

interview with



seja

what's in your rider?

Club Mate to drink, a piece of fruit to eat, and a platform to stand on, since I'm small and dj booths are always too high.

favorite bpm?

110, very underrated, right when it gets gritty.

best memory at weelde?

Having five Belgian friends in a huge mobile home drive over from Brussels and Ghent for the first night I curated at Weelde, closing it off with a very nice b2b with my friend Julian (juliojulio).



TELL US SOMETHING ABOUT YOURSELF!

By day I communicate through words, by night I communicate through music. For a while I was known as the dj that plays 'disco for angry people', which is still not untrue, although I am getting further and further removed from the disco half. The angry half is still there. My DJ name is an homage to my younger brother who couldn't pronounce my actual name (Vera), my dad still calls me 'seja' to this day.

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO GET OUT OF THIS RESIDENCY?

Having been a resident at Weelde for the past two years, I am very grateful that I got asked again for the last year of Weelde. There are very few people and organizations that have supported me so much as them. For this third year of my residency I mainly hope to make the best out of the last year, and to embrace my last sets and curations there, the location, the people, the vibe, the horrible rides to Utrecht at 5am, the mirrors in the Zandbar and the sun going down behind the vegetable garden.

HOW DOES ROTTERDAM AND ITS NIGHT-LIFE INFLUENCE WHAT YOU'RE DOING?

Although I have never lived in Rotterdam, I seem to fit better into its nightlife than in most other cities I've played in. You could even only tell by the fact that the Pinkman store (bring it back, please) had a separate crate for every genre that I play. The synth-y, wavy, electro-y sound that I prefer is very much represented in Rotterdam. Also, it is pretty much in the middle of the two cities where I spend most of my time: Brussels and Utrecht - maybe it is just the geographical feng shui that does the trick.



where do you see yourself in 5 years?

I wonder if I haven't gotten tired of this dj thing by then, but if not, I hope I am not yet outdated and that I have seen even more new places and faces by then.

WHAT SKILLS do you BELIEVE are NECESSARY TO BECOME a dj?

The only skill that is really necessary in my opinion - which is maybe not even a skill - is the drive to discover and collect nice music that you like (and not that other people like you to play). The rest can be taught. Also I've learned that being patient and kind eventually takes you where you need to land.

what dj inspired you THE MOST in THE BEGINNING phase?

Paula Tape. When I accidentally ended up at her all nighter at Paloma Bar in Berlin, I got introduced to italo and synthpop being played in a club setting. Then I realised: this is what I want to play. I had to ask one of my friends who was with me what the genres were called so I could look for that kind of music.



an ARTIST TO LOOK OUT FOR:

Donia, a friend from Brussels who is also a very very very good dj.

Biggest goal for 2023?

So far, so good, for this year. I don't set dj goals, actually. I have already played more places than I could have wished for. Maybe Paloma Bar, then, if I have to manifest something. 9. What are you proud of? That people trust me for my music taste when I get asked to play somewhere. It is the strangest and biggest compliment.

LAST, BUT NOT LEAST! a song you played so much that you can't stand anymore:

D Mob - We Call It Acieed! (but if the moment is right I would still play it, to be honest)

