

## Artist Statement Bobbie Bennis

08.10.24

*She found herself in a garden, filled with the hunger to create.  
"Oh, how eternally grateful I am! To be born with this appetite!"  
But when all apples are pies and there's bread but no yeast,  
"How can I turn my fruits into feast?"*

In a world overflowing with creativity, what is my contribution?  
Hi, my name is Bobbie Bennis, an artist based in Rotterdam, The Netherlands, and this question and I are wrestling daily.

My paintings often include landscapes, figurative shapes, and allegorical themes. Some are based on experience, others on imagination (my personal favorites). I aspire to paint homes instead of houses and to draw persons instead of faces, by using color intuitively. Letting it guide the emotion of the piece. It's less about accuracy and more about the atmosphere it creates. I want viewers to engage with the piece on a sensory level, to feel something before they try to understand it. I want my pieces to invite viewers to find their own stories within the landscapes I create, as well as in their own surroundings. To highlight the role of art in enhancing their reality and enriching daily life.

When I'm not painting I'm drawing. Therefore, you could say my artistic interests lie between fine arts and illustration. My sketchbooks and prints show a variety of poems, illustrations and scribbles, and are a little window into my head. While my paintings often carry a serious tone, my illustrations embrace humor, cynicism, and playfulness, providing balance in my work. I am not a perfectionist (really!) and in my drawing I like to use color and shapes boldly. You'll often find silly animals, stripy backgrounds, confused faces and a clever play of words.

A key element of my practice revolves around experimentation. I am always on the lookout for new techniques to learn, mediums to try out and theories to debunk. I never sit still.

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Hi, I'm Bobbie, an artist based in Rotterdam, and I paint and I draw. I want to paint homes instead of houses, and persons instead of faces. I do this by using color and shapes to convey emotion, inviting the viewer to see the beauty in everyday life. My drawings are humorous and bold.

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Always moving. Always making.