

About Ina van Zyl

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Born 1971, Ceres, South Africa

Lives and works in Amsterdam

About

Ina van Zyl was born in Ceres, South Africa, where she grew up and matriculated from the Charlie Hofmeyr high school. She studied art at the University of Stellenbosch from 1990 through 1994. During her study she was a regular contributor to *Bitterkomix*, the infamous Afrikaans comic magazine created by fellow students Joe Dog and Conrad Botes. Combining the studies of Graphic Design and Fine Arts, she graduated with a BA in Fine Arts, majoring in Drawing.

Van Zyl first came to Amsterdam as a guest of the Thami Mnyele Foundation for a four-month residency in 1995. This led to participating in the De Ateliers postgraduate programme from 1996 through 1998 and eventually settling in the Netherlands. Van Zyl continues to live and work in Amsterdam today.

Ina van Zyl's early comics mark the start of her career; they certainly form the foundation for the painting she does nowadays. The appearance of her work has changed noticeably – from comics to oil painting – but she is still occupied with the same themes: claustrophobia, shame / humiliation, eroticism / sexuality and human contact or rather, the lack of it.

Working in her studio in the centre of Amsterdam, Ina van Zyl currently is primarily occupied with oil painting. In addition to this, her core medium, she also still makes drawings, comics and watercolours and occasionally explores printmaking.

Van Zyl has been awarded several prizes for her painting in the Netherlands and has had many exhibitions in the Netherlands and beyond. Three monographs on Van Zyl's work have been published. In *Fly on the Wall*, the second monograph, all of her comics from 1992 until 2000 were published, accompanied by an introductory text by Dominic van den Boogerd.

Van Zyl about her work:

"The things I paint are related visually, through their imagery, but also share associations. They represent something that implies life, or the promise of life. Being perishable, however, they do involve decay and danger as well. They have a limited 'shelf life'; their beauty and usefulness will not outlast the average life expectancy of a person.

The living and lifeless things that I paint are placed outside of any context; they are shown in isolation and in an objective way, that is to say as objects. The shapes are heavy, clear and recognisable, sometimes geometric. The entire surface of the canvas is saturated, full of paint. Any sense of action is absent, and yet every painting, to me, is an implosion of turbulence – desires and memories, sorrow and drunkenness. Each painted object retreats into itself; each thing has just enough legroom to exist. Only the essentials remain: just enough food and water, a cup to drink from."

Her work is represented in numerous public and private collections, including that of the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam.

EDUCATION

1996-1998 De Ateliers, Amsterdam

1990-1994 University of Stellenbosch, South Africa

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2012 *Laughing Out Loud*, Galerie Onrust, Amsterdam
2010 *Schaamstukken / Shame Pieces*, Haags Gemeentemuseum Project Space, Den Haag (cat.)
2009 *Jeanne Oosting Prijs* (with Pieter Kusters), Gemeentemuseum Maassluis
2008 *Walk - Don't Run*, Galerie Onrust, Amsterdam
2007 *Ina van Zyl La peinture à fleur de peau*, Institut Néerlandais, Paris (cat.)
2006 *Ina van Zyl*, Dordrechts Museum, Dordrecht (cat.)
2005 *Three Is A Crowd*, Galerie Onrust, Amsterdam
2004 *Sagte Vleis*, De Nederlandsche Bank, Amsterdam
Besoek, Art on Paper Gallery, Johannesburg
2002 *Witnesses*, Galerie De Expeditie, Amsterdam
2000 *Paintings*, Galerie De Expeditie, Amsterdam
1998 *Paintings*, Galerie De Expeditie, Amsterdam
1996 *Drawing*, The Planet Contemporary Art Site, Observatory, Cape Town

