



After Work

COUR x Julie Kegels

Antwerp, May 2026

This spring, during the overlap of Antwerp Design Week and Antwerp Fashion Festival, COUR and Julie Kegels present *After Work*, a collaborative exhibition project that centralises fashion, design, and art into a spatial narrative.

Set within the walls of COUR, an apartment gallery overlooking Antwerp's cathedral and known for its intimate, homely atmosphere, this space creates the perfect natural setting for a project that reassesses how design-driven objects are displayed, used, and behaved around.

Julie Kegels' work often draws from these domestic environments; garments are made from furniture; furniture takes on the stylistic traits of clothing, and so on. Since launching her label in 2024, Kegels has developed a distinct language in which clothing, objects, and

lifestyles continuously inform one another, from the idea that you are only as good as the environment you surround yourself with.

For *After Work*, Kegels calls up her close-knit network of collaborators, made up of friends, designers, and practitioners who have helped build her universe over time. Each participant is invited to develop a work in response to the “Julie Kegels woman” as consistently defined since the label’s first season: a contemporary working woman navigating multiple roles at once, who (despite everything) somehow makes it work. The show mirrors this condition as a continuous state of all work / all play, with no clean separation between the two. Contributors include a mix of emerging and established voices, among them Antwerp’s finest Walter Van Beirendonck and Dirk Van Saene, to which COUR responds with a selection of international and intergenerational positions who extend the constellation beyond Julie’s immediate circle.

Rather than presenting works as isolated pieces, COUR frames them within a POV. The scenography stages a home/office: a realistically lived-in space with residual gestures like wine glasses left on an executive desk, piles of clothes on furniture, and to-do notes left in the open. *After Work* positions the interior as a practical site of ongoing dialogue between disciplines, and between people who share sensibilities.

By bringing this project into the dovetailing frameworks of Antwerp Design Week and Antwerp Fashion Festival, the exhibition celebrates a category collapse alongside a group of creatives who challenge the limits of their own areas of expertise.

Curator: Milan Henderickx

Creative direction: Julie Kegels and Mauranne Ricaille

Co-curator: Stan Van Rompaey

Location: COUR, Groenplaats 42, 2000 Antwerp

Dates: 30 May - 28 June 2026

Opening: 30 May 2026

Vernissage: 3 June 2026