

# Le Blog



**RANKART®**  
GRANDE EXPOSITION EN LIGNE  
ARTISTES PEINTRES & PHOTOGRAPHES

## André Schoots

RankArt: Can you introduce yourself in a few words to our readers?

**André Schoots: I have been captivated by art and nature since childhood. Moreover, I have always known that there is more to discover than you can imagine. This drove me to simultaneously become an artist and a scientific researcher. As biologist I want to expose a little more of unknown life processes. At the same time I want to paint to express my amazement and sense of wonder about our development, our constant changing.**

RankArt: Do you practice painting as a hobby or as a professional?

**André Schoots: Next to my scientific career I was a professional part-time painter. Now I am a full-time artist.**

RankArt: Why did you choose painting as your way of expression yourself rather than another one? What triggered it?

**André Schoots: I was very interested in painting from an early age. My father took us children often to cathedrals, chateaus and museums. When I went there I enjoyed trying to know which stories and feelings artists had expressed in paintings. In churches these mostly involved realistic paintings of Dutch and Flemish Renaissance masters such as Van Eijk, Brueghel and Bosch. In museums I was also fascinated by realists of more recent date like De Chirico, Dali, Delvaux, Willink, Moesman and Edward Hopper. They all had a huge impact on my development as a painter. At the same time more abstract works like the colorful geometrical works of Mondriaan have been a great inspiration.**

RankArt: Do your life and its different stages have an influence on your art? In what way?

**André Schoots: My embryological studies revealed details and mechanisms that led me to understand the beauty and simplicity of seemingly complex developments. Part of this**

**work was with microscopy. My feelings associated with the shapes and colors out there, I wanted to transform to the canvas. And bring it to everyday observations of developments in our life, such as the way we grow up, perform and get older. The geometrical elements form a background that together with the figuration create a story for the beholder to interpret.**

RankArt: How would you define your work? What do you say about your work to someone who has never seen your paintings?

**André Schoots: I define my work as imaginary realism. In a colorful way my paintings marry elements of abstraction and figuration evoking narrative. Key to the work is the tension between description and the idea of leaving the interpretation to the viewer. My inspiration is the sense of wonder about the constant change of life and the way we interact while growing up and getting older. In the paintings people and everyday props or mundane activities are configured in a mostly geometrical setting. The fictional tableau invites the beholder into a dreamlike scene as though it were a piece of theatre, with the purpose to triggering thoughts and emotions.**

RankArt: In general, what has an influence on your art?

**André Schoots: The painters mentioned above in concert with the scientific research on development.**

RankArt: What is the starting point of a painting, the early stages of your work?

**André Schoots: A current affair in the news generates a kind of surrealistic visualization. This is pure imagination. I use photographs for reference of the figuration. For example: “Blue Beach” and the later “Sea Sight” on the absurdity of running with the herd, away on holiday to crowded places; or “Beyond the glass ceiling” on emancipation.**

RankArt: What painter from the past would you like to meet, and why?

**André Schoots: If time machines existed I would like to have a round table meeting with Giorgio De Chirico, Edward Hopper and Paul Delvaux. Each in his own style was a great master of depicting the mood of individuals and the atmosphere of spaces.**

RankArt: Could you tell us about a painting you would like to see it your own eyes? Why this one in particular?

**André Schoots: Even though at present I am not a fan of collage-like works nor is cubism my favorite style, I had to visit Reina Sofia in Madrid to see the Guernica from Picasso. A history book in primary school included a picture of the monochrome painting. It struck me then with its dramatic symbolism and its colossal size. Even larger than the Night Watch from Rembrandt that I saw with my own eyes on a study trip with the class that year.**

RankArt: According to you, when does a painter, a photographer, a musician... becomes an artist?

**André Schoots: When the works of the person in question stimulate imagination, initiate emotions.**

RankArt: Can you tell us about the exhibition of another artist that has left a special mark on you?

**André Schoots: The exhibition of Edward Hopper in het Paleis voor Schone Kunsten, Brussels, 1993. I spend “hours” in front of some his paintings to feel the special atmosphere he created.**

RankArt: What is your most emotional memory of a personal exhibition, and why?

**André Schoots: I will never forget the moment when a woman came to me, with tears in her eyes, pointing to a work that she said depicted her life. She bought the painting and after the exposition she even brought me berries from her garden to express how valuable the painting was to her.**

RankArt: To give our readers a general idea of our artists, I like to ask our guests the « desert island » questions. If you were stranded on a desert island, what would you take with you?

**André Schoots: Music is very important to me. I like many different styles. But since I am a lousy musician there has to be a stereo device on the island on solar power. If I have to choose it would be two albums:**

- Concerto Russe from the French Composer Edouard Lalo;
- Abra Kadavar from the hardrock band Kadavar.

RankArt: When you were a child, what did you dream of becoming as an adult?

**André Schoots: A bus driver or pilot to visit all the beautiful places in the world.**

Thanks André !

Find André Schoots on his [Website](#).

© 2018 par RankArt

Autrech 09800 Saint Lary, France