of memory, a medium of enactment:

To what extent is our self-image shaped by the stories we tell?

How does memory transform through repetition and artistic processing? In this project, I see myself not only as a director or author, but as a mediator of a fragmented self. Autofiction allows me to create both closeness and distance—it renders my experiences negotiable.

Part of the work is an interactive performance in the form of a tea ceremony. Visitors are invited to write down memories, share them, and become part of an associative chain. Meanwhile, tea is prepared in a samovar – a ritual pause, a shared moment of warmth and remembrance.

It's okay now is more than a graduation project to me. It is a moment of self-location. An artistic, emotional, and physical confrontation with what has been — and with what remains of it, once it is told.

INFOS
2024
Film, Installation
Diploma
together with Gloria Müller
25:10 min
Video: here

HfG Karlsruhe Sep/Oct 2025 Uqbar Berlin June 2025







PARANOIA

Paranoia tells the story of Fay, a young woman confronted with the embodiment of her fear: the Incubus – a nocturnal demon that appears in dreams and haunts its victim. Between light and darkness, control and loss of control, a psychological chamber play unfolds, centered on inner turmoil.

The film is based on the director's personal experience with an anxiety disorder and explores the question of how one can learn to live with fear without being entirely consumed by it. Paranoia approaches this theme with a poetically dark visual language, expressive lighting, a modular synthesizer soundtrack, and the intimacy of a deeply personal gaze. The film does not present fear as something to be conquered, but as a complex emotional state—intense, overwhelming, sometimes paralyzing, yet also a point of departure for self-reflection and transformation.

INFOS 2024 Movie 4:3, 2k, Arri Alexa Mini

Trailer: here

46:23 min







BYTHESEA

By the Sea is a music video for the musician Ella Fall. In her song, she processes the deeply personal experience of the longing for motherhood and the setbacks along the way. I had the honor of translating this story into a reduced and abstract visual form, consciously avoiding stereotypical imagery. Instead, we created an intimate atmosphere that plays with the elements of water, air, confinement, and openness.

Director: Isabelle Konrad

Director of Photography: Jonas Sommer

Scenography: Josephine Leicht

Camera Assistant: Sophie Reissfelder

Lighting: Jonas Sommer

Story Concept: Isabelle Konrad

Cast: Mariella Schelch

Costume Design: Mariella Schelch

Make-up & Hair: Kerstin Koch

Still Photography: Anika Koppenstedt Design, Layout & Artwork: Heike Hansen

Editor: Jonas Sommer Colorist: Jonas Sommer

Production Assistants: Kerstin Koch, Anton, Nadja, Hendrik

Music & Lyrics: Ella Fall

Piano: Florian Brettschneider Synth & Percussion: Chris Kling

Produced, Recorded & Mixed by: Chris Kling, Klangkantine Studios, Darmstadt

Mastered by: Zino Mikorey, Berlin

INFOS 2023 Music video for Ella Fall 4:53 min Video: here







PILE OF REMAINS

Sacca San Mattia is an artificial island near Murano (Venice, IT), created from industrial waste and construction debris. Today, it is an unused area of around 40,000 m²—a dumping ground that has become an invisible yet growing threat to the Venetian Lagoon.

The island consists of remnants – things once produced, used, and discarded. Traces of human presence and abandonment. A Pile of Remains picks up on this idea, exploring the tension between presence and absence, between beauty and destruction. The performance asks what consequences arise in a place where pollution occurs unchecked and inscribes itself into the ecological balance.

The soil contains alarming levels of lead, silver, and arsenic – well above guideline values. Though the contamination is still considered harmless to humans, traces have already been detected in microorganisms like mussels.

The island feels haunted: by the ghosts of a bygone culture, the history of Murano's glass industry, Venice's endless construction sites – and by humanity's careless treatment of nature. Responsibility remains vague. In 2015, a businessman was charged, but to this day there are no clear accountabilities or plans for ecological restoration.

On my first visit, I heard glass crunching beneath my feet with every step. The ground sparkled like a shimmering carpet of shards. Scattered among it: plastic debris, metal scrap, abandoned objects – a dystopian scene with a strange poetry. And in between: rabbits darting through the surreal setting. A place like a dark fairytale, full of beauty, sorrow, and decay.

The performance took place on site: photo collages of the terrain were projected onto textile surfaces, accompanied by a spoken text reflecting my impressions and research. A sound collage of field recordings played in echoing intervals. As a lasting element, a QR code was installed, linking to a website with further information on the island's environmental issues a lingering reminder of a repressed reality.

INFOS

2022

Performance, Installation, Video Documentation Video: here

Sacca San Mattia, Venice May 2022







PURPUR

"Purpur" was inspired by the 2017 FFA study Gender and Film, which exposed systemic gender inequality in the film industry. Drawing on its findings, my own research, and interviews with industry professionals, I developed a screenplay that serves as a multi-layered commentary on structural discrimination and power imbalance in cinema.

