

Some information on this page is only available in Dutch

## RENÉ KLARENBEEK

René Klarenbeek has positioned himself as a contemporary conceptual artist who, as a classical painter, literally stands on the shoulders of his predecessors.

In recent years, like a monomaniac, I've quite obsessively been studying the works of Rembrandt and his school in great detail, with the selfish aim of finally becoming a 'real' painter. Although I've closed the art academy door quite consciously and firmly behind me more than a quarter of a century ago, and afterwards having worked as a painter 'with both feet in real life', wherever it may be (see: [www.painter.nl](http://www.painter.nl)), a lack of both substantive and technical painting competence has been staring at me like a reproaching gap in my incomplete development - and constantly kept on challenging me. So that meant starting at point zero again. The 'real' painting was necessary in order to skill myself in being able to work out all these narrative images lurking at me as inseparable shades. For that purpose the REMBRANDT PUPIL PROJECT (see: [www.rembrandtpupil.com](http://www.rembrandtpupil.com)) was established and its subprojects were subsequently performed in various museums in the recent years. As an autodidactic student from the 21st century, I served the great master by working on the same assignments with which Rembrandt has trained his 17th-century pupils in his studio as well. The goal was not to clone Rembrandt's originals, not even to adapt his style, but rather to improve my own skills through learning the ABC of painting by a step by step reconstruction of his specific working methods. Just the way transferring knowledge and skills was done for many generations prior to our modernistic era, in which many of these competences suddenly were considered superfluous, undesirable and even harmful for a true artist. On top of the self improvement goal of one pupil, the RPP (and its educational offspring [www.naerdenatuer.nl](http://www.naerdenatuer.nl)) also deliberately and demonstratively aims to reconnect with an almost disappeared tradition. Although after a few years working as a diligent pupil, by far not feeling like a graduate, I finally realised that it became high time to start telling my own stories with the acquired skills. For it would be a missed opportunity if on my funeral I would be remembered as the man who could paint like Rembrandt so very skilfully. As a conclusion of my autodidactic study period with the master, on top of the many (I must admit quite imaginative) conversations we had, Rembrandt himself gave me the graduation assignment to create a new series of large history paintings on illustrious 17th century painting themes in 21st century settings: [www.conterfeyter.com](http://www.conterfeyter.com)

### COLLABORATION

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### WEBSITES

[www.conterfeyter.com/](http://www.conterfeyter.com/)

### SOCIAL MEDIA

[www.instagram.com/conterfeyter/](http://www.instagram.com/conterfeyter/)

### MEMBER OF ARTISTS' INITIATIVE/COLLECTIVE/INCUBATOR

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### MEMBER OF A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION/ARTISTS' ASSOCIATION

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## EDUCATION

1982 - Tekenen & Schilderen Den Haag,  
1987 Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende  
Kunsten diploma

## EXHIBITIONS

2022 Diogenes Mauritshuis Den Haag,  
Netherlands In situ painting and  
subsequently exhibiting of the history  
piece DIOGENES.  
[Solo](#)

## PROJECTS

2020 Comenius Museum Naarden Naarden,  
Netherlands contribution exhibition

2019 Diogenes Museum Het Mauritshuis, Den  
Haag Den Haag, Netherlands History piece  
painted in situ in the gallery of the museum.

2015 Dutch self portraits Museum Het  
Mauritshuis, Den Haag Den Haag,  
Netherlands Exhibition film on self portraits.

2014 Museum courses Museum Het Mauritshuis,  
Den Haag Den Haag, Netherlands Museum  
teacher on 17th century studio techniques.

2014 pupil studios Museum Het Rembrandthuis  
Amsterdam Amsterdam, Netherlands  
reconstruction of paintings

