

# DONATA BENKER

## Artist-biography

- 1982 born in Nuremberg  
2002-06 Studies of painting and art education at the Academy of Fine Arts in Nuremberg with Prof. Peter Angermann  
2006-07 fellowship for studies of painting at the Academy of Fine Arts, Helsinki/ Finland  
2007-09 studies of painting at the Academy of Fine Arts in Nuremberg  
2009 Masterstudent of Prof. Thomas Hartmann  
Since 2009 Self-employed artist



## Donata Benker – Painting

Donata Benker appropriates classic themes of paintings for her creating, by using motive references to landscape paintings and figures of architecture. She sets them in a close relation to the pure painting but also she unsticks from the type of transmitted figure- and functions model.

Initially purposeless painting-parts, partly gestural or related with the All-Over-Painting, partially harsh against each other zoned color fields with geometric-artificial appeal, are fixed visual by a form, which seems for the observer to be "architecture". This term is suitable because the paintings show obviously architectural attributes.

The artist assumes, that real experienced architectural construct or at least a real existing architecture parts is witnessed through her artworks.

However, she doesn't develop architecture portraits, but rather she uses her memory of these buildings(-parts), so that she can create a phantasy construction, which gives the description not just a motive, but- this is the most important- it evokes a sense of locality. Due to the interaction between the scenic parts and the architectonic inspired parts the impression arises of indefinite out- and inside rooms. Our own empirical knowledge brings vegetation, ways, water, beach, places, urban or countryish region into existence. In the classic comprehension, Donata Benker uses the illustrated space as a story-telling place, not for report from a happening, but to cause a feeling. One feeling, the observer combines with a special place. It can reach from a cheerful mood to a feeling of oppression behind an old fabric. All facets of feelings can be enclosed.