The film doesn't depict an individual fate or propose clear solutions. Instead, it explores the complex relationship between victim and perpetrator. Set in a hyper-stylized, surreal world, Purpur challenges both its characters and audience to examine embedded viewing habits and industry norms. How do power structures form? How can they be dismantled to achieve gender equity?

The protagonist, Isana, lives in a controlled film world reminiscent of The Truman Show. Every character is assigned a script from birth. Hers is a romance. All are puppets pulled by invisible strings until Isana starts to resist. Her rebellion cracks the artificial world around her, confronting the system and the silence it demands. What happens when familiar clichés no longer serve their purpose?

Purpur uses tropes and stereotypes only to unravel them. Characters lose their romance and function when stripped of their glossy surfaces. Isana defies the outdated ideal of womanhood and dismantles its kitsch, revealing a horror underneath, a purple deluge.

A seemingly glamorous, romantic world becomes a tense space of collision between perpetrators and victims, mirroring the creative industries after the "Me Too" reckoning. Isana embodies the disillusionment of a dream turned toxic, ostracized, disregarded, and ultimately rebellious.

In a system ruled by fear and egoism, everyone becomes a perpetrator. Purpur asks who holds responsibility in such a world and what role cinema plays in shaping it. Beneath its operetta-like surface, the film reveals a disturbing and timely reality.

INFOS

2022 Movie Shooting Format: Digital, Arri Alexa

104 min

Aspect Ratio: 2,54:1

Trailer: here

Mannheim Arts and Film Festival 2022

Boden International Film Festival 2022 "Best Woman Filmmaker"

Atlantic Bridge Film Festival 2023



2021

I, Terrorist is a performative text work that challenges media parratives, algorithmic profiling, and stereotypes of threat, questioning which bodies are marked as dangerous and why.

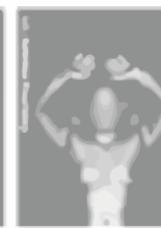


Reports - "Me, Terrorist" anonymized victim statements

Kunsthalle Mannheim, 2021







detained victim testimony 001

I was 12 years old. I was visiting a school in which the public tram station was on campus. One Friday morning during my break I walked with some friends to the nearest Netto supermarket. I left my school bag on the way, directly at the station, because I would have returned immediately and it was too heavy for me to take it with me. When I came back, two police officers were standing by my backpack. The police confronted me and I told them that the backpack was mine and that I was a pupil at the school. The police had been called because of suspicions of a terrorist attack. Despite my explanation, they insisted on searching me and my backpack as well as taking down my name.

ICH,TERROR*ISTEN

"I, Terrorist" challenges the socially ingrained image of the female terrorist—along with the racial profiling and categorization of people based on appearance.

INFOS 2021 Installation, Sound

10.09.2021–24.04.2022
Part of the group exhibition
'Mindbombs' at Kunsthalle Mannheim

Is my body the threat?

Does how I look define the danger I'm perceived to pose?

We classify people unconsciously, automatically, systemically – based on skin color, origin, or clothing.

Today, algorithms assign these roles: in job applications, policing, and surveillance. They analyze, label, and replicate discrimination – without action, without context.

"I could never be a terrorist" – this sentence is a privilege.

Many who don't fit the dominant image are placed under constant suspicion.

Meanwhile, violence by white perpetrators – such as racist attacks – is often softened through language: framed as "hate crimes," not terrorism.

Media narratives reinforce stereotypes: terrorism has a face, a place, a religion. The term itself is so loosely defined that it can be exploited—for control, exclusion, and the construction of enemies.

Who is seen as a potential terrorist—and why? And who isn't?

Don't we exclude certain people from suspicion simply because they look "white" or "respectable" – while placing others under blanket suspicion?

Can profiling really justify surveillance, accusation, structural distrust?

"I could never be a terrorist."



during the COVID-19 pandemic. The performance Spaghetti in Segments (with Josephine Leicht) adds a fragmented soundscape to themes of emptiness, memory, and speechlessness.





HEUTE HATTE ICH EINE KRISE

Today I Had a Crisis is a project born out of my personal experiences during the pandemic. Thoughts, moods, impressions captured in photographs, texts, and videos revolving almost entirely around my own body and private space.

Confined to my room, my inner world, my mind, I documented a state between boredom, frustration, exhaustion, depression and a defiant humor that kept surfacing whenever things got too serious.

lasked myself:

What does it mean to have a crisis – or to live in one? Do we, as humans, need crisis? Do I, as an artist, even need crisis in order to create?

And what happens when it's over? Does the next one just begin?

