

FAQ's

The FAQ's are divided in 3 categories:

- 1 Paintings and Materials
- 2 Purchase, Payments, Shipping and Handling, Guarantee
- 3 Personal

1 Paintings and Materials

What's acrylics and how come you prefer it?

Acrylic paint is fast-drying paint containing pigment suspended in an acrylic polymer emulsion. Acrylics is a high quality paint, just like oilpaint. It's used by many professional artists. It's an young paint though, not fully developed until the 20th century. Because of this there aren't any real old acrylic paintings yet, but in theory it should withstand the ravages of time gloriously.

Some say even better than oil paint, because the paint is really elastic, similar to rubber. Therefore it doesn't crack easily.

I swear by this high quality paint, because it's appearance is just perfect for my style. The paint also dries very quick, within 5 minutes the paint is dry and ready for a new layer of paint. That way I can work very fast and I'm able to produce a new painting every other day.



De Ikea, acrylics on masonite, 35.6 x 27.6" or 90,3 x 70 cm, 2007



Shoe Shine Boy, acrylics on masonite, 24 x 27.6" or 61 x 70 cm, 2008

Another advantage of acrylics is that it's soluble in water. Therefore I don't have to clean my brushes with the poisonous turpentine. After drying acrylics becomes water-resistant

What's masonite?

The wood I'm using to paint on is called masonite. Many professional artists use this type of wood. Masonite is a hardboard but it's been soaked in oil. Therefore masonite is many times stronger than normal hardboard and it can withstand water.

I prefer masonite above canvas, because of it's smooth surface and it's doesn't move all the time while painting. Before I start to paint I first put an underlayer of Gesso on the masonite. The Gesso attaches itself to the wood and the paint attaches real well on to the Gesso. The biggest disadvantage of wood is of course that it lives. It might curve a little sometimes by extreme changes in temperature. After a while it also straightens out completely, but it's wise not to hang your painting directly above a stove or a heater.

What colours do you use?

I use a limited amount of different colours. I usually work with a cadmium red, phtalo blue, lemon yellow, burnt ombre and a titanium white. Sometimes I use an yellow ochre too, that's it!

What brushes do you use?

I only use flat brushes in many different sizes, brands and types of hair. I cannot work with round ones, they always seem to go to places I don't want them to. I also use my fingers a lot while painting. My palette by the way is a lid of an old bucket of latex paint. It's easy to clean, because it's made of plastic. It's the only thing I want to use and I have this one for years already.

How do you set up a painting? Do you use pictures?

I usually take pictures of subjects I wish to paint. These pictures are just a starting point for the final painting and are only sketch materials. I prearrange the whole picture in my works of art using my computer. I choose my own colors and style and I add elements or are leaving them out. I also pick my own point of view for my paintings and make my own composition. When I'm happy about my sketch I pick up my pencil and start drawing the basic outlines of the subject using my sketch as a reference. If everything is in place I start painting, building up the painting in layers of paint until I'm happy about the results.

Where do you find your subjects?

I find my subjects in everyday life. I like to take a walk through my hometown or places I visit and just take a look around. Bringing my camera everywhere so I don't forget. You could say I'm an observer I guess.

Isn't it hard to let a painting go?

I mean there are you're children so to speak. Well sometimes it is, but most of the time I'm having no trouble at all selling my work. If you compare it with children, I always say that children grow up and at a certain point need to get out of the house and stand on their own 2 feet. Besides I love it when I can make people happy with my art!



The Cage, acrylics on masonite, 23.6 x 17.7" or 60 x 45 cm, 2007



The Show, acrylics on masonite, 27.6 x 36.7" or 93,3 x 70 cm, 2006

Do you take on commissions?

Yes I do. You can have yourself or your loved ones portrayed starting at just 100,- euro. If you're looking for something really special, I also offer the possibility to play a role in a typical setting of me. It looks like a free work but with you in it! For more information about commissions, please click on the link 'Commissions' on my website or just contact me, info@gerardboersma.nl

Why blog paintings?

The idea to write my daily painting blog is to give my growing numbers of friends and collectors worldwide a direct interchange with my work. For this blog it is my aim to produce 4 or 5 new small sized paintings every week, usually done with acrylics on a panel of 15 x 15cm (6" x 6").



Waste of Time, acrylics on masonite, 15 x 20" or 38 x 51 cm, 2005. sold

2 Shipping

How can I purchase a painting?

You can easily purchase a painting by contacting me via telephone at 0031 (0) 582151276 or email info@gerardboersma.nl. When you email please state the title of the painting of you're interest and we'll go from there.

How can I pay?

You can pay using paypal. I will send you through PayPal a payment request for the complete costs. PayPal enables the payment in Euro even if you are located outside the Euro zone

If you don't have PayPal you can fulfill your payment for your order by wiring the amount of the painting of your choice plus the additional fee for taxes, shipping and handling to my bankaccount. Please contact me for details if you wish to do so. info@gerardboersma.nl

I want to spread payments, is that possible?

Yes you can. Spread payments are possible in 2 terms within a maximum of 2 months.

How much are the shipping costs and are there any additional fees?

Yes there are. I will charge an additional fee for taxes, shipping and handling. The taxes are 6% and the fee for shipping and handling is depending on the size of the painting and which country you come from. Please contact me for the exact costs of the additional fees, I would be happy to research those costs for you. You can reach me by phone 0031 (0) 58 2151276 or by e-mail info@gerardboersma.nl



The Corner, acrylics on masonite, 31.5 x 23.6" or 80 x 60 cm, 2008



The Deli, acrylics on masonite, 12 x 13.8" or 30,6 x 35 cm, 2008, sold

How are the paintings packed during shipping?

