

## Helene Draaijers

(1953) - The Netherlands (Hedra)

For years now I am dedicated to painting. Painting is my greatest passion. This passion in my life I cannot miss !

I am inspired by landscapes, seascapes, but also faces of -especially old- people. The faces from which life can be read. They move me and invite me to make an imagination.

My seascapes include works that are especially inspired by my stay by the sea on the island Texel. Here I once witnessed a nocturnal flood in springtide, a fantastic experience, the sight of which is to be on my retina for the rest of my life. This experience still inspires me to new seascapes to be painted. It is clear that storm and dark weather by the sea is an inspiring thrill to me.

My landscapes are formed more or less intuitively. I choose a color palette in advance, and let the painting process take place, often without a preconceived plan. As far as I do have a plan, the end result deviates from it quite often. The landscape is more or less depicted by itself. Not until in the final stage, the work requires a more considered approach. But this is also a jeopardy of losing spontaneity.

Sometimes I paint landscapes in heavy weather, but sunny landscapes and abstract landscapes are to be found in my oeuvre as well. The beautiful scenery of the Wadden Sea islands is a constant source of inspiration. In her latest oeuvre the central focus is on portraits of old people. The beauty and vulnerability, but also the strength of old age fascinate and affect her. Moving but sometimes also facing portraits are the result.

In my oeuvre you will also find portraits of old people. The beauty and vulnerability, but also the strength of old age fascinate and affect me. Moving but sometimes also confronting portraits are the result.

Occasionally I step aside to more abstract work.

Over the years I had lessons with various teachers. Presently, I am member of a group of painters in Utrecht, under the supervision of Walter Koning.