



KINKE KOOI: WHY I DRAW THINGS WITHOUT STATUS OR:  
THREE AMAZING, LITTLE STORIES THAT NEVER LEFT MY MIND  
AND SHAPED MY LIFE

1.

My first lesson in Art History at Art School my teacher taught us about how art had started: it had started in caves, where men drew the animals they wanted to catch. I was shocked because I realized that I didn't originate from art: as a woman I had no ancestors in art. And so I asked him: What did woman make? And he said: Oh, they decorated pots and pans. At that moment I also realized that art isn't so much about quality as it is about attributing status. From that moment I knew: woman don't give status...

2.

In communist China where man and woman had equal rights to study, many woman choose to study medicin. But by the time many woman actually became doctors the salary went down to the income of a nurse. Today even gynaecologists don't want too many woman in their profession because they are afraid that it will bring the status of their profession down. The strange thing is that this story excited me. Wow ! Imagine a world without status! From that moment on I love to look at things without status and its wonderfull to draw them in endlessly round movements. Beautifull, little things of no importance. Like man with jewelry. (When was it that man stopped wearing jewelry like they used to?)

3

Once I was watching television. There was a man who had been taken interviews for woman magazines for four years. His overall conclusion was: 'Woman always choose for a model of harmony'. My first inner response was: 'Oh my god, thats exactly what I do and that's why I will not succeed in society!' Later on I was astonished why I came to such a conclusion. On the other hand: unconsciously I knew that in order to be succesfull in society you have to be fast; think in straight lines; split and make choises (make decisions in a split second). Where as: I like to connect everything to each other. And doubt is a constant movement between things. I like to make compromises for the beauty of harmony. Stuff empty space with round cosyneess, because it makes me feel complete.

4.

Winning is about visibility and showing off. Why climb up and be lonely at the top?

Have power but no fun? I like to think of myself of being like water:

- having no shape from itself, but being adaptable to any shape;
- having the urge to find the lowest spot;
- filling in every hole.

And what is wrong about that?

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**SANDRA GERING INC**

14 EAST 63RD STREET NEW YORK NY 10065

TEL 646-336-7183 SANDRAGERINGINC.COM

