

CURRICULUM VITAE HARMEN VAN DER TUIN

Born in Papendrecht, The Netherlands, 1958. Working and living in Zwolle, The Netherlands.

After working in several styles, the last 15 years Harmen van der Tuin has increasingly focused on the essential characteristics of shape, surface, color and matter. The artist produces monochrome paintings, on different backgrounds, upon which the brushstroke becomes the subject of the piece. He eliminated all recognizable subjects in his work. And in this process in this focusing on the most essential, he has developed and sensual bolt kind of art.

His paintings become a sculpture, actually it is a painted sculpture with the tick material and the brushstroke. His works is a combination between minimalism and abstract expressionism.

The philosophy of Taoism, Buddhism, and Nonduality had a great impact on his way of perceiving, as he mentioned in his statement from 1991: "The dissolving power of art, is what really touches us. It is the revelation of the heart, which is un-manifest and is THAT, what we are. The art needs innocence to reveal that, what is most important. So, I work with being but none being is what I use."

The content of his works withdrawals from every definition for it is not the material which is used or anecdotical content. Harmen refers to emptiness, and the works arise from emptiness. And this can only happen when the mind is in stillness when the mind is silent, and when the mind is silent there is no mind, and there is the emptiness, where the awareness is totally free and available to create.



Unity and Connection (the natural state of the human)

"In my opinion good art shows 'the present'. It is a gateway to the formless, the spaciousness. The beauty of art is that it is an echo of the state of consciousness from which it originates. Like music, art is not possible without this formlessness, this silence. Music bears silence within itself. There is a subtle balance between silence and sound. The ultimate music is silence itself. In that very same way good art bears invisibility within itself; an intrinsic and subtle balance between form and formlessness.

How is it that people are touched by art? What does it reflect, what makes it resonate? What is the deeper meaning? Can we learn something from this?

I think if something hits you, there is something reflected deep inside of you, it is a feast of recognition. You will hear something, that arouses recognition, because it is already within you. In fact, it touched your deepest self. To achieve this 'Einklang', you will have to open up for it, surrender to it. Your attention should not be stuck somewhere. You have to let go of the prejudices and concepts that stand in your way because they perpetuate the duality. By only viewing art as it appears to you, you will not get in contact with it.

You can practice this for example by getting in contact with art by viewing lots of art and try to connect to it. And I do not mean by theorizing with language because language is form and stands in between yourself and comprehension. It can only be found by reflecting. Words are only hints, and have no value in themselves. It's not a matter of debate, but of focusing, of complete attention. Attention from two sides. Try to change your viewing point and when your focus is not stuck anywhere, you are able to look with openness, rather like looking without eyes.

This open free attention is unlimited and completely transparent, and it takes the shape and color of what you see. By releasing everything that is stuck inside of me I provoke undivided and free attention. This means that there is nothing activated inside anymore and the mind becomes silent. If the perception should be completely fresh and new, the inside must definitely be quiet. What's most important and most essential of mankind is invisible. It's the no-ground and the natural state of man. By realizing himself this natural state, man will return to peace, and the mind regains the place it deserves.

For unity and connection (Einklang) the mind must be silent."

Harmen van der Tuin



Artistic education:

1979-1984

Academy of Arts, ARTEZ, Zwolle, The Netherlands, graduated Autonomous Art

Exhibitions and international art fairs:

2022

Oostkerke (Damme), Belgium, ML Gallery, presentation paintings Moscow, Russia, Askeri Gallery, group exposition Nan Jing, China, Deji Art Museum

2021

Contemporary Impasto, group online show Munich Singapore, Ode to Art Gallery London, UK, Richeldis Fine Art Gallery Heerenveen, The Netherlands, MUGA

2020

London, Milano, CARDI Gallery, presentation on ARTSY Miami United States, Alfa Gallery, 3D expo Singapore Ode To Art Gallery, Den Bosch, The Netherlands MPV Gallery London, UK, Richeldis Fine Art Gallery London, UK, Paul Smith design Zurich, Switzerland, Delisart Dublin Ireland, Kasadamo Jubbega, The Netherlands, Galerie LOOF