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2013 *Chambres des Canaux: The Tolerant Home*, Huis van Brienen, Amsterdam
Expose - Works in Polymer Photogravure, Warren Editions Project Space, Cape Town
Works on paper, Galerie Onrust, Amsterdam
Cobra tot Dumas. Collectie de Heus-Zomer, Singer Museum Laren (cat.)
Skinscape, Lijnbaansgracht 316, Amsterdam
5 Years In Print, Warren Editions Project Space Launch, Cape Town
We Like Art @ de Bijenkorf, de Bijenkorf, Amsterdam
As Tears Go By, Galerie Cokkie Snoei, Rotterdam
The Loom Of The Land, Stevenson Gallery, Johannesburg
- 2012 *Secret Postcards*, Jan van Eyck Academie, Maastricht (cat.)
Amsterdam Drawing (Galerie Onrust, Amsterdam)
Voor Eeuwig De Jouwe, Schunck * Glaspaleis, Heerlen
The Next Generation, Pulchri, Den Haag
Door schildersogen / From A Painter's Perspective, Arti et Amicitiae, Amsterdam (cat.)
We Like Art Live @ Open Tuinen Dagen, Het Koetshuis, Amsterdam
Gewoon schilderen / Just Paint, Haags Gemeentemuseum, Den Haag
Art Rotterdam (Galerie Onrust, Amsterdam)
- 2011 *What's Up! De Jongste Schilderkunst In Nederland*, Dordrechts Museum / CBK Dordrecht (cat.)
20 Years Thami Mnyele Foundation, Contemporary Artists From Africa, CBK Zuidoost, Amsterdam
Art Cologne (Galerie Onrust, Amsterdam)
Art Rotterdam (Galerie Onrust, Amsterdam)
- 2010 *HeART Twente* (Galerie Onrust, Amsterdam)
Wim Izaksprijs 2010, Teekengenootschap Pictura, Dordrecht; travelled to TRICOT, Winterswijk (cat.)
Art Rotterdam (Galerie Onrust, Amsterdam)
- 2009 *Stressed Spaces*, Parkeergarage Paleiskwartier Temporary Settlement, 's-Hertogenbosch (cat.)
Art Amsterdam (Galerie Onrust, Amsterdam)
Remain in Light, W139, Amsterdam
- 2008 *Wer ficken will muss freundlich sein*, Nationalmuseum, Berlin
XXth Century, Gemeentemuseum, Den Haag (cat.)
Sag mir wo die blumen sind 3, Brutto Gusto, Berlin
Black is beautiful Rubens tot Dumas, De Nieuwe Kerk Amsterdam (cat.)
Smoking / No Smoking, Haags Gemeentemuseum, Den Haag
Art Amsterdam (Galerie Onrust, Amsterdam)
10 Doen Koppe, KKNK - Prins Vincent Gebou, Oudtshoorn
.ZA Giovane Arte Dal Sudafrica, Palazzo delle Papesse Centro Arte Contemporanea, Siena (cat.)
Eyes Wide Open, Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam

- 2007 *Unbeschreiblich Weiblich*, RC de Ruimte, IJmuiden
Drawing Typologies Voorstel tot Gemeentelijke Kunstaankopen / Proposal for Municipal Art Acquisitions, Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam (cat.)
Leve de Schilderkunst! Terug naar de figuur, Kunsthal Rotterdam (cat.)
Art Amsterdam (Galerie Onrust, Amsterdam)
Cape07, Spier Wine Estate Gallery, Stellenbosch
i.p.v.Mashkov Recente aankopen, Haags Gemeentemuseum, Den Haag
- 2006 *Spirito & Carne*, Museum Ons' Lieve Heer op Solder, Amsterdam (cat.)
"Extiem" Poëziezomer 2006 Watou, Watou (cat.)
De Grote Oversteek, Stedelijk Museum Zwolle (cat.)
Art Amsterdam (Galerie Onrust, Amsterdam)
Contemporary Artists From The Netherlands, Jordan Schnitzer Museum, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon, USA
- 2005 *Aanwinsten 2005 Een Keuze*, De Nederlandsche Bank, Amsterdam
Art Cologne (Galerie Onrust, Amsterdam)
Contemporary Artists From The Netherlands, Hopkins Center for the Arts, Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, USA
The Art Is Where The Heart Is (part two), Paraplufabriek, Nijmegen
Art Amsterdam (Galerie Onrust, Amsterdam)
- 2004 *Art Cologne* (Galerie Onrust, Amsterdam)
Heavy Duty, De Vishal, Haarlem (cat.)
Forty Years Artists and Designers from the University of Stellenbosch, Sasol Art Museum, Stellenbosch (cat.)
- 2003 *HI-FI#2*, Aschenbach & Hofland Galleries, Amsterdam
Guess Who, Stedelijk Museum Zwolle
Wormhole, Tent, Rotterdam (cat.)
Teken, Art on Paper Gallery, Johannesburg
Scopofilia, CBK, Dordrecht (cat.)
- 2002 *Early Works*, De Ateliers, Amsterdam (cat.)
Comics from South Africa, Galerie Grober Unfug, Berlin
Verbonden Beelden – Montages, Nieuwe Vide, Haarlem (cat.)
Een Keuze, Aanwinsten 2001, De Nederlandsche Bank, Amsterdam
- 2000 *Koninklijke Subsidie voor Vrije Schilderkunst 2000*, Koninklijk Paleis, Amsterdam (cat.)
Strip, Galerie Outline, Amsterdam
Papieren Drama's, De Brakke Grond, Amsterdam (cat.)
Continental Shift, Bonnefantenmuseum, Maastricht (cat.)
Een Keuze Aanwinsten 1999, De Nederlandsche Bank, Amsterdam
- 1998 *Buning Brongers Prijs*, De Zaaijer, Amsterdam (cat.)
Drawings, Stichting Beeldende Kunst, Haarlem
- 1995 *Comic and Cartoon Artists Exhibition*, Johannesburg Art Foundation, First Johannesburg Biennial, Johannesburg
Kaping, Art Space Gallery, First Johannesburg Biennial, Johannesburg