Today I Had a Crisis doesn't offer a way out or any answers. It offers a glimpse. And aims to spark reflection on crisis as a condition that may lie deeper within us than we like to admit. Because today I had a crisis.

Maybe tomorrow. Or the day after.

Part of the project is the performance Spaghetti in Segments, created with Josephine Leicht and presented at Kulturnacht Ulm 2021 at Galerie Tobias Schrade. The performance explores boredom, memory, and frustration during the pandemic. It is mostly silent – accompanied only by a voice recording that comments on the inner state without speaking it aloud.

INFOS 2021 Photography, Video, Performance 9:30 min Video: here

04.09.2021–18.09.2021 Solo exhibition at Galerie Tobias Schrade, Ulm







ICH&DU

Du & Ich is a music video for the fictional rapper character Nu HK Lorenzo, for which I directed and led the art direction. The idea: Nu HK Lorenzo explores what makes a successful rap video and what drives quick clicks online. Through pop-cultural references and hip-hop aesthetics, combined with a pastel-toned lollipop filter and a pinch of irony, the video gained thousands of YouTube views in a short time and was nominated for the German Youth Film Festival (Bundesfestival Junger Film).

Concept, Direction & Production: Isabelle Konrad

Directors of Photography: Alexander Thelen, Sophie Reißfelder

Lighting & Camera Assistance: Pauline Cemeris, Yael Kolb

Cast: Julia Serena Unseld, Finn Baygan

Hair & Make-up: Nelly Corsten Set Photography: Maria Kirch

Costume Design: Rustam Faradschev

Extras: Rustam Faradschev, Johannes Bauer

Lighting & Camera Assistance: Pauline Cemeris, Yael Kolb

Cast: Julia Serena Unseld, Finn Baygan

Hair & Make-up: Nelly Corsten Set Photography: Maria Kirch

Costume Design: Rustam Faradschev

Extras: Rustam Faradschev, Johannes Bauer

INFOS 2019 Music video for Nu HK Lorenzo 3:31 min Video: here

Bundesfestival Junger Film - 2020







DAMALS

"Back Then" by Isabelle Konrad – 2nd Place, Hofbräu Trophy 2017 Spec spot for Hofbräu Beer.

In a Bavarian village where the last local pub is about to be torn down, a stubborn brewer chains herself to the building—clinging to the past, her pride, and the only thing still worth saving: Hofbräu beer.

Director: Isabelle Konrad

Director of Photography: Felix Krause

Cast: Hannah Elischer

INFOS

2018 Video 1:00 min Musikvideo: here

Filmschoolfest Munich 2017 Hofbräu Trophy







PROJEKT 24/7

Every day, tangled, dry floods pour over us. Thousands of heavy words roll over me.

Millions of pellets of information rain down on us.

William of policie of information fair down of de

The deluge of news. Daily. Nonstop. No break.

Where are we supposed to go in this constant downpour?

A roar. Screams. Noise.

Buzz. Typing. STOP. Breathe.

I exposed myself to this flood for two months.

The result: despair.

A paper jungle grew in my apartment.

For days I cut out newspaper articles on autopilot.

Host count of the Facebook screenshots.

I drowned in a sea of information and felt how this overflow shapes, paralyzes, and numbs us.

Maybe because I didn't want to drift. I tried to swim against the current.

To create order, to filter, to grasp.

The result: An exhibition like an overwhelmed brain. A collage of daily burdens.

I suffer from information overload.

This work is my personal response to media consumption, digital noise, and the topics that hit me hardest in the informational jungle.

Now it stands there in life-size – a collection of text, image, sound.

Is it reality? Or just a product of our flooded society, shaped by fears of fake news, cover-ups, and a craving for stories the world might not even need?

INFOS 2018 Installation, Video, Performance 3:25 min Video: here

23.03.2018-06.05.2018
Exhibition as part of 'Moderne im Schloss' at Neuffenschloss Weißenhorn

2025–2013 PORTFOLIO



CV			2025-20
YEAR(S)	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	
2025	Exhibition	Solo exhibition 'It's okay now' in the project space uqbar of ABA (Air Berlin Alexanderplatz	z) e.V.
2017–2025	Education	Studies of Media Art, HfG Karlsruhe, Degree: Diploma in Media Art	
2024	Film	Diploma thesis 'It's okay now' (short film, video installation)	
since 2024	Professional experience	Producer & Creative at Awesome Pixels GmbH & Co. KG	
since 2023	XR/Fulldome	Development of the interactive fulldome project 'Anima Morale'	
2023	Other	Foundation of the association "Medienkunstinitative Lichtspielsauna e.V."	
2023	Exhibition	Performance 'IST.', studio festival 'Im Hinterzimmer', Karlsruhe	
2021–2023	3 Film	Director & screenplay of the medium-length film 'Paranoia' as well as collaboration on VR & diploma film productions	
2021–2022	2 Exhibition	Group exhibition 'Mindbombs', Kunsthalle Mannheim, installation 'Me, Terrorist'	
2022	Exhibition	Performance 'A Pile of Remains', Sacca San Mattia, Murano (IT)	
2022	Award	Best Women Film Maker ('Purpur'), Boden International Film Festival (Sweden)	
2022	Exhibition	International film collage '60x60', Museum Brot & Kunst Ulm, video work 'Satt'	
2022	Education	Erasmus semester at the IUAV in Venice (IT)	
2021	Exhibition	Solo exhibition 'Today I had a crisis', Tobias Schrade Gallery, Ulm	

