

From the heart of Lute Vink –

“How would I want to be remembered? As an artist that stood in awe of the natural beauty of our planet Earth, that respected every tiny detail thereof, that absorbed, learnt and tried to understand nature. I want to leave, knowing that my art is an ongoing remembrance of my love for nature and that it will inspire others to appreciate and love our planet.

I read somewhere that it is not whether you have the ability to draw or paint, but to be able to “see” (to understand). Somehow, as I made progress, I realized that the more you think you know, the more you find out how little you actually know.

I was never taught how to draw, let alone paint.

I believe that anyone can learn to draw. It is a skill that can be developed through repetition. But to “see” (to understand) how things work and then put dimension to it, that is something totally different - that is born from deep within an artist.

When I set out to gather photo reference for my work, I either go on short excursions on my own or do the annual holiday trip with my family. Our holidays are usually in the wild – Kalahari Gemsbok Park, Moremi, Chobe. Luckily my family shares my love and passion of nature.



I do not like to fill the canvas with a portrait- like face of an animal. I enjoy telling a story or create a possible scenario that may play off in the animals’ environment. If possible, I like to debate with the viewer or client whether the story in the painting makes sense, whether the scenario is possible or probable. Needless to say, I like to be correct – spot on – in the scenario that I created on canvas. That is why I spend time studying the environment as well as the animals.

If I could send a message to the prospective buyer or person who appreciates art, it would be for them to take note of what is happening out there to our wildlife. Visit zoos, farms and other facilities. Support and help to preserve this beauty. Help preserve the environment in which animals live. Support fundraising events for the animals of our planet. We need to reconnect and stay in touch with our planet.

I have so many times felt deep gratitude towards an animal after having taken a series of photographs. How do you say “thank you” to a leopard, elephant or kudu that has posed for minutes, or an hour, close to you?

I have learnt that there is always something to learn. I listen to public’s comment on my work and take note of what people are saying. This keeps one on one’s toes and also, humble.”



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