COMMISSIONS

- 2008 Commissioned by Tafelberg / NB-Uitgewers, Cape Town: Comic contribution to the publication *As almal ver is*
- 2008 Commissioned by Rabobank Nederland: An edition of lithographs as a special offer to Rabobank employees
- 2006 Commissioned by weekly magazine *Vrij Nederland*: Four portraits painted as covers for the May issues
- 2000 Commissioned by the Dutch Flemish Theatre Festival: A comic after Hugo Claus's play *Vrijdag*

AWARDS

- 2010 *Wim Izaksprijs*
- 2009 *Jeanne Oosting Prijs*
- 2007 *Jordaan – Van Heek Prijs*
- 2000 *Koninklijke Subsidie voor Vrije Schilderkunst & Publieksprijs*
- 1998 *Buning Brongers Prijs*
- 1995 *Thami Mnyele Scholarship*

RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE

- Since 2013 Jury member Jeanne Oosting Prijs, Amsterdam
- 2012-2013 Tutor at *Gerrit Rietveld Academie*, Amsterdam
- 2011-2012 Advisory committee-member at *Mondriaan Fonds*, Amsterdam
- 2011 Guest tutor at *De Ateliers* and lecture on own work, Amsterdam
- 2007 Guest tutor at *Dutch Art Institute* and lecture on own work, Enschede
- Guest tutor at *Hogeschool voor de Kunsten Utrecht* and lecture on own work, Utrecht
- 2003 Guest tutor at *Dutch Art Institute*, Enschede

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Chris Reinewald, "De collectie de Heus-Zomer" in: *Tableau Fine Arts magazine*, 34^{ste} jaargang nr.6 - december / januari 2012 / 2013.
- Heske ten Cate, "Ina van Zyl - Dick by Dawn" in: *Mister Motley*, nr 34 - *sex het agste wereldwonder*, december 2012.
- Harm van den Berg, Arnout Killian, Frenk Meeuwssen (eds.), *Door Schildersogen / From A Painter's Perspective*, 2012, Amsterdam.
- Kees Keijer, "Donkerder dan ooit, maar vol schakering" in: *Het Parook bijlage ps kunst*, 23 mei 2012.
- Rudi Fuchs, "Kijken – Onbeschrijflijk wit" in: *De Groene Amsterdammer*, 10 mei 2012.
also published in Rudi Fuchs' *Kijken 2. Een leesboek*, Ludion, 2013.
- Moniek Peters, Gerrit Willems, Liesbeth van Noordwijk (eds.), *What's Up! De Jongste Schilderkunst In Nederland*, Dordrechts Museum / CBK Dordrecht, 2011, Dordrecht.
- Hans den Hartog Jager, "Ina van Zyl" in: *Verf. Hedendaagse Nederlandse schilders over hun werk*, Athenaeum – Polak & Van Gennep, 2011, Amsterdam.
- Frits de Coninck, "De schaamte voorbij" in: *Financieel Dagblad bijlage fd. persoonlijk*, 16 oktober 2010.
- Rob Smolders, "Uit de schaduw treden", *Wim Izaksprijs 2010*, Stichting Wim Izaks, 2010, Deventer.
- Hans de Hartog Jager, "Ina van Zyl" in: *4 Art*, AVRO TV, 2010.
also published on dubble DVD *4 Art Second Season 2010-2011*, AVRO, 2011/ 2012.
- Gijsbert van der Wal, "Geslachtsdelen die gewoon zichzelf zijn" in: *NRC Cultureel Supplement*, 3 september 2010.
also published in Gijsbert van der Wal's *Wijd Open Ogen. Stukken over kunst en kijkplezier*, De Bezige Bij, 2012, Amsterdam.

Manon Berendse, "Ina van Zyl – de kleur van schaamte" in: *Museumtijdschrift*, nr 6 september - oktober 2010.

