

Rolands Hartmans / LV

Art is not only the epitomy of artist expression for the sake of self announcement to the surrounding social environment, but also art is the most healing way to internally synthesize countless abstract moments and memory illusions. With time this very humane ability becomes a burden, despite the content or "the greater good".

This work is my reconciliation with the inevitable - loss of a loved one. Female character that may seem impossible to exist in our modern world - almost fairy tale-like. She is my baltic woman, modest peace, acknowledgment of baltic conduct. My grandmother just to call herself "baltic child". It suited her well.

When I was child, I always observed her every move. How she cooked modest meals on an even humbler stove. Nevertheless she wore her best white blouse. And I thought to myself - she already has become an angel, because of our peeling pink-white-yellow colored kitchen walls, which reminded me of church sky paintings.

She asked me a lot: "Will you remember me and my long gone family?" (my grandmother was the last surviving one from "Little Woodpecker" (lv. Dzeniši) family).

I answered: "I am not sure. Tell me everything and we will see."

After that my days passed by like neverending story - collection of old photos, letters, notes. I was never bored with our own remembered and created legacy. At night before bed we looked through a window at the field where once her childhood home stood. My grandmother just sighed and said: "Only a one oak form our care free days left."

On her deathbed she was senselessly calling for her mother, sister, brother and father. I looked in my Woodpecker's memory absent, clueless eyes. For the first time I truly understood - there is no vital, meaningful memory if the moment you share is absent from the audience. Even illusions are worth something if transferred into an art of communication.

So I decided to make a tribute to my real Baltic Woman hero - my woodpecker, my holy sky kitchen wall, and my family.

This painting is the best way how I can undeniably say "I remember You!"

BIO

Born in the small town of Latvia - Jēkabpils. I - Rolands Hartmans started to create my path in the arts even before my capability of acknowledgment and to remember my experience. With my mother's nailpolish I designed my own crib. Few years later the headmaster of our local art school decided to introduce me (four-year-old) to the small fraction of art world as an "experiment to the education system" - can art be thought and explained to child before ability to judge esthetics.

I was nine when oil on canvas technique became my great passion and to this day I consider myself very lucky and grateful that I had an opportunity to learn from masters of this craft and meet and work with immensely inspirational artists such as Jānis Anmanis, Štelmaher family and german modern art power-couple Roswitha and Dieter Pentzek.

During the time period of 2009 till 2017 I and family were managing over 30 personal exhibitions all over Baltic States where I had an opportunity to meet prominent people - three (at the time) presidents of the Republic of Latvia - Valdis Zatlers, Andris Bērziņš and Raimonds Vējonis -, german photographer Maria Otte.

In 2010 I took part in the opera festival "Madama Butterfly" exhibition with my colored silk works of art in collaboration with artist Jānis Anmanis.

In 2011 I graduated from Art School of Jekabpils.

In 2012 I illustrated a musical coloring book called "When words sound colors appear" ("Vārdi ieskanās, krāsas rotājas").

In 2013 I had an amazing chance to be on an international stage of the art world representing my hometown and country in an exhibition and conference event which was dedicated to environmental problems "From Ice-Age to the Ice-Age" taking place in Germany, Melle.

Currently I am studying in the Faculty of Architecture in RTU (Riga Technical University), but I am keen to fulfill my ambitions in fine arts not only through my designed buildings but also I would like to improve my level of skills in painting by attending LMA (Latvian Art Academy) after architectural studies.

I am certain that art will lead my path of all existence. I have set a duty for myself to carry out the roots and cultural legacy of Baltic States in the world, to show how strong and inspirational we can be in unity. And there is no better way to inform society of our timeline (past, present and future) then through the prism and spotlight of art and its perspectives.