



## Aistė Dabkevičiūtė

Going into the studio and casting the incoherent, unconscious images – color stains – became my ambition to identify myself with painting and also in everyday banal process.

The implements I use are not very typical of painting. I pour images, using medical preparations, like potassium permanganate, brilliant green, iodine, furacilin, methyl violet. These preparations are used for cicatrizing wounds, the medicine pours into the canvas as a formal painting tool and begins to die. The images mix with each other, during time they often become hardly visible.

„States of minds“ - this is an ongoing project, whose topic is related with the subjective autotherapy, erasing the boundaries between art and life. In images I give a sense to temporariness of everything and fragility. For me it is very important the incompleteness of the moment. Fragile and changeable canvas surface is involved with interpreting state's fragility and uncertainty. It is transitional, marginal, emotional states, which sometimes is difficult to verbalize, it is spontaneous.

### **A shared concept for painting and two left Polaroids**

*“The essence of painting – simply casting coloured matter on a flat surface – is to suspend the appropriation of means to an end that is the essence of technique.”<sup>1</sup>*

While sharing a working place (studio) with Aistė Dabkevičiūtė for term of a year I was frequently astonished by arising questions and her promoting power for we called “temporary activities on canvas”. At first glance it seemed like a lonely studio performance or even dance with a canvas along studio. Nothing new from painter's activity variety: putting canvas on the floor, traditional placement on a wall or easel. Even though the horizontal or vertical canvas, the chosen paint was surprisingly different. Often starting a painting academically with a raw umbra (originally replaced by iodine) she finished it with hues of other pharmacy available viridian, violet tints (brilliant green, potassium permanganate). Experimenting with peroxide as a diluent made her surprisingly happy with the “invention” of appearing pthallo or hooker greens, vandyke and sienna browns.

Unfixed and vanishing canvases were “treasured” later on. Empty or spottified with unexpected nuances they quoted: “Is it painting which is abstract, or is it

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<sup>1</sup> Jaques Ranciere. “The future of the image”, Painting the text. p-72. Verso 2007.

life?"<sup>2</sup> Comparable dilemma of perception, parallel color palette occurred to me when taking a picture with Polaroid Temporary ID beta test film<sup>3</sup>. Starting traditionally with an image development some hours later it darkens when finally some days later turns Black square alike Polaroid.

Collaborative project proposal for Young Painters Prize competition is an action of taking a Polaroid picture of particular Aistė's canvas. Questioning the ideas of creative dualism, transitory image and "shape of time" suggested concept for two left Polaroids could appear as an installation of original canvas hanged on a wall, exhibiting table with camera and previously/recently taken fading photograph depicting a slow discolouration process of the painting.

Tim Kliukoit

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<sup>2</sup> Bob Nickas. "Painting Abstraction. New elements in abstract painting", p- 5. Phaidon press 2009.

<sup>3</sup> This film was a trail from Polaroid Company to develop film for short time visitors. The film retain image for limited time. Currently made in Netherlands. Discontinued.

1986, Lithuania

<http://aistedab.tumblr.com/>



### **Education:**

2005 – 2010m. VDA KDF Bachelor of fine arts, Painting, Kaunas

2010 – 2012 m. VDA Master of fine arts, Painting, Vilnius

### **Group exhibitions:**

2008 Exhibition „First pancake“, Kaunas various cultures centre, Kaunas

2009 1st International Art and Science Festival 2009, Patras, Greece

2010 Chamber art festival-plein air „Castle's accords 2010“, Kaunas

2011 Young painters plein air “Swarm”, Žeimiai estate, Jonava

2011 „Exhibition“, Jasinskio 16a, Vilnius

2012 „Art cells'12“, VDA, Vilnius

### **Personal exhibitions:**

2013 12 03 “States of mind”, VDU art gallery 101”, Kaunas