Ernst van Alphen, "How to Paint Shame? / Hoe schaamte te schilderen?", *Ina van Zyl Schaamstukken / Shame Pieces*, Galerie Onrust, 2010, Amsterdam.

Rudi Fuchs, "Protestantse karigheid" in: *De Groene Amsterdammer*, 9 oktober 2009.
also published in Rudi Fuchs' *Kijken. Een leesboek over kunst*, Ludion, 2011.

Manon Berendse (ed.), *Unlocked # 2.5 rabo art collection*, Rabobank Nederland, 2009, Utrecht.

Florette Dijkstra, Auke van den Berg, Marjan Teeuwen (eds.), *Stressed Spaces - Autonomie in de kunst opnieuw belicht*, KW_14, Marjan Teeuwen, 2009, 's-Hertogenbosch.

Wim van Krimpen, Hans Janssen, Laura Stamps (eds.), *XXth Century*, Uitgeverij Waanders / Gemeentemuseum Den Haag, 2008, Zwolle.

Hugo Engberts, "Top 10 vrouwen in de kunst" in: *Elegance*, oktober 2008.

Eva van Berne, "Zwart lijkt altijd schoon" in: *Tubelight 58*, september / oktober 2008.

Arnoud Bijl, Marlies Kleiterp (eds.), *Black is beautiful Rubens tot Dumas*, Waanders Uitgevers, 2008, Zwolle.

Marlene Dumas, "Il teschio della madre / Skull of the mother", *.ZA Giovane Arte Dal Sudafrica*, Silvana Editoriale, 2008, Milano.

Gert Eijkelboom, Margot Selders, Alexander Strengers, Claudine de With (eds.), *Eigenlijk Eigentijds / Surprisingly Contemporary*, De Nederlandsche Bank – Kunstcommissie, 2007, Amsterdam.

Roel Arkesteijn, Marie Baarspul, Suzanne Héman, Sophie Tates (eds.), *Drawing Typologies Voorstel tot Gemeentelijke Kunstaankopen / Proposal for Municipal Art Acquisitions*, Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam, 2007, Amsterdam.

Arjan Reijnders, "Ina van Zyl 'To Smoke' 2004-05, 'Two is Company' 2004, 'Pink Ladies' 2005", *Kunstenaars Initiatief Paraplufabriek Beeldverslag 2005/06*, Kunstenaars Initiatief Paraplufabriek, 2007, Nijmegen.

Hans den Hartog Jager, "Ina van Zyl", *Leve De Schilderkunst! terug naar de figuur*, Veenman Publishers / Gijs Stork, 2007, Rotterdam.

Artist's page in: *Clam Magazine*, spring + summer 2007, Paris.

Manon Berendse, "Smeuïg Schilderwerk – So What?" in: *Tubelight 49*, maart / april 2007.

Gavin Jantjes, "Le caractère poignant des petites choses / The Poignancy of Small Things", *Fly on the Wall*, Institut Néerlandais / Éditions Xavier Barral, 2007, Paris.

Dominic van den Boogerd, "Ravage psychologique / Psychological Ravage", *Fly on the Wall*, Institut Néerlandais / Éditions Xavier Barral, 2007, Paris.

Stacy Hardy, "Not getting any?" in: *Art South Africa*, volume 05 issue 02 summer 2006, pp.40-45.

Sandy Shepherd (ed.), *The Big Bad Bitterkomix Handbook*, Jacana, 2006, Johannesburg.

Robyn Sassen, "Permissiveness and Possibility" in: *Art South Africa*, volume 5.1 spring 2006, p.87.

Dominic van den Boogerd, "The African Connection", *De Grote Oversteek / The Big Crossing*, Stichting Thami Mnye, mei 2006, Amsterdam.

Henny de Lange, "Ina van Zyl schildert tenen als bergketens met donkere spelonken" in: *Trouw* (de maandag), 20 maart 2006, p.9.

Sandra Smets, "Verf en verleiding worden één bij Ina van Zyl" in: *NRC Handelsblad*, 4 maart 2006, p.7.

Paola van de Velde, "Tenen en tepels als bergen" in: *De Telegraaf*, 21 februari 2006, p.13.

Nathanael Veldhuijsen, "Erotische tenen en sensuele appels" in: *Algemeen Dagblad Rivierenland*, 11 februari 2006, p.15.

Moniek Peters, "Voorwoord / Foreword", *Ina van Zyl - Schilderijen, Aquarellen / Paintings, Water Colours*, Dordrechts Museum / Galerie Onrust / Uitgeverij THOTH, 2006, Bussum.

