



Marlene Dumas

GALERIE
PASCAL
POLAR

Marlene Dumas (1953) grew up with her two older brothers in Jacobsdal, her father's winery in Kuilsrivier, South Africa. With Afrikaans as her mother tongue she went to the English-language University of Cape Town in 1972. There she obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts in 1975. With a two-year scholarship, she opted to come to Europe and more specifically to the Netherlands because of the language kinship. As well as visual art, language is an important means of expression for Dumas. She gives her exhibitions and individual works striking titles, writes texts about her paintings and makes commentaries on her own pieces. These texts are collected in the publication, *Sweet Nothings* (1998).

In the Netherlands she worked at Ateliers '63 in Haarlem from 1976 to 1978. Twenty years later, in 1998, she returned to art school De Ateliers, now based in Amsterdam, as a permanent staff member. In addition, Marlene Dumas has taught at several other Dutch art institutes.

In 1978, she exhibited her work for the first time, at the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam. Work by René Daniels and Ansuya Blom also featured in this exhibition, called *Atelier 15* (10 Young Artists). In 1982, her work was shown in Basel, in the exhibition *Junge kunst aus die Niederlanden*. In the same year, Rudi Fuchs asked her to take part in *Documenta 7*. In 1983, she got her first solo show, *Unsatisfied Desire*, at Gallery Helen van der Meij / Paul Th. Andriessse in Amsterdam. In 1984, the Centraal Museum Utrecht became the first museum to invite her to do a solo exhibition. Dumas responded with a collection of collages, texts and works on paper under the title *Ons Land Licht Lager dan de Zee*. In 1985, *The Eyes of the Night Creatures* was her first exhibition devoted solely to painting.

Since the late eighties, her work has been featured in European group exhibitions in museums such as the Tate Gallery in London, under the title *Art from Europe* (1987) and in *Bilderstreit* in Cologne (1989). Her first major solo exhibition opened abroad three months after the birth of her daughter in the Kunsthalle in Berne: *The Question of Human Pink* (1989). In 1992, all the halls of the Van Abbe Museum in Eindhoven were dedicated to her exhibition *Miss Interpreted*. This solo show was followed by a tour of Europe and then America. In 1992 her work was also shown at *Documenta IX*, at the invitation of Jan Hoet. Her first solo gallery show in New York at Jack Tilton received the appropriate title *Not from Here*. That was in 1994, the year of the first free democratic elections in South Africa. It was also the year in which she exhibited at the Frith Street Gallery in London, along with her contemporaries Juan Muñoz and Thomas Schütte. In 1995, Chris Dercon made the selection for the Dutch contribution to the *Venice Biennale*, choosing three women: Marlene Dumas, Marijke van Warmerdam and Mary Roossen.

From the mid-nineties, Dumas' work featured in exhibitions of art from the Netherlands, such as *Du concept à l'image* (Paris, 1994). She also participated in international, interdisciplinary projects including *The 21st Century* (Basel, 1993), with Damien Hirst, Roni Horn and others, and the *Carnegie International* (Pittsburgh, 1995). In 1996, her sparring partners at the Hirshhorn Museum in Washington DC included Mike Kelley, Thomas Schütte, Robert Gober and Rachel Whiteread. The exhibition was entitled, *Distemper: Dissonant Themes in the Art of the 1990s*. In 1993, Zeno X Gallery, Antwerp, staged Dumas' show, *Give the People What They Want*. The works in this exhibition then went on to become part of the *'Der Spiegel zerbrochene', Positionen zur Malerei* (1993), curated by Kaspar König and H.U. Obrist. Other participating artists included Luc Tuymans and Gerhard Richter. Other important exhibitions devoted to painting in which Dumas was represented included *Trouble Spot: Painting* (1999), *Painting at the Edge of the World* (2001) and *The Painting of Modern Life* (2007). Her work has also featured in exhibitions with a focus on Africa, such as the *Africus Biennale in Johannesburg* (1995) and in *Africa Remix* (2004-2006).

