

Your first memory of painting?

*I especially remember the paint box and a strong focus on purple and violet ..*

How did you decide to become a painter?

*It took a while. After high school I tried (and quite quickly quit) two studies at the university, Cultural Knowledge, and after that Psychology; both didn't work out. Also my focus was more on music back then. Art was always in my life (growing up in an artists family) and one of my biggest interests, but I never thought I would become an artist when I was younger. I went to Italy for two months and there the penny dropped; Being in an environment so filled with art I finally felt like myself again. When I came back to The Netherlands I did admission for art academy.*

Did an artist particularly inspire you?

*When I first saw Botticelli's Primavera as a kid I was completely mesmerized, it's still one of my favourite paintings. Also L'aubade from Picasso- Picasso in general of course, what a surprise.. his strength and joy in making and playfulness, forms, colours - everything is just jummy. Bacon!! Miró, Rothko, also Italian frescoes. Vermeer really moves me. Frida Kahlo. Sorry you asked for one, I really can't choose! It's not really a direct influence on my way of painting. More that you see something and it makes you want to paint.*

Do you need to understand to love a painting?

*I think understanding art is highly overrated. To me art is more about feeling than understanding, and you don't even need to understand the feeling: Sometimes the eye understands more than the head. Why do we like things anyway? Plus you can understand something without knowing why. Since the taste of conceptual art -the idea of understanding art in an explainable way- started to play way to big of a role if you ask me. I think if we would understand most of it, it wouldn't be so fresh to be surprised by a work, and that's so lovely , to see something and be like 'whoaa!!' If you really love a painting, for me there is a sentiment that you understand within. Something you somehow recognize, it's not really a logical understanding. Interesting question really!*

Is there a work for which you said to yourself , this is exactly what I wanted to do?

*I had that when I first saw Milton Avey's colours. But honestly, I see paintings all the time of which I wished I had made them myself haha.*

The famous work that you don't like?

*Jeff Koons sculptures*

What is essential for your creation?

*To be in my own bubble.*

What is your relationship to recognition?

*I can't say it doesn't make me feel good when my work is received well. It just gives a good boost!*

If tomorrow you could no longer be a painter, what would you do?

*Cry and make music, preferably not at the same time.*

Your artistic dream ..

*So really a dream: I would love to create a building/space completely filled with murals, video works and music. Combine everything that I do in a 'house' that shows a whole world on its own inside. Also other artists would do this in their own way, think it would be super interesting: to design an entire landscape with these buildings on it..*

*But a more realistic dream is just to be able to keep doing what I am doing now!*

*Thank you for the interview Francois!!*

