

The background of the entire image is a complex, abstract composition of dark, almost black, and light, charcoal or white, strokes. These strokes are layered and textured, creating a sense of depth and movement. They resemble a dense web of lines or perhaps a close-up of a rough, organic surface. The overall effect is one of intense, raw energy and complexity.

Birgit Kirke

paintings - sculptures



Birgit Kirke painter
and sculptor
www.birgitkirke.dk

Birgit Kirke - a Faroese painter and sculptor who was born in Nuuk, Greenland - grew up in Tórshavn, Faroe Islands - today she has her studio and residence in Herning, Denmark.

In 1981 she graduated from Via Design, Herning, Denmark (previously TEKO Design- and Business, Herning, Denmark) and in 2007-10 tuition at Aarhus Art Academy, Denmark.

Birgit Kirke finds inspiration in the landscape, which she consistently interprets in a naturalistic/ abstract expression. Her upbringing in the Faroe Islands, with the magnificent landscape and the rapidly changeable weather are clearly reflected in her paintings.

In recent years, she has participated in numerous exhibitions and major art fairs, including: ART Copenhagen , Denmark - ART Herning, Denmark - ART Aarhus, Denmark - Deelooport Art Fair in Malmö, Sweden - Várframsýningin and Ólavsøkuframsýningin at The National Museum of Art in The Faroe Islands (art jury selected exhibitions) - Reykjanes Art Museum in Iceland - Blicher Museum in Herning, Denmark - Gallerí Fold in Reykjavik, Iceland - Gallery Smiðjan í Litluvík in Tórshavn, Faroe Islands - Gallery Molevit, "Nordic Artists in Skagen", Denmark - "Nordic Day with Focus on The Faroe Islands" at The Cultural Centre Trekanten in Aalborg, Denmark - Gallery Sct. Gertrud in Copenhagen, Denmark - Gallery Aadalen in Langaa, Denmark, Gallery Tornby in Tversted, Denmark - Grindavik Culture Week, Iceland - Augustiana Sculpture Park and Art Centre, Galleri Nørballe "Faroese Summer", Augustenborg, Denmark - KATUAQ, Greenland Cultural Centre in Nuuk, Greenland.

Represented in collections:

Listasafn Reykjanesbæjar, Keflavik, Iceland (Reykjanes Art Museum) - Nuuk Art Museum, Greenland - The Town Council Grindavíkurbær, Iceland - The Town Council Tórshavn, Faroe Islands

Membership:

MYND - Føroysk Myndlistafólk (The Faroese Society of Visual Arts)

BKF - Billedkunstnernes Forbund (Danish Visual Artists)

A Nordic touch on ArtBaho 2016 in Barcelona

At The International Contemporary Art Baho fair, from 1 to 5 October 2016 in Barcelona, the Spanish **Gallery Art Nou Mil-lenni** presents works from the Faroese artist Birgit Kirke.

In her paintings Birgit Kirke concentrates on making abstract depictions of the character of the Faroese landscape. She zooms in, in an effort to catch the processes behind the naturalistic appearance.

".. Strong, dynamic black lines often form the backbone of her compositions, spreading out like a steel skeleton across the picture surface, holding it together, making it emanate concentrated energy while suddenly breaking free into violent bursts like a flood of lava, or a torrent breaking through its banks.

As a complement to the dynamic black markings, Birgit Kirke's paintings almost always include plain white areas of varying sizes, sometimes appearing like an atmospheric background colour, but at other times right up front as sudden shafts of light...."

Tom Jørgensen, Art critic at "Jyllands Posten", Editor of the art magazine "Kunstavisen".

Hvannahagi, Faroe Islands
90 x 70 cm





Hvannahagi, Faroe Islands
90 x 70 cm

"Reflections concerning my painting

I find inspiration for my painting in the nature, especially on the Faroe Islands, where the landscape is so magnificent and the weather is rapidly changeable. I grew up on the Faroe Islands and I visit the islands at least two to three times a year to get inspiration for my paintings.

In my preparations, i.e. before I start painting, I make sketches. I go out to meet nature as to take my experiences and sensations of nature and transfer into my paintings. I want to tell stories about the living landscape, stories about the nature we are part of and which we are so dependent on. In my work I have the opportunity to translate my experiences and memories from nature and transform into an abstract idiom.

The challenge for me is not to paint a lifelike painting of nature. Instead I try to keep the works open so that the viewer can tie the ends together and form its own tale.

I hope that the paintings exhibited, that I can impart "a Nordic touch" to the art fair.

"Reflections concerning my sculptures

The inspiration for the sculptures comes from the legend of the seal woman. According to this old Faroese legend, seals are descended from people who drowned themselves in the ocean. Once a year, on Twelfth Night, they are allowed to take their skins off and be human again. And they gather on the beach and in the rock caves, where they play and dance all night.

The legend is fascinating because it deals with issues such as desire, love, betrayal, sadness, longing, life, death, identity and being different.

The sculptures are made of natural materials, such as paper pulp, Iron and wood, and patinated so they appear with a bronze glow. They are between 30 and 50 cm high."







Design: Steinthor Thoroddsson
Photos: Ísak Mortensen



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