

Nikki de León's practice spans painting, sculpture, and text—driven by an act of structural self-assertion. Drawing on her background in architecture and industrial fabrication, she explores how space inherits strength through the tension of the unknown. In her paintings, de León utilizes a foundation of deep blackness—allowing color to emerge as sharp, freehand forms executed with visceral precision. Her sculptural works engage in a precarious equilibrium, holding together opposing forces—logic and intuition, mass and weightlessness. Her work creates environments where contrasts coexist—not as conflict, but as resilient, steady forms of balance.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2025

L'ego Tour, City Management, Saarlouis, Germany

2024

Construction of Reminiscence, Kunsthafen, Cologne, Germany

2023

Happy Places, Studio Feld, Cologne, Germany

2022

Blackmarket - Cash Only, Covid Studio, Cologne, Germany

2021

Selected Works, N°59, Cologne, Germany

2019

New Post – Offline, Rosebud Bar, Cologne, Germany

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2024

Hafenhustle, Kunsthafen im Rheinauhafen Cologne, Germany

2023

Nice Dry, Kultur & Gut, Hamburg, Germany

2021

Platz des Zusammensitzens, Hannover, Germany

2020

Streetchairs w/ El Warcha Collective, MAKK, Cologne/Tunis, Germany/Tunisia

2020

Faux Naïf, Passagen, Martin Glanz, Cologne, Germany

2019

X99-hibition, Marmeladenfabrik, Cologne, Germany

RECOGNITIONS

2018

GDA Newcomer Nominee 2019, issued by Rat für Formgebung Frankfurt, Germany

2017

Honored by BDIA for Outstanding Exposition, Campus Art & Design Trier, Germany

TEACHING

2022

Computer generated Abstracts – Folkwang University of the Arts, Essen, Germany

EDUCATION

MA Interior Design – 2018

Product- Furniture- and Exhibition Design
University of applied Science, Trier, Germany

BA Interior Architecture – 2017

Construction in Existing Context
University of applied Science, Trier, Germany

Interior Design Studies, 2013 - 2017

Architecture Studies, 2009 - 2013
University of applied Science, Trier, Germany