

## Bente Polano

**Danish Artist & Sculptor, based in Elsinore, Denmark**

Visiting Bente in her studio by the sea in Elsinore is like entering a different world. One where you are lifted high above the trivialities of everyday life. Intense beauty meets your eye from everywhere you look – the walls, the floor, the windows with the stunning views. Paintings, sculptures, drawings, prints ... everything Bente produces leaves you breathless.

Bente Polano takes her inspiration from nature, her immediate surroundings, especially the sea and the forest, and from myths and stories. The *human being* is central in her work, whether entrenched in nature or by itself, naked, confronting existential questions about identity and self. Her paintings are illuminous, full of life and vibrancy, their many layers and careful craftsmanship transmitting pure light. Bente's sculptures, made of stainless steel or bronze, are cut out in one session, giving them a solid robustness as well as a stoic elegance. They too play with questions about the self, reaching inwards and outwards simultaneously, inviting the viewer to be part of their existence.

The recently completed Hamlet Sculpture, made of stainless steel, reflects the viewer's own image like a mirror reflection. In this way, sculpture and viewer become one, their stories and inner complexities melt together and become part of the same fabric.

Bente Polano is a highly acclaimed Danish artist with many exhibitions and public sculptures to her name. Find out more about her here: **[www.polano.dk](http://www.polano.dk)**

*Sophie Clausen, 2017*



Way through, oil on canvas, 2016