

Young Painter Prize 2015

A man in a gray suit and a stag skull is beating a human-skin drum with the gavel of justice in front of engulfing firestorm. Conjuring a shamanistic ritual of primordial power.

Bring your children to the party, the great economic overlords need a new sacrifice. The savings are gone, the climate is broke, the corporations too big to fail and the bots are taking your income.

But it's not your fault. It's the immigrants, the druglords, the terrorists, the separatists, the banks, the government, the rich, the weather, the peddlers and the alcoholics.

You have to be drunk to believe it.

You elected them. You traded away your rights of fairness, autonomy and due process for more comfort and more profits. You chose it when churches, paid editors and warmongers preached their traditions, fear and ignorance through targeted media, polarized news and the myth of perpetual growth. You chose it by trying to fit in and not asking questions. Thanks to your greed and cowardice the international standards are a joke, work and pay ratio is virtually in decline and half of your income goes to managers and enforcement to maintain the status quo. You let it happen. And now they own you.

And me.

There is no THEM. There is only US, and the Devil is You.

Forward.

<http://www.smithsonianmag.com/innovation/is-a-lack-of-water-to-blame-for-the-conflict-in-syria-72513729/?no-ist>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Water_crisis_in_Iran

http://www.gfdl.noaa.gov/pix/user_images/kd/highlights/glob_precipch_whbk_1920x1080.png

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-1229857/How-16-ships-create-pollution-cars-world.html>

<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2009/apr/09/shipping-pollution>

<https://veikoklemmer.files.wordpress.com/2011/10/co2-beijing-vice.jpg?w=960>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=01Xa2oKKVR0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GrJIUVCe4VA>

<http://www.heritage.org/~media/images/reports/2013/07/bg%202825/bgproductivityandcompensationchart4600.ashx>

Veiko Klemmer

(b. 1985, Estonia)

Website: veikoklemmer.wordpress.com

Education:

2009 University of Tartu, Master of Arts
2007 University of Tartu, Bachelor of Arts

Acknowledgements:

2014 Loviisa Artists' Residence
2009 Dora scholarship
2008 Wiiralt scholarship
2007 Kalmus scholarship

Artist statement:

I don't have a fixed platform for "artistic activities". The world is not one-dimensional to be reduced into one position. Narrow minded interpretations (although curious in their marginal novelty) are by default unsubstantial in general context and become laughable if compared to even the most mundane phenomena. (For example: ask somebody to trade their newborn or pet to some renowned painting which they must not sell. Good luck finding such a person.)

Talking and writing about art is about as useless as explaining rosebushes to a horse via charts and formulas. The mediums of understanding are simply too different. How could one possibly translate their whole intrinsic experience, neural connections and emotional state into a blank sheet? It can be done to some extent, but at least half of the information gets lost in the medium. Only the core structure remains, and even that is vulnerable to misinterpretations. Texts about objects become a separate piece of art with their own literal style and reference system which are only minimally related to the work in focus.

Arbitrary concepts such as "meaning and value" aside – art objects are foremost physical objects with their own perceptual presence. Aesthetical art experience is the discovery of this presence.

In addition, art objects usually have an overarching, culturally driven, conceptual framework referring to some ideological system through commonly known artefacts. This discovery of mindscapes is also a part of art experience in the existential sense. Art is meme. A meme that has to compete with all other human experiences.

Therefore Art is the process of discovering or defining "new, important and wholesome". Step into the unknown, the rush of neural firing. That is the experience of art. Creativity is the method of art. It's universal and anyone can do it with functional combinatorics.

That said, in short: I try to make stuff which experiments with visual language and challenges everyday heuristics for my own amusement only.

Selected personal exhibitions:

Upcoming 2015 The Enemy is Next to You
Pärnu Linnagalerii, Pärnu

The of double dealing essence of human sensibilities underlying all societies. Power, greed and cowardice

2015 Avamaa / Field

Tartu Kunstimaja, Tartu

Formal operations between natural and industrial

2014 Positiivne programm / Program Positive

Draakoni galerii, Tallinn

Explorations in improvisation, abstraction and expression

2012 Absurd

Hobusepea galerii, Tallinn

Logic vs Profit, the higher forces have a say.