Dominic van den Boogerd, "Muze met schaamrood / Blushing Muse" (interview with Ina van Zyl), *Ina van Zyl - Schilderijen, Aquarellen / Paintings, Water Colours*, Dordrechts Museum / Galerie Onrust / Uitgeverij THOTH, 2006, Bussum.

Rudi Fuchs, "Dichtbij / Close", *Ina van Zyl - Schilderijen, Aquarellen / Paintings, Water Colours*, Dordrechts Museum / Galerie Onrust / Uitgeverij THOTH, 2006, Bussum.

Arjan Reinders, "De Opening" Ina van Zyl [Onrust] in: *Kunstbeeld*, nr.02 2005, p.59.

Robyn Sassen, "Ina van Zyl Art on Paper / Johannesburg" in: *Art South Africa*, volume 03 issue 01 spring 2004, p.86.

Rutger Pontzen, "Tenen en groene appels" in: *De Volkskrant Kunst katern*, 6 mei 2004, pp.14-15.

Marcel Vos, "Erotiek en Onherbergzaamheid" in: *Solo 4*, Kwak & Van Daalen & Ronday, 2004, Zaandam.

Cornel Bierens, "De weg naar het weten" in: *NRC Handelsblad (Cultureel Supplement)*, 18 april 2003, p.22.

Dominic van den Boogerd, *Scopofilia*, CBK Dordrecht, 2003, Dordrecht.

Paco Barragan, *El Arte Que Viene 159 Artistas / The Art to Come 159 Artists*, Subastas Siglio XXI Grupo Subastas, 2002, Madrid.

Dominic van den Boogerd, *Early Works*, Stichting Ateliers 63, 2002, Amsterdam.

Joost Pollmann, *Verbonden Beelden - Montages*, Stichting Beeldverhaal Nederland, 2002, Haarlem.

Erik van der Hoeven, "Ina van Zyl" in: *Strip Schrift*, jaargang 34 nummer 6, pp.16-17.

Pauline Burmann, "De kleine tragedies van Ina van Zyl" in: *Zuidelijk Afrika*, zomer 2001, jaargang 5 nummer 2, p.48.

Dominic van den Boogerd, "Assepoester om middernacht" in: *HP /De Tijd*, 9 februari 2001, week 6, pp.50-53.

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Herman Wasserman, "SA kunstenaar kry prys van Nederlandse koningin" in: *Die Burger*, 21 Oktober 2000.

Paul Kaptein, "Papieren Drama's" in: *Desktop Creation*, september 2000, pp.24-27.

Karin Veraert, "Toneeldrama veelzijdig verstript" in: *De Volkskrant*, 18 augustus 2000, p.6.

Joost Pollmann, "Tobberige vingers en plateauzolen" in: *De Volkskrant*, 30 juni 1999, p.14.

Andrew Putter, "Velvet in monochrome" in: *SA Weekly Mail & Guardian*, 26 juli 1996.

PUBLISHED COMICS

Skaamrosies Uit Amsterdam, 2008 in: *As almal ver is*, Tafelberg / NB-Uitgewers, 2009, Cape Town, p.121-126.

Vrydag naar Hugo Claus, 2000 in: *Papieren Drama's*, Stichting Het Theaterfestival, 2000, Amsterdam, pp.25-30.
also published in *Bitterkomix nr.11*, 2001, Stellenbosch, pp.16-20.
and in *Fly on the Wall*, Institut Néerlandais / Éditions Xavier Barral, 2007, Paris, pp.100-104.

Dinsdag 24 April 1984, 1994 in: *Gif*, 1994, Stellenbosch, pp.24-25.
also published in *The Best of Bitterkomix volume 2*, 2002, Cape Town / Johannesburg, pp.70-71.
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also published in *Bitterkomix nr.6*, 1996, Stellenbosch, pp.14-17.
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also published in *Fly on the Wall*, Institut Néerlandais / Éditions Xavier Barral, 2007, Paris, pp.91.

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also published in *Fly on the Wall*, Institut Néerlandais / Éditions Xavier Barral, 2007, Paris, pp.18-24.

Dit was die laaste, 1994 in: *Die Suid-Afrikaan nr.47*, 1994, Cape Town.
also published in *Fly on the Wall*, Institut Néerlandais / Éditions Xavier Barral, 2007, Paris, p.13.

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and in *Fly on the Wall*, Institut Néerlandais / Éditions Xavier Barral, 2007, Paris, pp.8-13.

Die Besoek, 1992 in: *Bitterkomix nr.2*, 1993, Stellenbosch, pp.30-34.
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