

# THE RAVESTIJN GALLERY

PRESENTS

## ANJA NIEMI



*Stallion portrait with missing tack, 2021*  
Inkjet on Hahnemuhle Photo Rag Baryta paper  
75 x 100 cm / edition of 12 plus 2 AP



*The Portrait, 2021*  
Inkjet on Hahnemuhle Photo Rag Baryta paper  
100 x 75 cm / edition of 12 plus 2 AP

Press release

### **Anja Niemi / The Rider Vol. 1**

*Opening:* Saturday October 30, 2021 from 17:00 - 19:00

*Exhibition:* November 1, 2021 - January 8, 2022

A woman stands turned away from us, dressed in classic black dressage pants - hair gently gathered under her helmet by a hairnet. The sleeves of her white blouse are rolled up, torso slightly arched, shoulders together. Her leather riding boots are securely grounded beneath her, preparing to confront the dark void ahead.

*The Rider Vol. 1* is an ideological progression from Anja Niemi's previous series *The Blow* (2019), in which a female boxer has the lead role. *The Blow* is an allegory for struggle, and the countless number of conflicts we as humans wrestle with. As with all of Niemi's work, the narratives she constructs and then performs act as allegorical amplifiers to the conversations that lie beneath.

In her latest series Niemi recreates her character's struggle in the form of a rider and her horse. Trust and the will to understand each other are essential to their mutual bond. In good times they are one, connected in trust and respect. They are on an open-ended journey, a journey that requires perseverance and the suspension of fear.

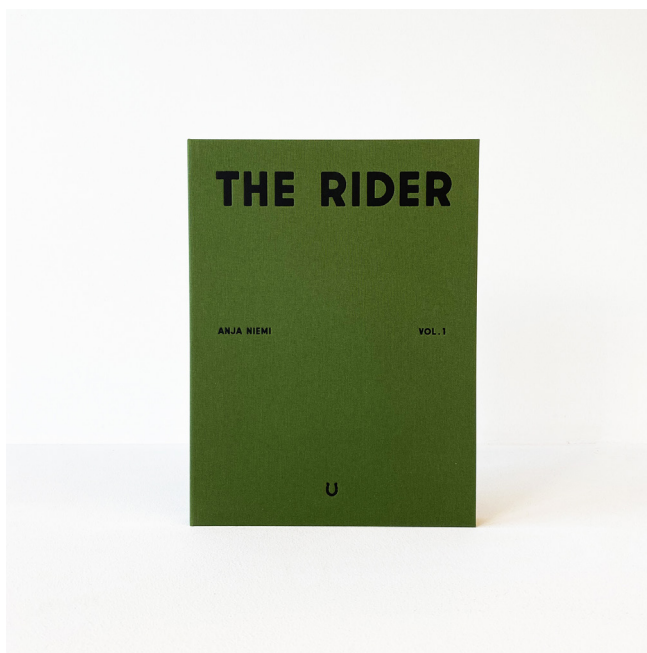
*Involuntary disembarkation* (2021). A jodhpur trapped in a stirrup, with its leather strap tangled and hanging in thin air, hints to events of the past. Reminding us of the traumas that haunt us. *The Rider* is about the freedom found in progress and the ability to displace fear even if it's temporary. It is a declaration of love, for the creatures the artist simultaneously fears and adores.

Anja Niemi (1976) studied at Parsons School of Design in New York and has exhibited in galleries worldwide. Four monographs of her work have been published and her images are part of various public and private collections. Recent museum exhibitions include Fotografiska (Stockholm and Tallinn), MAAT (Museum of Art, Architecture and Technology, Lisbon), Des Moines Art Center (Iowa) and Figge Art Museum (Davenport).

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Special edition boxset containing 10 prints of 7,5 x 10 cm  
32 x 24 x 3 cm / edition of 12

For more information or to receive images please contact the gallery at [jasper@theravestijngallery.com](mailto:jasper@theravestijngallery.com). Or visit our website [here!](http://www.theravestijngallery.com)

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