

# DINEKE HUIZENGA

Born in The Netherlands (1967, Wildervank) studied Art History (MA); art, spirituality and material culture in the Middle East, University of Groningen in collaboration with University Leiden.

## Areas of expertise

- The artists realm; the nature of creating and creation
- Art and communication; intercultural dialogue
- Art, philosophy, spirituality, religion and worldview
- Contemporary art and cultural heritage in Iraq
- Contemporary art and cultural heritage in Iran
- Arts of the islamic world

## Working experience

1996- now      Freelance researcher and curator (att. 1 and 2)  
2001- now      Trainer and coach of artists; since 2007 for Kunstenaars&CO, Amsterdam  
2004- now      Art program development MECART Foundation ([www.mecart.org](http://www.mecart.org))  
1996-2006      (Guest) lecturer universities and art institutions on art of the Middle East (att. 3)

## Primary research

2007-now      *Travelling the Tigris: contemporary Iraqi art in context. A new art historical methodology on art in the Middle East*, interdisciplinary art historical methodology, casus contemporary art in Iraq (Phd. Pallas Institute, University Leiden)  
2007              Fact finding trip: traditional and contemporary art in former Yugoslavia  
2005              Fact finding trip: contemporary art and culture and cultural heritage in (South) Iraq  
2004              Fact finding trip: art and culture in Eastern Turkey  
2003              Fact finding trip: art and culture in Western Turkey  
2002              Fact finding trip: traditional and contemporary art in Central and Eastern Iran  
2001              Fact finding trip: traditional and contemporary art and art education in Central Iran  
2000              Fact finding trip: art in West and Central Turkey

## Publications

2007              *Our inner world*, catalogue on the work of Nena Sesic Fiser (Croatia, 2008)  
2006              Chief editor, *Dwaallicht*, work of ten Iraqi poets in The Netherlands, (Passage, 2006); introduction by prof. Dr. Hatem Sager, University of Sanaa  
2006              Pearls of witnessing, *Zemzem* (2006); article on Iraqi poetry in The Netherlands and a special item on poet Kamal Sabti  
2004              History as material, *Soera* 12/3, 2004 article on artist Ziad Haider

## Memberships

MESA              Middle Eastern Scientists Association (being processed)  
AMCA              Association of Middle Eastern Contemporary Art  
ISIM              International Institute for the Study of Islam in the Modern World  
MOI              Study of the Middle East, The Netherlands

**Education**

- 1989-1996 *Doctorate (MA) History of Art, University of Groningen/Leiden*  
Material culture of the islamic world; specialisation visual arts Iran, Iraq till 1850; field surveys Egypt, Turkey; research Iran, Turkey, France, Germany, Great Britain
- 2003 *Transformational Leadership, Nieuwe Dimensies Eemnes*
- 2004-2007 *Trainer, coach, healer, reader Essence College, Bodegraven*

## Attachment 1: Presentations of art and culture

- 2005 Research and texts *Speaking Plants, Hortus Botanicus Amsterdam*, worldview in nature, music and arts of the islamic world, exhibition in addition to *World, Nature & Art* in the Nieuwe Kerk, Amsterdam
- 2003 Researcher and texts *The road to beauty and happiness: mysticism in islam, Wereldmuseum Rotterdam*, islamic worldview on art, art and manuscripts in relation to the 'hidden sciences of islam'
- 2002-2003 Researcher, *Paradise & Co, KIT Kindermuseum, Tropenmuseum, Amsterdam* in collaboration with Iranian artists; research, selection and acquisition, inter-disciplinary hands-on exhibition on Iran for children 6-12 (2003-2006)
- 2001-2002 Researcher/organiser *Culture and Identity, Stedelijk Museum de Lakenhal, Leiden* as part of the exhibition *Armenia*; debate and exhibition on culture and identity in collaboration with foreign artists and migrant organisations
- 2000 Researcher/organiser *Postcard from Afghanistan, City Council Hall, Leiden*; exhibition on art and culture of Afghanistan, with Afghan artists and the Dutch association of Afghan Women, Textile Research Centre, Leiden
- 2000-2001 Resarcher/assistant to the curator, *The Silkroute, South west and central Asia, National Museum for Ethnology, Leiden* realisation of the new permanent presentation of the museums' collection
- 1999-2000 Reading room assistant, *Universiy Library Leiden, Oriental Manuscript Dept.* Start research and description of illustrated and iluminated manuscripts
- 1998 Assistant to the curator, Modern Art, *Stedelijk Museum 'De Lakenhal', Leiden*
- 1992-1993 Curatorial trainee, *Dreams of Paradise, Museum for Ethnology, Rotterdam* Overall research, set-up and design semi-permanent presentation of the collection

