

Johanna Mudist

b. 1991, EE

ohannamudist.wordpress.com

Painting „King of stone“ is a piece from my master degree project „TIME, PLACE, BODY“. My approach towards painting is quite poetic. I do not seek any rational explanations, instead I am looking for personal or existential meaning. In my works I focus on uncomfortable topics such as silence, slowness, monotony and seclusion, which are in opposition to the keywords prevailing in today's society, e.g. speed, efficiency and novelty.

My paintings are quite meditative, dreamlike, a bit surreal. Preferably I depict things that are out of our everyday life. I paint things, which had been in this world before I was even born and probably will be there after I am gone, too. There are three main elements – time, place and human body. Figures from my paintings are without any specific age or gender. They symbolize humans in general and capture the existential dialogue between humans and our planet Earth. There is a lot of empty space which intends to evoke the feeling that there is no specific time or space given.

A human standing proudly but alone on the stone is depicted on the painting „King of the stone“. He is the king of that stone but he is surrounded by other stones that have their own kings. Stone is the symbol of the bearing of life. For every person is „itself“ the centre of the interest. Every person sees the world through ones own eyes, creating an egoistic relationship or even contradiction between „I“ and the „rest of the world“. Society as a whole consists of different micro-realities centered on single individuals.

Creative biography

Johanna Mudist (1990) is Estonian painter who is currently living and working in Tallinn. She did her bachelor's degree in Tartu Art College (2010-2014) and master's degree in Estonian Academy of Arts (2014 - 2017). She has been studying in Finland (2013) and in Poland (2015 - 2016) within the Erasmus programme. She has taken part of many group exhibitions in Estonia and abroad (Finland, Poland, Lithuania, Czech Republic). She is a member of Estonian Painters' Association since 2016.