



[EN]

Closeness

For many years now, nature has been the main theme of my paintings. These are no conventional landscapes, they are „portraits“ of forest, trees, water, earth, grass. To paint, following my intuition, to depict nature in the light of my personal sensations is the only way I can see new values and create new art. My paintings are like stories about nature, about the value of nature, about the proximity of men and nature. When depicting nature, I wish to emphasize the importance of the simple things. It is a kind of a record of sensations and reflection, of colourful as well as almost forgotten memories. The painting "Closeness" has been created, balancing between reality and the hidden world that I wish to show others. It is like a scrap of a childhood spent close to a forest. A place to return and to feel safe. The trees – symbols encoded in the painting – fulfil their due function as keepers and guardians of sensations. One could say it is no forest in my painting, only the reflection of its soul, a soul-print on canvas.

Kristine Kvitka

Website: <http://kristinekvitka.wordpress.com/>

Born in 1983 in Riga. Lives and works in Riga (Latvia) and Tricase (Italy). From 2003 to 2010 studied at Department of Painting of Art Academy of Latvia and graduated with a masters degree. 2006 took part in ERASMUS student exchange programme and studied in Art Academy of Lecce in Italy. 2008 took part in ERASMUS placement programme and worked as a trainee of restoration in Laboratorio di Francesca Romana Melodia in Lecce, Italy.

One may say that Kristine Kvitka (1983) has devoted all of her life to fine art. Already early in her childhood, one of her favourite pastimes was drawing; that's why her parents took the little girl to a drawing coterie at the Pioneer's Castle (now Pupil's Castle). For two years Kristine learnt in the Elementary School of Applied Arts of Riga Central District (1994 - 1995) then continued her education in Jan Rozentals Riga Art School (1995 – 2003), graduating it with diploma work „Melancholia“ (tutored by Aija

Jurjane). A logical step after her previously achieved education in high school, Kristine went on to study in the Department of Painting of Art Academy of Latvia.

Nature with all its detail and urban landscapes have always captured the attention of Kristine Kvitka. Almost with an observers eye, she displays the places that have left indelible impressions; only man is left outside the canvas. During her bachelor studies in the Art Academy of Latvia (2003 – 2007), the artist „revealed” still life genre in her creative work, addressing it in a free, painty stroke, almost as if she had inherited her way of expression from Vincent Van Gogh. An essential turn in her creative work were studies in Art Academy of Lecce, Italy (2006/2007); after that Kristine Kvitka defended her diploma work „Negramaro” (tutored by Uno Danilevskis). It was devoted to regional landscapes of Puglia, emphasising the formal qualities of light and shadow and maintaining the Mediterranean flair.

Next, landscapes were „forgotten” and the next cycle was created, that was devoted to still lives of an Italian kitchen – pheasants, dishes and walls are images with value of their own and tell about their own experience. Those were exhibited in „Silent stories” (2008). The Artists „object” of experiments was painting textures, that were applied in thick layers and then scratched off, obtaining unique, spatial solution. Within this cycle of paintings Kristine slowly moved away from bright contrasts, only maintaining the colour red as an emphasising element. Game and dishes were left "hanging" on the walls, while the artist remained faithful to a sovereign treatment of walls. This also found expression in Kristines diploma work (for the M.A.) "Murali" (tutored by Alexei Naumov) (2010) as the main theme.

Mag. art Zanda Jankovska

Solo shows

2014 “Cercando identità” (Searching for identity), Palazzo Gallone, Tricase\ Palazzo Risolo, Specchia, Italy

2013 “Es tur biju. Atmiņas un nemainība” (I was there. Memories and permanence), gallery “Antonija”, Riga, Latvia

2013 “Light cube”, installations and paintings. Competition of ideas "A.C.A.I.T. - Scuola di occupazione "the first prize-winning project, Tricase, Italy

2012 “I codici della natura”, Palazzo Gallone, Tricase, Italy|2013. Palazzo Risolo, Specchia, Italy

2011 “Zelta laiki” (Golden times), gallery “Antonija”, Riga

2011 “Dabas kodi” (Nature codes), gallery “Wheels and pictures”, Riga

2009 “Bosco pubblico”, bookshop - gallery “Ergot”, Lecce, Italy

2008 “Klusie nostāsti” (Silent stories), gallery of Agija Sūna, Riga

2008 “Grazie e arrivederci!”, gallery “Jēkabs”, Riga

2007 “1 zeme, 2 jūras” (1 land, 2 seas), gallery “1. stāvs”, Riga

2007 “Negramaro”, gallery “Murnieks”, Riga

Selection of other participations

2014 "Imago Mundi" Luciano Benetton international project. In collaboration with gallery “Bastejs”, Latvia-Italy

2013 "Young Painters Prize" young artists from three Baltic States (Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia) competition 15 finalists group exhibition, CAC , Contemporary Art Centre, Vilnius, Lithuania

2012 "La via del mare" art and culture exchange program between Italy and Argentina. A traveling group exhibition. Curated by Silvio Benedetto.

2012 "100 artisti per il Salento" Internacionālais laikmetīgas mākslas simpozijs, Leuca, Italy

2011 "4 from Latvia", four latvian artists exhibition, Leipzig- Brussels

2011 "Tylos ekspresija", group exhibition, Lithuanian Artists' Union Exhibition Hall, Vilnius

2010 A.Naumovs and K.Zarins painting department Master degree students painting exhibition, gallery "Global art room", Riga, Latvia

2010 International plein-air dedicated to lithuanian painter A.Samuolis, Lithuania, Kaunas

2010 "City and the sea", international plein-air, Liepaja, Latvia

2009 "Tabula rasa", gallery "Jēkabs", Riga

2009 "Gada glezna" (Painting of the year), gallery of Agija Suna, Riga

2009 "Eiropas pilsētas latviešu mākslinieku gleznās" (European cities in the paintings of latvian artists), gallery of Agija Suna, Riga - Brussels

2008 Silvio Benedetto painting workshop "Laboratorio Artistico - Culturale delle Cinque Terre 2008" (Laboratorio di pittura di Silvio Benedetto), Riomaggiore, Italy

2008 "Glezna uz koka" (Painting on the wood), gallery "Bastejs", Riga

2008 "SEB Unibankas stipendija", painting competition for students, obtained 2nd place. Art Academy of Latvia, Riga.

2007 "Nieze"(Itch), Latvian Artists' Union LMS gallery, Riga

2007 "Negadījums ar pirkstu" (Accident with finger), drawings exhibition, Jurmala city museum, Jurmala, Latvia

2006 "Skats no augšas" (Look from top), Latvian Artists' Union LMS gallery, Riga

2005 "Valmiera 2005", international symposium, Valmiera, Latvia

2005 "Faborg art festival", Faborg, Denmark

2005 "Renew", Art Academy of Latvia, Riga

2002 "Kultūras mantojums fotogrāfijās 2002" (Cultural heritage