

BEN WIJNEN  
INDEPENDANT SCULPTOR

## PERSONAL ARTISTIC STATEMENT:

***"Art made by heart and soul is not afraid to be old and will survive time and history".***

All that captures my eye is a *source for my inspiration*. Especially organic forms of Mother Nature and of the human body, in particular the female body. *Masters* like Michelangelo, Canova and Bernini and works of Moore, Rodin, Brancusi, Ingres, Van Gogh and Rubens should be studied to know 'who I am' and where 'I belong' *in personal, historical and geographic time*.

My intention is not to copy reality. My purpose is *to express* myself in all my ways of being, in my ups and in my downs. On the principle that "*less is more*" I want to show my way of looking at the world, in my *Lines of Life*, like a mirror of Life. A *universal but personal language*, where my *images speak*, without any words. In this way the torso gains a new and unique dimension which is far more interesting than reality.

First I am guided by the clay model or by the natural form of the stone. But soon after that I am influenced by its lines and with its marbling. Knowing the *base of drawing* I work from my *heart*, intuitively. This is essential for me, because then I can *feel* how a form has to be. And where material, technique, tools and finally brains support me to express myself until my sculpture is finished. I prefer to work with my bare hands to feel more *profound contact* with the marble in relationship to myself.

Despite the pressures of Life and society with its emphasis on production, I have chosen *quality* and *intensity* above quantity. Through purposefully working with mallet and chisel I slowly arrive at the *essence* of my *creation*, until there are no more questions left between me and my sculpture. Every millimeter will "be mine", so every sculpture will become unquestionable unrepeatable unique, even will *breathe Life*. A child is born.

Ben Wijnen, Italy, the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2017.