

Artwork concept for the triptych "Saint Petersburg" As a painter I firmly believe that a subject has to be personal before it can be put down in paint. Because of that I often rework older paintings I had previously considered done – as time passes my perspectives change and I wish to reassert myself all over again. Process is everything and the act (of painting) itself can, and should be experienced like you would experience the everyday life; walking the path to your workplace or back home for example, day after day after day. For some it is dull monotony, for others it is a sensation and a journey, each and every time.

The current image is one of such cases. As it is supposed to be a condensation of five years of my life and experiences while living and studying in Russia, it is a very personal painting and for that I wanted to get it right.

In the beginning I considered making several portraits of the people closest to me, friends and flatmates, but decided that this picture should be of the places where I spent those years – the backdrop to the people, which I consider no less crucial to the experience. I decided that naturalistic depiction of the scenes will not cut it and I stylized the elements heavily, mixing and matching various parts of the picture and exchanging some of the elements with different ones of the same kind (ie a chair to a different kind of chair).

Often I would set the actual work aside for several days or more. In the meantime I would go about my usual activities in the places that I have (wholly or fragmentarily) depicted in the current picture. At all times I tried for those places to soak in; afterwards while working on the picture I would attempt to recall that very consciousness, that same amalgam of feelings in the colours and the rhythm of the drawing and painting, process and result alike..

## CURRICULUM VITAE/ RESUMÉ

**Kaspar Tamsalu**, b. 1988 in Estonia

Online portfolio: <http://kaspartamsalu.tumblr.com>

### EDUCATION:

2008 – 2012 Repin State Academic Institute of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture (St. Petersburg, Russia)

2001 – 2007 Tallinn Art School (Tallinn, Estonia)

### courses/extras:

2011 summer Copying at the State Hermitage and Russian Museum (St. Petersburg, Russia)

2010 june–july Plein air painting (Alupka, Crimea)

2009 june Plein air painting in an urban setting (St. Petersburg, Russia)

2007 – 2008 Preparatory course for the painting department at the Repin State Academic Institute of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture (St. Petersburg, Russia)

2006 fall/winter Preparatory course at the Academy of Arts (Tallinn, Estonia)

2006 summer INTER ARTS 2006 Arts (Luxembourg)

2003 – 2005 Annual plein air painting in the Estonian countryside

2002 Plein air painting in Latvia

### EXHIBITIONS & RECOGNITION:

2011 25.-27. nov Group exhibition “Ежегодный международный форум: Искусство и Реальность/



Annual International Forum: Art and Reality”

2011 21.05 Group exhibition "Ночь Живописи и Музыки/ The Night of Painting and Music” in the Raphael and Titian Halls of the Repin State Institute Museum

2011 Stipend “Kultuuristipendium 2011” from the Estonian Ministry of Culture for studies at the Repin State Academic Institute of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture, St. Petersburg, Russia

2010 november Annual “Молодые таланты/Young Talents” exhibition in the Raphael and Titian Halls of the Repin State Institute Museum

2010 july One-week plein air group exhibition at the Kuindzhi house museum in Alupka, Crimea

#### COLLECTIONS & PRINT:

Kaspar Tamsalu has work in private and corporate collections in Estonia, Russia and the United Kingdom

2012 "Global Estonia", SYND&KATTS OÜ

