## Bea van der Heijden

Artist Bea van der Heijden (1963) studied at the Academy of Visual Education in Tilburg, where she was trained as an artist and teacher of Drawing. She continued her education at the Royal Academy of Art in The Hague with Graphic Design. After a number of years as a graphic designer and illustrator, she switched to autonomous visual work in 2004. Since 2006 she regularly exhibits and works on various projects.

## About my work

In my work dreams, fantasy and reality come together. Personal stories about recognisable themes such as identity, relationships, emotions and life and death are the motive. Capturing the feelings associated with these themes is central to my work and they stimulate the viewer's imagination, memories and feelings, creating recognition and connection.

I depict these themes in graphic and mixed techniques and shape them with figurative elements. Although reality is abstracted, visual elements remain recognisable. My work is mainly suggestive and associative. They are often atmospheric images with an intense emotional and poetic charge.