2019

Miami, USA, Alfa Gallery, presentation on ARTSY
Zwolle and De Steeg, The Netherlands, launching Studio Harmen with silhouette table
Zwolle, The Netherlands, Kunstwegen paviljoen Anningahof, solo presentation
London, UK, Richeldis Fine Art
London, UK, Paul Smith, Mayfair presentation paintings
New York, USA, Freudmonk Gallery, exhibition wall sculptures, instagram @Freudmonkgallery
London, UK, Richeldis FineArt, presentation of works at Paul Smith Mayfair, London, UK
Zwolle, The Netherlands, Kunstwegen Paviljoen Anningahof
New York, USA, Freudmonk Gallery
Den Bosch, The Netherlands, MPV Gallery

2018

Jubbega, The Netherlands, duo exposition Gallery LOOF Kunstrai Amsterdam, The Netherlands, solo booth presentation Gallery Loof

2017

Oranjewoud, The Netherlands, Museum Belvedère, Art North, Gallery Loof Zwolle, The Netherlands, Michaelskerk, 30 years BZK, curators, Ineke van Harten & Harmen van der Tuin

2015

Zwolle, The Netherlands, Stedelijk Museum



2010

Ghent, Belgium, Lineart Fair Zwolle, The Netherlands, Stedelijk Museum, Museum voor Hedendaagse Kunst, project poëzien

2009

Valkenswaard, The Netherlands, Lambert Gallery Den Ham, The Netherlands, Gemeentelijke Expositie Ruimte, Lustrum Expo

2008

Geldrop, The Netherlands, Interim Gallery Zwolle, The Netherlands, Museum De Fundatie, Project Einklang n.a.v. het Zwart festival New York, USA, Point B (artists residence)

2007

Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Autoriteit Financiële Markt (AFM) Zwolle, The Netherlands, Stedelijk Museum

2005

Zwolle, The Netherlands, IQ Art Experience artfair Zwolle, The Netherlands, Odeon, En de Dingen

2003

Dortmund, Germany, Dortmund Art Fair

2002

Apeldoorn, The Netherlands, Apeldoorn Art Fair Groningen, The Netherlands, Groningen Art Fair Vorden, The Netherlands, Galerie Het Gele Stoeltje

2001

Almelo, The Netherlands, Hof 88 Gallery Utrecht, The Netherlands, Gallery Het Creanchen, solo presentation Eindhoven, The Netherlands, Eindhoven Art Fair

2000

Zwolle, The Netherlands, Stedelijk Museum Zwolle Oldenzaal, The Netherlands, Museum het Palthehuis, Selectie 10 jaar Palthehuis Maastricht, The Netherlands, Gallery Artisart

1999

Volkel, The Netherlands, Retouche Gallery

1998

Zwolle, The Netherlands, Broerenkerk, aankopen Gemeente Collectie Wijhe, The Netherlands, Galerie Wijhese kunstkamer Den Haag, The Netherlands, Art Fair, Galerie Delphi Form (Zwolle)

1997

Den Ham, The Netherlands, Gemeentelijke Expositie Ruimte Hardenberg, The Netherlands, Kunstbeurs Overijsselse Verbeelding Trivandrum India, ICCD Exhibition international cultural development



1996

Hamm, Germany, Stedelijk Museum Zwolle, The Netherlands, Odeon Ane, The Netherlands, Galerie Woppie's Deel Zwolle, The Netherlands, Gallery Het Langhuis

1993

Ane, The Netherlands, Galerie Woppie's Deel, Lustrum exhibition Bucharest, Romania, Gallery Orizond

1992

Zwolle, The Netherlands, Librije, Museum of Contemporary Art Oldenzaal, The Netherlands, Museum het Palthehuis

1991

Oldebroek, The Netherlands, Galerie De Zonnewagen Stralsund, Germany, Cultural Exchange

