

**Artist** Erik Andriesse  
**Title** *Untitled*  
**Medium** watercolour on paper  
**Notes** Donated in 2017 by John Hutchinson, Director of the Douglas Hyde Gallery, 1991-2016



b. 1957, Bussum, The Netherlands – 1993, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Erik Andriesse is best known for his still-life painting and drawing, though for a short period he also experimented with sculptural pieces in ceramics. His keen observation and evident eye for detail situates him as a modern descendant of the great Dutch and Flemish still-life or *nature morte* painters of the seventeenth century. However, unlike his predecessors Andriesse's still-lives avoid heavy moral symbolism; instead they vibrate with an appreciation for the vitality of his subjects which he expressively renders with bold colouring and a dynamic use of line. The beauty of nature never dulled for the young artist who often produced many versions of the same subject, he favoured flowers such as amaryllises and orchids, though his encounters with animal skulls and cadavers while working at Amsterdam Zoo also proved to be worthy of his brush. He was noted for his strong work ethic, his brother the photographer and gallerist Paul Andriesse, described the attention he gave to his subjects as obsessive and intense.

The artist's formal training began at the independent art school Ateliers '63 in Haarlem where he studied from 1975 to 1977. From 1979 onwards his works were regularly exhibited in major art centres such as Amsterdam, Cologne and New York. In 1988 Andriesse was invited to display his designs at the Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam, a considerable honour for the young man whose still-lives of sunflowers reveal the influence of the famous Expressionist. That same year, Andriesse was awarded the prestigious Prix de Rome for Graphic Art.

In the early 1990s, Andriesse began transferring versions of his earlier designs on to ceramic vases and bowls. He was then invited by the Stedelijk Museum's Hertogenbosch to continue this artistic venture at the European Ceramic Work Centre in Den Bosch in the Netherlands. 1993 saw the untimely, sudden death of the artist, aged thirty-six. Since his death Andriesse's work has been exhibited widely in the Netherlands, in France and at the Douglas Hyde Gallery in Dublin where he was featured amongst other artists as part of the 'Paradise' series of exhibitions (2003).

This information has been sourced from [www.andriesse-eyck.com/artists/38/3](http://www.andriesse-eyck.com/artists/38/3)  
[www.maharam.com/stories/eyck\\_revealing-nature-erik-andriesse-19571993](http://www.maharam.com/stories/eyck_revealing-nature-erik-andriesse-19571993)  
[www.depont.nl/en/exhibitions/program/release/pers/erik-andriesse](http://www.depont.nl/en/exhibitions/program/release/pers/erik-andriesse) and [www.paulandriesse.nl/p/36.html?m=8](http://www.paulandriesse.nl/p/36.html?m=8)

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