2008 Minerva Museum Het Rembrandthuis  
Amsterdam Amsterdam, Netherlands public  
reconstruction

2007 Ephraïm Bueno Joods Historisch Museum  
Amsterdam Amsterdam, Netherlands public  
reconstruction

## INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES/RESIDENCIES

2009 Gemäldegalerie Berlin (BRD)

2008 San Silvestro Venetië (IT)

2007 Gemäldegalerie Berlin (BRD)

2006 Collegiale Le Mas-d'Agenais (FR)

## COMMISSIONS

2015 Museum Het Mauritshuis Den Haag, NL  
demonstration self portrait painting finished

2014 Museum Het Rembrandthuis Amsterdam,  
NL paintings for the reconstructed pupil  
studios in the museum finished

## SALES/WORKS IN COLLECTIONS

## PUBLICATIONS

2024	private collection Berlin (BRD) painting	2024	René Klarenbeek Metafoormorfosen Book MDD ARTS Menno Doornbos Wassenaar, Netherlands Extensive publication containing all metaphormorfose-paintings by René Klarenbeek.
2023	private collection Den Haag (NL) painting		
2019	private collection Berlin (BRD), Duitsland portrait painting	2023	René Klarenbeek Historiën Book MDD ARTS Menno Doornbos Wassenaar, Netherlands Extensive publication containing all history paintings by René Klarenbeek.
2015	private collection Den Haag, NL painting		
2014	Museum Het Rembrandthuis Amsterdam, NL series of paintings and drawings	2007	Remembering Rembrandt with aplomb The Daily Star (Dacca Bangladesh) krantenartikel
2012	private collection Den Haag (NL) painting	2007	Celebrating Rembrandt The Daily Star (Dacca Bangladesh) krantenartikel
2011	private collection Den Haag (NL) painting	2006	Sein letzter Schuler Berliner Morgenpost krantenartikel
2009	private collection Berlijn (BRD) painting	2006	Rembrant 400 NOS-actueel live t-uitzending
2008	private collection Zutphen (NL) drawing	2005	Wie fälscht man Rembrandt Bild Zeitung Berlin krantenartikel
		2005	Sur les traces de maître Rembrandt Le Républicain krantenartikel

## REPRESENTATION

-- mdd arts Wassenaar  
<https://mddarts.nl/>

## SECONDARY ART-RELATED ACTIVITIES

2010 - -- docent 17e eeuwse teken- en schildertechnieken



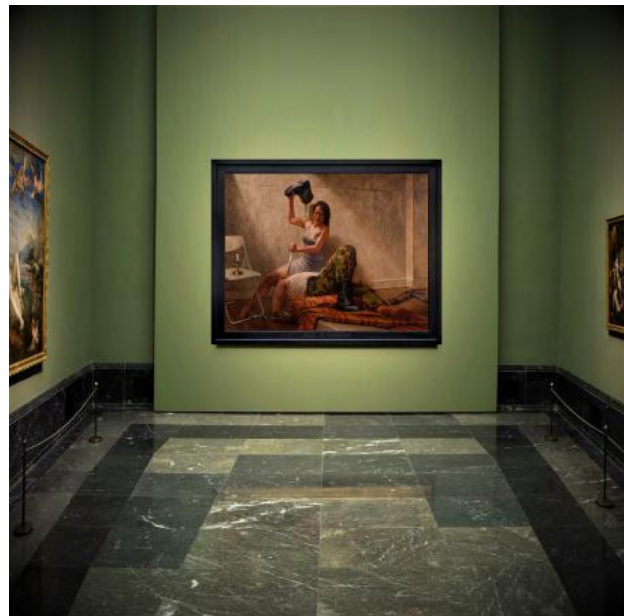
Metafoormorfose#19, 2025  
olieverf op doek met lijst, 57x57



Metafoormorfose#18, 2025  
olieverf op doek met lijst, 57x57



Metafoormorfose#17, 2024  
olieverf op doek, 162x202x7



Jael & Sisera, 2023  
olieverf op doek, 162x202x7



Metafoormorfose#14, 2022  
olieverf op linnen met lijst, 162x142x7



Metafoormorfose#15, 2022  
olieverf op linnen met lijst, 222x152x7



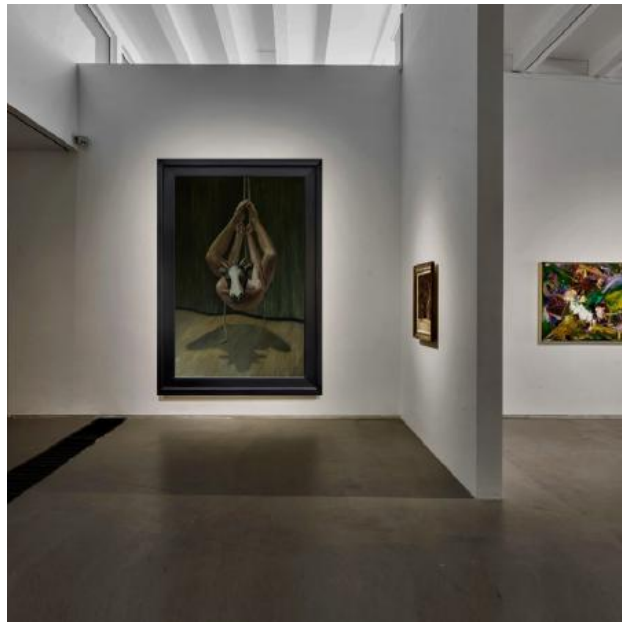
Metafoormorfose#16, 2022  
olieverf op linnen met lijst, 78x78x6



Metafoormorfose#12, 2021  
olieverf op linnen met lijst, 202x142x7



Metafoormorfose#13, 2021  
olieverf op doek met lijst, 182x142x7



Metafoormorfose #06, 2021  
olieverf op linnen met lijst, 142x212