Although Marlene Dumas has had Dutch nationality since 1989, she has said:

*Someone once remarked that I could not be a South African artist **and** a Dutch artist, that I could not have it both ways. I don't want it both ways. I want it more ways.*

Dumas' work spans over thirty years. In 2001, Jonas Storsve of the Centre Pompidou staged the first retrospective of her works on paper under the title *Nom de Personne*. This exhibition was subsequently featured in the New Museum, New York, and in the De Pont Museum in Tilburg, under the title, *Name no Names*. Between 2007 and 2009 a retrospective of her entire oeuvre, in varying combinations, toured three continents. Starting in Japan under the name *Broken White*, the overview travelled to South Africa with the title, *Intimate Relations*. It was the first time that so much of Dumas' work could be seen on her native soil. The retrospective concluded its tour at the Museum for Contemporary Arts in Los Angeles, the Museum of Modern Art in New York, and The Menil in Houston, where it was called, *Measuring Your Own Grave*.

Selected solo exhibitions (including gallery exhibitions)

- 2012 Love Hasn't Got Anything To Do With It, Zachęta, Warsaw
Sorte, Fondazione Stelline, Milan
Istanbul Eindhoven: SALTVanAbbe Post '89, Salt Beyoğlu, Istanbul
- 2011 Forsaken, Frith Street Gallery, London
- 2010 Tronies, Haus der Kunst, Munich (2010-2011)
Against The Wall, David Zwirner, New York
Contra o Muro, Museu de Arte Contemporanea de Serralves, Porto
- 2008 Measuring Your Own Grave, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles [exhibition toured to Museum of Modern Art, New York and The Menil Collection, Houston, 2009]
For Whom The Bell Tolls, Zeno X Gallery, Antwerp
- 2007 Light and Dark: 1987-2007, Gallery Koyanagi, Tokyo
Broken White, Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo [exhibition toured to Marugame Genichiro-Inokuma Museum of Contemporary Art, Marugame, Kagawa]
Intimate Relations, Iziko South African National Gallery, Cape Town [exhibition toured to Standard Bank Gallery, Johannesburg]
Wave and The Fog of War: Marlene Dumas and Marijke van Warmerdam, Le Case D'arte, Milan, Italy
- 2006 Man Kind, Galerie Paul Andriessse, Amsterdam
- 2005 Female, Kunsthalle Helsinki [exhibition toured to Nordic Watercolourmuseum, Skärhamn and Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden]
Selected Works, Zwirner and Wirth, New York
- 2004 The Second Coming, Frith Street Gallery, London
Con Vista al Celestiale (Hin und Weiter) (together with Marijke van Warmerdam), Montevergini, Siracuse [exhibition toured to BAWAG Foundation, Vienna]
- 2003 Marlene Dumas-Wet Dreams, Stadtische Galerie Ravensburg
Suspect, Fondazione Bevilacqua la Masa, Venice
- 2002 Time and Again, Galerie Zeno X, Antwerp [exhibition toured to The Art Institute of Chicago, 2003]
- 2001 Nom de Personne (Name No Names), Musée National d'Art Moderne, Centre Pompidou, Paris [exhibition toured to New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York and De Pont, Tilburg, 2002]
All is Fair in Love and War, Jack Tilton/Anna Kustera Gallery, New York
One Hundred Models and Endless Rejects, The Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston
- 2000 Strippinggirls (together with Anton Corbijn) Theaterinstituut, Amsterdam [exhibition toured to S.M.A.K., Ghent]
- 1999 MD, Museum van Hedendaagse Kunst, Antwerp [exhibition toured to Camden Arts Centre, London, 2000 and Henie Onstad Art Centre, Hovikødden, Oslo, 2000]
MD-light, Frith Street Gallery, London
Diletto-Laudanum, Marlene Dumas and Tracey Moffat, Le Case d'Arte, Milan
- 1998 Miss World, Galerie Paul Andriessse, Amsterdam
Fantasma, Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian-Centro d'Art Moderna, Lisbon
Marlene Dumas, The Living Art Museum, Reykjavik
Damenwahl (together with Andries Botha), Kunstverein Kassel
- 1997 Wolkenkieker, Produzentengalerie, Hamburg
Young Boys, Gallery Koyanagy, Tokyo
- 1996 Marlene Dumas, Tate Gallery, London
Pin-up, Museum het Toreke, Tienen
Youth and other Demons, Gallery Koyanagy, Tokyo
- 1995 Models, Salzburger Kunstverein [exhibition toured to Portikus, Frankfurt am Main and Neue Gesellschaft für Bildende Kunst, Berlin, 1996]
The Particularity of Being Human: Francis Bacon/Marlene Dumas, Konsthall, Malmö [exhibition toured to Castello di Rivoli, Turin]
Marlene Dumas, Raum Aktueller Kunst, Vienna
Marlene Dumas, Galerie Samia Saouma, Paris
- 1994 Chlorosis, The Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin
Not From Here, Jack Tilton Gallery, New York
Männeransichten, Kunst Station Sankt Peter, Cologne
- 1993 Give the people what they want, Galerie Zeno X, Antwerp
Marlene Dumas, Bonner Kunstverein, Bonn [exhibition toured to Institute of Contemporary Art, London]
Marlene Dumas, Le Case d'Arte, Milan
Land of Milk and Honey, Produzentengalerie Hamburg
- 1992 Miss Interpreted, Stedelijk Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven [exhibition toured to Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia]
Ask Me No Questions and I'll Tell You no Lies, Galerie Isabella Kacprzal, Cologne
Strips, In situ/Ardi Poels, Maastricht
- 1991 Ausser Reichweite von Kindern, Stampa, Basel
- 1990 The Origin of the Species, Staatsgalerie Moderner Kunst, Bayerische Staatsgemäldesammlungen, Munich [exhibition toured to The Eyes of the Nightcreatures, Galerie Paul Andriessse, Amsterdam]
- 1984 Ons land licht lager dan de zee, Centraal Museum, Utrecht
The Artist as a Young Girl, Flatland Galerie, Utrecht
- 1983 Unsatisfied Desire, Galerie Helen van der Meij/Paul Andriessse, Amsterdam
- 1980 Marlene Dumas, Galerie Lambelet, Basel
- 1979 Marlene Dumas, Galerie Annemarie de Kruyff, Paris