After receiving your full payment and the additional fees I will ship your order, carefully packed in a specially designed case.

How long does the delivery take?

The delivery can take up to 20 days but is normally made within 7 days.

Is the painting framed?

Only my larger sized paintings are. Paintings equal and smaller than 35 x 32 (13.8" x 12.6") aren't. Please contact me if you wish to have your painting framed 0031 (0) 58 2151276 or info@gerardboersma.nl

The painting arrived damaged! What should I do?

After receiving your order you should carefully inspect your painting on possible damages. Please contact me by phone 00 31 (0) 58 2151276 or email info@gerardboersma.nl within 24 hours if you find any. I will do my best to correct it.

Do you have a guarantee?

Of course! Although a painting by me is normally more impressive in real life than it is as a image on your computer screen, it is of course possible that you will find it disappointing after seeing it in real life.

If you, for any reason, do not want to keep the painting you could use my no-good-money-back guarantee.

The following terms and conditions apply to this:

1 If you do not want to keep the painting, please let us know within 2 working days by phone (00) 31 (0) 58 2151276 or email info@gerardboersma.nl

2 The painting should be returned in the same state as you received it within 15 working days.

3 Your payment will be wired back to your account minus the fee for shipping and handling.

3 Personal

Where are you from? Could you tell me a little bit about yourself?

Well I was born in Harlingen in 1976 and raised in Makkum. Both are small places in the Northern part of the Netherlands near the worldfamous Afsluitdijk. The Northern part of Holland is also the place where most Dutch realist artists seem to come from, I think it has something to do with our approach to life. I lived in Makkum for 22 years together with my parents and my 2 older brothers. I moved to Leeuwarden to study to become an art teacher and later on studied at the School of Arts Minerva in Groningen. I graduated at both schools and I still live happily in Leeuwarden where I have my studio.

Did you draw a lot as a kid?

Not in particular. I remember winning a Saunta-Clause contest drawing a picture of a pear which was quite unusual. Other than that I cannot say I drew a lot as a kid. I first became interested in drawing when I came across graffiti at the age 12. Then it really hit off, I was drawing like crazy. One could say my use of colours still stems from this. Later on I moved from graffiti towards painting, because I felt I could say a whole lot more in a painting than I ever could doing graffiti.

Do you exhibit a lot?

Hell yeah! My work is almost non-stop shown all over my native country and abroad. To give you a few highlights, I've exhibited a couple of times in New York, Amsterdam, Florence and of course my hometown Leeuwarden. My work has been shown in the Fries Museum twice and the future is looking bright too.



The Jealousy, acrylics on masonite, 15 x 20" or 38 x 51 cm, 2005, sold

Where's your studio located?

It's located at the Wissesdwinger 1, studio no 15 in Leeuwarden, The Netherlands. If you happen to be nearby you're welcome to pay me a visit! I always love people coming over to take a look at my art.

Is your work in a museum?

Yes it is. The Fries Museum, the most influential museum in my region has collected a piece by me.

Who is Jopie Huisman and how are you related to him?

For people who don't know who Jopie Huisman is, he's a really famous Dutch realist painter. He's called the painter of compassion and is known for his highly detailed paintings of rags. He has his own museum in Workum which attracts thousands of visitors every year.

I'm related to him through my father's side. Jopie is the brother of my grandmother. For some reason you won't find this in his biography, but he actually lived with my grandfather and father for a while.

When people are looking at Jopie's paintings of his parents, they're also looking at paintings of my great-grandparents. Pictures of my grandmother are also included in monographs about Jopie. That really makes me proud. Unfortunately Jopie passed away in 2000 before I had the chance to meet him. I do have some contact with his daughter Grietje and her husband Gerrit Wijngaarden, who are both excellent painters. Check out www.jopiehuismanmuseum.nl and www.gerritwijngaarden.nl for more information.

The Surroundings, acrylics on masonite, 48 x 36" or 122 x 91,5 cm, 2004, sold

Is your work related to that of Jopie Huisman?

Well, we both are realist painters who make highly detailed works of art. We differ in subject matter though. As Jopie loved to paint rags and the story behind that, I love to paint more modern subjects people encounter in everyday situations. So our approach may be different but we both have an interest in painting the story of people.

Can you make a living as an artist?

Yes I can! I'm one of the lucky few as they sometimes say. I'm really grateful that I already get this far at a young age and I'm never going to give up painting!



Selfportrait, acrylics on masonite, 9.9 x 8.7" or 25,2 x 22 cm, 2007, collection of artist



The Chase, acrylics on masonite, 20.4 x 17.3" or 51,8 x 44 cm, 2008



The Buffel, acrylics on masonite, 9.9 x 8.7" or 25,2 x 22 cm, 2007, sold

For additional information, questions or remarks please don't hesitate to contact me at the following address below. I'm looking forward hearing from you!

Contact

Gerard Boersma
Wissedwinger 1, atelier no. 15
8921 ER Leeuwarden
The Netherlands

studio 0031 (0) 58 2151276
mob 0031 (0) 6 22477236
home 0031 (0) 582160591

info@gerardboersma.nl
www.gerardboersma.nl
www.gerardboersma.blogspot.com



The Call, acrylics on masonite, 20.4 x 17.3" or 51,8 x 44 cm, 2008