

# HANNEKE FRANCKEN

## **Text catalogue Beeld Evenbeeld by Nicole Roepers**

Instinct?

Are humans a superior race and is that why we stand above all else?

Why do I feel like someone who creates waste instead of a link in the chain of life?

The drawings are more than just life-size human and animal figures that stare back at you. They are partially hidden by leaves; their survival instinct radiates skittishness, while their penetrating stare hints at inner calm. A concrete environment is missing, fore and background are hardly noticeable through the foliage. The drawings are of monumental proportions and are made solely from a pencil, this pencil upon paper gives off a silvery sheen through which light appears in the work. The human forms are drawn fairly realistically, while the vegetation provides a one-dimensional and decorative element. The stances of the human forms are not expressive, but rather as if in a deep concentration. While the figures are naked, they are not like model sketches.

The meaning of these works is not one fold. Obviously we are not dealing with realistic situations, but rather poetic associations. I don't want to draw something literally- the drawings are not an exact rendering- as much as tell a new story.

A story that seems familiar and true and at the same time raises countless questions. A story about mythology, about nature, evolution, paradise-like habitats, about human and animal behavior. My ideas of instinctive behavior, made through the use of minimal materials and placed onto huge displays, speak of a mixture of serenity, subtle alienation and confrontation.