Selected group exhibitions

- 2012 *Nudes*, Paleis voor Schone Kunsten/Center for Fine Arts, Brussels
This will have been: Art, Love & Politics in the 1980s, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago [will travel to *Sidetracks. Painting in the Paramodern Continuum*, Stavanger Kunstmuseum
Paintings from the Rubell Family Collection, Sala de Arte Santander (Fundación Banco Santander), Boadilla (Madrid)
- 2011 *The world belongs to you: artists from the Pinault collection*, Palazzo Grassi, Venice
11th Biennale de Lyon
Max Beckmann: Face to Face: Beckmann, Dumas, Katz, Museum der Bildenden Künste, Leipzig
PPP Pier Paolo Pasolini, Galerie Metis, Amsterdam
- 2010 *Dineo Bopape, Marlene Dumas, Zanele Muholi*, Museum voor Moderne Kunst Arnhem
- 2009 *elles@centrepompidou: artistes femmes dans les collections du Centre Pompidou*, Paris
Mapping the Studio: artists from the Francois Pinault Collection, Palazzo Grassi and Punta della Dogana, Venice
- 2007 *The painting of Modern Life*, Hayward Gallery, London [travelled to Castello di Rivoli]
- 2006 *Africa Remix*, Museum Kunst Palast, Dusseldorf [travelled to Hayward Gallery, London; Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; Mori Art Museum, Tokyo; Moderna Museet, Stockholm; Johannesburg Art Gallery]
Essential Painting, The National Museum of Art, Osaka, Japan
Os Annos 80, Museu Serralves, Porto
The Portrait Now, National Portrait Gallery, London
- 2005 *The experience of art*, Biennale di Venezia, Venice
The Triumph of Painting: 20th Anniversary Exhibition of the Saatchi Collection, The Saatchi Collection, London
Drawing from the modern, 1975–2005, MoMA, New York
Biennale d'arte contemporanea, Castello Svevo di Bari
- 2004 *In Bed. Images from a Vital Stage*, Toyota Municipal Museum of Art, Tokyo
- 2003 *Happiness*, Mori Art Museum, Roppongi Hills, Tokyo
(In Search of) The Perfect Lover, Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden [travelled to Museum Dhondt-Dhaenens, Deinze; Hauser and Wirth, London]
- 2002 *Loud and Clear: Ryuichi Sakamoto, Marlene Dumas, Erik Kessels*, Stedelijk Bureau Amsterdam, Amsterdam (video production)
- 2001 *Painting at the Edge of the World*, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis
- 2000 *Shanghai Biennial*, Shanghai Art Museum
Mixing Memory and Desire, Neues Kunstmuseum, Luzern
Europa: Differenti prospettive nella pittura, MuMi, Museo Michetti, Chieti
L'ombra della ragione: L'idea del sacro nel identità europea nel XX secolo, Bologna Galleria d'Arte Moderna
- 1999 *Trouble Spot Painting*, Muhka, Antwerp
Pathologiae sei donne per caso, Museion, Bolzano
Examining Pictures, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London [travelled to Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago]
Regarding Beauty, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington DC [travelled to Haus der Kunst, Munich]
- 1998 *Eight People from Europe*, The Museum of Modern Art, Gunma
Szenenwechsel XIII, Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt am Main
A Noir, Palazzo della Triennale, Milan
- 1997 *Floating Images of Women in Art History*, Tochigi Prefectural Museum of Fine Art, Utsunomiya
- 1996 *Distemper: Dissonant Themes in the Art of the 1990s*, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington DC
- 1995 *Africus: Johannesburg Biennial*, Johannesburg, South Africa
XLVI Biennale di Venezia, Dutch Pavilion, Venice, Italy
Ripple across the water, Watari Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo
Carnegie International, The Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh
- 1994 *Du concept a l'image*, Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, Paris
L'ottobre degli Olandesi, Galleria Del Cortile, Roma
- 1993 *Der zerbrochene Spiegel*, Messepalast und Kunsthalle Wien [travelled to Deichtorhallen, Hamburg]
- 1992 *Documenta IX*, Kassel, Germany
- 1991 *The Interrupted Life*, The New Museum, New York
- 1989 *Prospect 89*, Kunstverein, Frankfurt
Bilderstreit: Widerspruch, Einheit und Fragment in der kunst seit 1960, Rheinhalle der Kölnmesse, Cologne