1990

Eefde, The Netherlands, Huize de Voorst, invited as member of Auton, a group of eight lyrical abstract painters, among others: Wim Biewenga, Leo de Jong and Charlotte Molenkamp Zwolle, The Netherlands, De Broerenkerk

1989

Nunspeet, The Netherlands, Galerie Scarabee Zwolle, The Netherlands, De Librije (Centre for Contemporary Art) Rheine, Germany, Museum Falkenhof Emmeloord, The Netherlands, Het gemeentehuis Ane, The Netherlands, Galerie Woppie`s Deel Zwolle, The Netherlands, De Broerenkerk

1998

Zwolle, The Netherlands, Librije, Museum for Contemporary Art Zwolle, The Netherlands, Odeon Zwolle The Netherlands, IJssel Hall Enschede, The Netherlands, Gallery De Villa Zwolle, The Netherlands, Gallery Het Langhuis Lünen, Germany, City Hall Borne, The Netherlands, Gallery het Klopjeshuis



Projects

2019

Design and execution, Studio Harmen Silhouette table

2017

Design and execution, Jump into the void, Jacobuskerk Utrecht Design and execution Sensorium, Jacobuskerk Utrecht

2016

Design and execution ceiling paintings, IJsselstein Hattem

2015

Designer of seating, executed by Sercon, RVS

2014

Designer SBI for label Design Studio Harmen van der Tuin

2013

Designer ARMA ART, exhibition and conference centre (AECC) UBUD BALI, Indonesia New Desigs by Harmen van der Tuin, Shanghai

2011-2013

Dena Design (furniture), Shanghai, Wuxi & Veenendaal, The Netherlands

2010

KIZ, Zwolle The Netherlands: First Price winner Harmen van der Tuin, in collaboration with Poly-Ned fabric architecture, Steenwijk / Zwolle

2009

Olympia, Zwolle The Netherlands

2008

Design of lighting for Librije Spinhuis, Zwolle, The Netherlands Design fresco's for Librije (bridal suite), Spinhuis, Zwolle, The Neterlands

2007

Tryptic Monuta, Zoetermeer, The Netherlands

2005-2010

Design and execution Zwolse Architectuurprijs, 5 years, Zwolle, the Netherlands

2005

Design and execution Apllied Arts for Flier Interior, Emmen, The Netherlands

2004-2006

Design Dutch submission for the Horti-cultural World Exposition, Shenyang, China

2003

Chambre des Amis, Zwolle, The Netherlands

2002

Forecast The Netherlands (Rijswijk, Rotterdam, Alkmaar, Tilburg, Hilversum, Utrecht, Amsterdam, Eindhoven and Arnhem)



2001

Forecast the Netherlands (Zwolle and Amersfoort)

2000

Rijssen ceiling paintings for the library and vaults of 'Beleggingsmaatschappij de Reggeborgh'

1999

Design and execution for pilot shops Australian Ice Cream, Amsterdam RAI, The Netherlands

1998

Australian ice cream shop The Netherlands (Zwolle, Maastricht, Tilburg and Leiden)

1997

AZG, Groningen The Netherlands
Michelangelo, Zwolle The Netherlands
Physiotherapy office, Zwolle The Netherlands,
Australian ice cream shop The Netherlands (Den Bosch, Utrecht and Breda)

1996

Het Goudkantoor, Groningen The Netherlands

1994

De Apendans, Nomination National Painting Awards Groningen, The Netherlands

Awards

2010

Design Awards, co-creation artist - entrepreneur, Design "Flaminco": an innovative parasol

1994

Nomination National Painting Awards, Groningen, The Netherlands

Stipendiums

1989, basis stipendium

1990, basis stipendium

1994, presentation scholarship

1996, presentation scholarship

1999, basic stipendium

2000, presentation scholarship

2001, presentation scholarship

2002, presentation scholarship

2003, presentation scholarship

2004, presentation scholarship