## Attachment 2: Presentations of art and artists

- 2006 Curator, *Two Signatures One Painting*, De Levante Amsterdam  
With Kadhem Al-Khalifa en Anahit Sarkes
- 2006 Initiator/organiser debate *The Unity of Iraq, myth or reality? Politics, poetry and the visual arts*, MECART Foundation; with Robert Soeterik, Chaalan Charif, Dineke Huizenga
- 2005-2006 Initiator *Enkidu's Gilgamesh*, theatre play for children in The Netherlands and Iraq, MECART Foundation and Stichting Ultramarijn, Saleh Hassan Faris
- 2005 Curator *Human Rights and the Arts*, City Council, Den Haag, Stichting Lancelot, Art Academy The Hague; with Kadhem Al-Khalifah, Nena Sestic Fisher, Senad Alic, Peter Lazarov, Gregory Kohelet and others
- 2005 Researcher/organiser festival *Travelling the Tigris: contemporary Iraqi art in context*, MECART Foundation; visual arts, literature & poetry, cultural heritage in close collaboration with universities, museums and galleries in Amsterdam (on hold)
- 2005 Curator *Back to Baghdad: looking through the eyes of poets and painter*, MECART Foundation; exhibition and poetry recital with Qassim Al-Saedy, Ali Finjan, Anahit Sarkes, Khadem Al-Khalifah, Karim Alasady (cancelled)
- 2004 Researcher/organiser festival '*Over the bow of darkness' Iraqi arts in Amsterdam*; presenting 21 prize winning artists from Iraq; exhibition, concert, theatre
- 2004 Debate *Iraq: Art and identity; beyond politics?* With professor Kitty Zijlmans (University Leiden), Mirjam Westen (Museum Contemporary Art, Arhem) and Iraqi artists

### **Attachment 3: Main lectures and Courses**

*Travelling the Tigris; contemporary Iraqi art in context*, British Museum, Symposium Modern Arab Art

*Worldview & Ideology in art of the Middle-East*, Symposium, Royal Academy of Arts, Den Haag

*Eurocentrism and the Art of Turkey*, Art Academy, Amsterdam

*Arts of Iran*, series, Amsterdam

*Art & fortune telling in Contemporary Iran*, Symposium, World Museum Rotterdam

*Miniature Painting in the Middle East*, Art History Dept., University Leiden

*Painting in the Middle East*, Middle- Eastern Languages & Cultures Dept., University of Leiden

*Heroes and Martyrs in Miniature Painting in Iran*, Rijksmuseum for Ethnology Leiden

*Religious Iconography in the Islamic Arts*, Nieuwe Kerk, Amsterdam

*Paradise Symbolism in Islamic Arts*, Nieuwe Kerk, Amsterdam

*The Clothes of Mohammed: religious bookpainting in the Islamic World*, Amsterdam

*Art history of the Islamic World*, Helikon Utrecht

*Indian falnama's*, Symposium, University of Utrecht

*Illustrated manuscripts of the University Library Leiden*, Middle Eastern Languages & Cultures Dept., University of Leiden

*Bookpainting in Iran, India and Turkey 1500-1800*, Rotterdam

*An unknown Shahnama*, Middle Eastern Languages & Cultures Dept., University of Leiden

*Beyond the image: Paradise Symbolism in Islamic Arts*, University Nijmegen

*Layla en Majnun in 16th century Persian and Indian manuscripts*, University Utrecht

*The Mihrab: Gate to another world*, University Utrecht