XIV YOUNG PAINTER PRIZE

## **Elija Grybė** / LT

https://www.elijagrybe.com/

LT

Paveikslas ‘Niežti Odą, Skonis Obuolių’ yra apie žmogaus santykį su organiniu kūnu ir smurtu. Figūra paveiksleyra sukurta naudojantisdeformuotomis kovos scenų nuotraukomis. Paveiksle pavaizduoti kūnai susilieja į vientisą masę. Ši keista masė yra gyva ir turi stiprias emocijas. Figūra atrodo išsigandusi, bando pabėgti, ištrūkti ir atsiskirti. Ji išreiškia žmogiško artumo poreikį, bet tuo pačiu ir prisilietimo baimę.

Darbas yra paremtas asmenine patirtimi vaikystėje patyrus seksualinį smurtą. Šis paveikslas tai pokalbis su kūnu, kai jis nesijaučia mano. Atskiros kūno dalys išreiškia skirtingus jausmus: pyktį, baimę, liūdesį ir bandymą pabėgti. Paveiksle švelnios melsvos ir oranžinės spalvos pabrėžia nostalgiją jausmą ir giedresnius vaikystės prisiminimus. Obuolių skonis - tai bandymas atmintyje laikyti pažįstamą objektą ar skonį, kuris padeda grįžti į tikrovę ir nelikti įstrigusiam praeityje bei kūne. Obuolių skonis taip pat asocijuoja su vaikiškumu, kurio nepavyksta ilgai laikyti atmintyje, nes tuoj pat į jo vietą ateina niežulys ir nerimas. Figūra paveiksle paskęsta neaiškioje aplinkoje: viskas tirpsta, sensta ir rūdija

EN

The painting was made using photographs of fight scenes, which I distorted and merged into a strange singular form. This organic shape is alive and it has strong emotions. The form almost looks startled, like it wishes to detach itself and run away. It expresses the human need for closeness but also creates a sense of violence and a fear of touch.

The painting is influenced by my personal experience of childhood sexual abuse. It is a conversation with my body, especially at times when it does not feel like my own. Separate body parts express different emotions, such as terror, rage, sadness, and the need to run away. Soft blue and orange hues in the painting bring out a nostalgic feeling of lost brighter childhood memories. The ‘taste of apple’ is an effort to latch onto a familiar object and familiar taste, which helps to stay in the present reality. Apples are also associated with a sense of childishness, which is hard to focus on because it is quickly disturbed by an overwhelming feeling of itchiness and restlessness. Everything is drowning in an alien space: rusting, melting, and ageing.

**Artist Statement**

I am an artist from Lithuania. I finished my BA at the University of Brighton in 2019 and I am currently continuing my practice by working in a studio together with an artist collective.

My practise explores human relationship with organic bodies and violence in the digital age. The artworks have been influenced by my experience as a childhood sexual abuse survivor. Depicting fighting bodies and violence on a canvas helped me confront difficult memories in a self-asserting way.

Figures in my work are engaging with each other in brutal, sensual ways and are framed within the rules of a competition. The organic shapes are merged with bright colours and distorted spaces to create a digital aesthetic. Performed fighting reflects the violent human condition and the ability to play by the rules. Fight scenes in popular media get lost between real brutality and show.

**Exhibitions and achievements**

**2021 May**

In the Void: A Year of Producing Art in Isolation

Brighton Fringe exhibition

Gallery Lock In, Hove (UK)

**2021 Feb**

Winner of the New Emergence Art Prize 2021

**2020 Nov**

Shortlisted for the XII Young Painters Prize

Pakrante Gallery **(LT)**

**2021 Jan**

Abstract Muse in Togetherness of Diversity

Online Exhibition on Musebuz

**2020 March**

Exhibition Queer Art(ists) Now

Archive Gallery, London (UK)

**2020 March**

Exhibition FIGURATIONS Onca Gallery, Brighton (UK)

**2019 December**

I could do anything, I could do everything, Filler Gallery collective exhibition
Studio 5, Hove (UK)

**2019 September**

Graduate Art Prize, Shortlisted ARTIQ, London (UK)

**2019 September**
Rising Talent exhibition 4**,** (UK) Arts Forum gallery, Hastings

**2019 August**

Natural Selection, International Queer art residency Gallery Lock In, Brighton (UK)

**2019 July**

Watch this Space, Interactive outdoor art gallery Horsham (UK)

**2019 July**

Exhibition Free Range
Truman Brewery, London (UK)

**2018 February**

Exhibition Conjecture Brighton CCA (UK)

**2016 January**

Solo exhibitionEva
Laiptu Gallery, Siauliai (LT)

**2012-2016**

Group exhibitions with an art collective Koloritas

Laiptu Gallery, Siauliai (LT)

**EDUCATION 2016-2019**

**First Class** BA (Hons) Fine Art Painting, University of Brighton

**2012-2016**

Juliaus Janonis Gymnasium (with honours) (equivalent to A-levels) Siauliai, Lithuania

**2011-2015**

Siauliai Art School, Lithuania (with honours)