- 1987 *Art from Europe*, Tate Gallery, London
18th Sao Paolo Biennial
- 1982 *Documenta 7*, Kassel
- 1980 *The Critic Sees (een keuze van Paul Groot)*, Museum Fodor, Amsterdam
Ateliers '63, een keuze uit het werk van deelnemers (1975-1980), Museum Bonnefanten, Maastricht
[exhibition toured to Museum Fodor, Amsterdam]
- 1978 *Atelier 15: 10 young artists*, Museum Fodor, Amsterdam

Awards and honours

Marlene Dumas has received several awards and honours. In 1989, she received the Sandberg Prize and in 1998, specifically for her drawings, the David Roell Prize/Prince Bernhard Cultural Prize for Visual Arts. In 1998 she received the Coutts Contemporary Art Award. In 2010, she received an Honorary Doctorate from the Faculty of Humanities, Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa. In 2011 in Stockholm, she was awarded the Rolf Shock Prize in the Visual Arts, the stepsibling of the Nobel Prize. Her entire oeuvre was awarded the Dutch State Prize for the Arts, the Johannes Vermeer Award, in 2012.

Awards

- 2012 Johannes Vermeer Prijs, Delft, the Netherlands
- 2011 Rolf Schock Prize in the Visual Arts, Stockholm, Sweden
- 2011 Honorary Doctorate of Philosophy honoris causa, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa
- 2010 Honorary Doctorate Faculty of Humanities, Doctor of Laws honoris causa, Rhodes University
Grahamstown, South Africa
- 2007 Kunstpreis der Landeshauptstadt Düsseldorf, Germany
- 1998 Coutts Contemporary Art Award 1998, Coutts Bank, Monte Carlo
- 1998 David Roell prijs voor beeldende kunst, Prins Bernhard cultuurfonds, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- 1995 Gunther Fruhtrunk Preis, Akademieverein München, Germany
- 1989 Sandbergprijs voor beeldende kunst, Amsterdams Fonds voor de Kunst, the Netherlands
- 1989 Thérèse van Duyl-Schwartz Prijs, the Netherlands