(Press: Kangor, Eero 2012 Ühiskondlik aktivism või ohutu esteetika? – Sirp 05.10.12)

2012 Ekstremaalne Marginaalne / Marginal Extreme

Kunstimaja monumetaalgalerii, Tartu

Pure colour abstractions based on usually unused painted picture frames

2012 Süsteem / The System

Kunstihoone galerii, Tallinn

Depictions of lifeless rooms and artefacts of fantastic ideologies, depicting the systematic insanity of corporate politics

(Press: Kangor, Eero 2012 Veiko Klemmer esteetiline utoopia – Kunst.ee 03/2012)

2010 Object/Subject

With Martiini and Urmo Mets in Y-gallery, Tartu

Inter-relationships of space- and mind constructions

(Press: Ksenofontov, Andri Tingitud arhitektuur – Sirp 29.10.10)

2010 Fear / Hirm

With Laura Pöld in Draakon gallery, Tallinn

Instruments of fear

(Press: Kangor, Eero 2010 Galeriiring meeste ja naiste maailma – Sirp 29.07.10)

2009 Spring, followed by Fall / Kui kevadele järgneb sügis

Masters degree exhibitons in the grand gallery of Tartu Kunstimaja

Dystopias and alternative realities

(Press: Talvistu, Tiiu 2009 Pallast taga hüdmas – Sirp 19.06.10)

Selected group exhibitions:

2014 This is what I am

Gabo Manchano Gallery, London

Introducing Estonian artists

2014 Baltic Young Painters Prize exhibition

Select works by international jury, Vilnius

Organizers: Vilmantas Marcinkevičius, Julija Petkevičienė

2014 EAA XIV Spring Exhibit

Estonian Artists Association's XIV annual exhibition in Tallinn Kunstihoone

Curators: Kaido Ole, Indrek Grigor, Kaarel Eelma, Elin Kard ja Vano Allsalu

Press:

2012 May be (R)Evolution

Factory-Art Gallery, Berlin

2012 CDH-2012. Roads and paths.

Select works from International Confederation of Artists Unions

Central House of Artists, Moscow

Curators: Margarita Karlova,

2011 Baltic Young Painters Prize Finalists Exhibition

Select works by international jury. Art center Titanikas, Vilnius

Organizers: Vilmantas Marcinkevičius, Julija Dailidėnaitė

2011 Simple Story

Estonian Young Painting

Rakvere, Virumaa Muuseumide Näitusemaja

Curator: Teet Veispak

(Press: Grünfeldt, Inna Eesti noor maal räägib lihtsat lugu – Virumaa
Press: Juske, Ants Kas maalikunst on imelihtne? – Postimees 11.10.11)

2011 Abstract / Abstraktne

Estonian Artists Association's XI annual exhibition in Tallinn Kunstihoone

Curator: Leonhard Lapin

(Press: Levin, Mai Kui abstraktne on abstraktne kunst? – Sirp 28.07.11)

2010 Confrontations / Vastandumised

Estonian Artists Association's X annual exhibition in Tallinn Kunstihoone

Curator: Enn Põldroos

(Press: Elken, Jaan; Paavle, Jaan 2010 Hästi komponeeritud näitus – Sirp 05. august)

2009 The Language of Painting / Maali sõna vol. 2

Estonian Painters Association in Tartu Kunstimaja

Curator: Harry Liivrand

(Press: Juske, Ants 2009 Eesti maalikunst pole veel surnud – Eesti Päevaleht 28. sept.)

2008 Freedom Square / Vabaduse väljak

Estonian Artists Association's IX annual exhibition in Tallinn Kunstihoone

Curators: Heie Treier, Reet Varblane ja Jaan Elken

(Press: Juske, Ants Vabaduse valikutest jõuti Vabaduse väljakuni – Eesti Päevaleht 05. märts)

Curated:

2011 Pure / Puhas

Interpretations on a theme of "pure materials, pure ideas, pure feelings"

März project space, Tallinn

(Press: Kaljula, Liisa Minimalism on aktuaalne – Sirp 28.07.11)

2011 „2031“

On the 20th anniversary of the Estonian re-independence the artists were asked to reflect upon the next 20 years to come.

Tartu Kunstimaja.