

# Willem van Beelen



Probably you all know his sculptures and trophies, because for almost 30 years, Willem van Beelen, born 1954 in Holland, is making sculptures of Arabian horses.

On many championships in Europe and abroad the trophies awarded to the winners are from his hand, always made with a special design.

**ECAHO Trophy**  
**ECPAH Belgium**  
**Dubai International Arabian Horse Championship**  
**Wels International**  
**Elran Cup**  
**Kuwait**  
**Saudi Arabia**

Leaving Holland, in the early 70ties he started his professional career as a painter in Italy, mostly painting portraits in oil, and finding his way to express himself in a hyper-realistic style.

*EYE ON THE WORLD*, painting in oil.

In these years he made his hand, learned a lot of technics and all this experience helped him later when he turned back to Holland and made a change in his artistic life and became more and more a sculptor and besides that he also started to cast his own bronzes.

At that time the Arabian Horse came in his life, for never leaving again, becoming the main subject in all what he created, in bronze, marmorgranulat and paintings. The elegance, movement, strongness and tenderness of the Arabian Horse is fascinating him again and again and all this, makes that he will always use his creativity to expose all this in his sculptures.

After 25 years he decided that he had to stop with the casting of the bronzes, for different reasons, one was the request of the making of lifesize portraits of Arabian Horses.

He found the foundry FLASSH in Holland and they are casting nowadays the portraits, lifesize fillies and bronze trophies.

**The Brigadier**  
**Navarrone**  
**Ibn Estasha**  
**Royal Colours**  
**FA Rasbeem**  
**Im Bayard**  
**Dorar**

Using often different materials and styles, he gives his sculptures another possibility to express the beauty of the horse. He likes to experiment with new forms and styles, always looking for a new angle of approach.

Through the years, he has seen all the different bloodlines, he met and spoke with many breeders and heard from them, what they liked most to see in their breeding result, using all this information in the making of his sculptures.

A lot of his sculptures has found their way to studs, and Arabian Horse lovers all over the world.

In his mind there are still so many ideas, ready to become real, that is why he wants to make time for that in this period of his life. He wants to make new sculptures and paintings, that brings joy to the sculptor and to the spectator.

Showing the horse in all his expressions is the challenge he will always follow. □

