

## *Biography Aqueene Wilson*

Aqueene Wilson is an photographer, spaceholder and allround creative entrepreneur from Curaçao. She is the visionary behind her service practice IN AWE and the heart of HUMAN POWER. Her being is full of creative possibilities, making her a true multi-hyphenate, dedicated to the visibility and liberation of Black and Brown folks.

She holds an International bachelor's degree in Arts & Culture from Erasmus University. Here, she was encouraged to practice art from a position of research while cultivating culturally nurturing dialogues. Consequently, she has been researching the lack of Black dancers in contemporary institutions in 2019 & 2020 to actively make space for the yet marginalized body under the title, 'WHERE ARE THE BLACK BODIES DANCING?'.

As a self-taught photographer she is known for creating soft, body-centered photography with a brown colorpalette. She exhibited her first photo series, HUNTU, at Melkweg, in 2019 as part of the group exhibition Back In The Day Is Our Future. From 2023 onwards, she purposefully dedicated her time to Black women's rest under the project name SELFHOOD. The series shaped her career in a profound way as it pushed her to continue her journey in Black and female documentation till this day. Wrapped as an audio-visual love letter, the work provided an uplifting exploration on the importance of rest in the identity formation of Black women. As such, SELFHOOD is her most personal work yet and was only able to be manifested after having received the research & developed grant from CBK in 2022.

Parallel to her artistry, this Caribbean child also engages in the act of holding space and reimagining new ecosystems in which softness, vulnerability, reflection and rest serve as important portals for a durable and celebratory human experience. By seeking to channel the multi-dimensionality of our collective experience through different forms, she hopes to offer restorative possibilities for existing, moving, communicating, and being.

Notably, when she moved back to Curaçao in 2024, she picked up writing again, publishing self-revealing essays with a critical touch and an unfolding relationship with the Caribbean. In tune with the soft life she chose for herself, she shared her reflections, revelations and critiques when she felt inspired again by real- life experiences.

As a communication artist and creative entrepreneur, she essentially creates what she wants to see, feel and hear with the intention to extend the parameters of when and how representation, language and belonging are available to us. More so, in a world where the performance of brands is increasing by the day, her gift specifically blooms in workspaces that support vulnerability, accountability & transparency in their communication. Not as a strategic way to shape one's perception, but to tell an authentic story that aligns with the creative in question or the practice fields of their business.

In the end, her whole service is rooted in being of service to those who have shaped her approach to art-making – may it be Women, Black people or Caribbean folks.