CV		2025–201	3
YEAR(S)	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	
2019–2021	Film	Direction & production of the feature film 'Purpur' (Vordiplom)	
2020	Award	Nomination at the Federal Festival of Young Film ('Du & Ich')	
2020	Other	Jury member Swabian JUFINALE	
2019	Exhibition	Annual edition of the Ulmer Kunstverein ('Voll'; digital photography)	
2015–2019	Film	Director & producer of several short films and music videos, including 'Die Freakshow' and 'Du & Ich'	
2018	Exhibition	Group exhibition 'Let's Perform the Archivel' at Badischer Kunstverein Karlsruhe	
2014–2018	Exhibition	Solo & group exhibitions, including Kulturnacht Weißenhorn, Triennale Ulm, 'Moderne im Schloss'	
2017	Award	2nd place Hofbräu Trophy for commercial 'Damals', Filmschool Fest Munich	
2016/17	Professional experience	Internship at Borst & Partner advertising agency Weißenhorn, Marketing & Video Production department	
2016	Professional experience	Internship at Lisa Miller & Johannes Müller GbR, collaboration on the feature film 'Landrauschen'	
2013–2016	Education	General higher education entrance qualification, Ferdinand von Steinbeis School Ulm, specializing in media and design technology	n
2015	Award	Special prize of the 14th Swabian Jufinale for 'The Freakshow'	
2014	Award	Weißenhorn Youth Art Prize	

FILMOGRAPHY

FILMOGRAPHY PORTFOLIO							
YEAR TITEL	FORMAT	DIRECTOR/LEADING	MYROLL				
2024 JugendstiftungBW 2024 REspect 2023 Anima Morale	Social Media Spot Commercial spot XR/Fulldome	Awesome Pixels GmbH & Co. KG Awesome Pixels GmbH & Co. KG Isabelle Konrad, Awesome Pixels GmbH & Co. KG, maze pictures GmbH	Director (Art Director) Screenplay, Director Screenwriter, Director				
2024 It's Okay Now 2024 Big Betty 2024 BMW Mixed Reality	Short feature film Short feature film Commercial spot	Isabelle Konrad, HfG Karlsruhe Moritz Müßig, Lensflair GbR Awesome Pixels GmbH & Co. KG	Screenwriter, Director Screenwriter Producer				
2022 By the Sea by Ella Fall	Music video	Mariella Kling	Director (Art Director)				
2021 Paranoia 2021 Dream Job by VR Film 2021 Acht.vierzehn	Mid-length film Short film Short film	Isabelle Konrad, Isabelle Konrad Produktion Shuaitong Zong, Tom Boys Victor van Wetten, Carina Obrecht	Screenwriter, Director Producer Production Manager				
2020 Le Palier by HIBA 2020 Purpur	Music video Feature film	Nelly Corsten-Weckel Isabelle Konrad, HfG Karlsruhe	Producer Screenwriter, Director, Producer				
2020 Du & Ich – New HK Lorenzo 2019	Music video	Finn Baygan	Director (Art Director)				
2019 Zu früh, schon traurig 2019 A la carte	Short film Short film	Till Gombert, HfG Karlsruhe Valle Döring, Elenya Bannert	Producer Production assistant &				
2019 To Cut A Long Story Short	Mid-length film	Minh Anh Nguyen, Beckmann Film	manager Set manager				
2018 Threesome	Short feature film	Boris Creimerman, HfG Karlsruhe	Production assistant & manager				
2018 Zuckerhaus	Short feature film	Jonas Rehren, HfG Karlsruhe	Food Stylist				
2017 Hofbräu - Damals 2017 Small Deaths 2017 Landrauschen	Spec commercial Feature film Short film	Isabelle Konrad, Isabelle Konrad Produktion Isabelle Konrad Lisa Miller, Miller & Müller Film GbR	Director Director, Producer Production assistance (internship)				
2015 Freakshow	Short film	Isabelle Konrad	Screenwriter, Director				

ISABELLE KONRAD PORTFOLIO

THANK YOU!