Eglė Gedvilaitė '94 / LT

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Although the painter likes to plan his artwork before taking an actual brush and beginning to paint, sometimes he starts impulsively, wanting to express the inner volcano, yet, at the end, still wishing to communicate a meaning. In between, there is an exploration of the outside shapes, curves, tones in connection with the observation of his consciousness.

An open conversation begins between the painter's inner voice and the entering voices, where identifying and distinguishing the self can become difficult.

However, the painter does not go deeper into exploring where the other voices are coming from and if they are truly of those he thinks about. He still believes it is all the fruit of his imagination, yet the inner fight can be exhausting. The body needs to move and free itself from the trap, but there is not a lot of space. The painter answers by editing, negotiating, solving until the sense of tranquillity comes back. It is a game between the ego and the canvas. The game of research. Before the game is finished and the painter is ready to communicate, a conflict and also a relationship between the two opposites is being solved. Between the one with the higher animal characteristics, with strong desires and physicality, and the one who is more of a godly, almost dead creature, an observer as opposed to an active participator in the world's activities.

Egle Gedvilaite was born in 1994 and is a fourth year student of BA Ceramics at Vilnius Academy of Arts. Before studying ceramics, she completed a year and half of BA Industrial Design and Technology at Loughborough Design School, Loughborough University, UK.

Egle received her first art education in Siauliai School of Arts, where she went after regular classes for four years. She has also been an active photographer, using digital and analogue cameras to document the daily life and events. For a collection of pinhole photographs, she was selected a laureate in Lithuania's Student Photography Contest 2009.

In secondary school, she had difficulties choosing her career path not deciding between arts and sciences. She was conscious of herself as an analytical thinker, enjoying mathematics, geometry and finding patterns. However, she did not want to concentrate on one and tried to find a way to combine both.

In 2013, Egle started studies at Loughborough Design School, where she studied concept development, basic engineering, ergonomics, materials, CAD, Adobe suit, physical prototyping, design theories. In addition, having to adapt to the new environment and build connections with foreign students has given a great deal of important experience. She also joined Lougborough Student Union societies: Recreational Running, Number Partners (helped elementary school children improve on mathematics skills), Stage Society (helped to create backstage decorations for the plays).

Travelling often from a young age, she early began building a level of interest in other cultures and traditions. Living in a multicultural environment, studying in a different system and expanding the worldview was what drew her to go to study abroad. In there, she also joined Chinese language classes, where she was introduced to Chinese calligraphy.

In the second part of the second year of studies, Egle began realizing the great responsibilities as well as an environmental and societal impact, that the designer for mass production has. The thoughts about a different direction as well as a different work process were maturing and the developing chronic stress prevented her from wanting to continue. After deciding to withdraw, she began practicing yoga and mindful meditation to regain the mental and physical balance.

In 2015, Egle went back to Lithuania to study BA Ceramics in Vilnius Academy of Arts. Before starting a new degree, she worked and travelled to Honduras to volunteer with Honduras Child Alliance for six weeks where she helped children develop their English language skills through games and activities.

The whole experience has resulted in the increasing interest in human mental and physical processes, states of consciousness, cultural and environmental studies. Egle is often inspired by the indigenous and traditional arts, crafts, philosophy from all over the world, as well as the contemporary techniques and methods of making. Nature, architecture, music and literature have always been her sources of inspiration. Her life and creative work is being influenced by the Japanese Zen Buddhist and Yoga philosophies. Since she started studying ceramics, Egle has been spending a lot of her free time practicing the wheel- throwing technique, finding beauty in working with clay using the momentum. Nevertheless, she also enjoys other hand-building techniques and wishes to create pieces for interiors and exteriors combining ceramics with painting, hand-drawn and printed graphics.

In addition, Egle is constantly developing her abstract conceptual sketching and painting style. Currently, in most of her artworks, she explores the patterns of human consciousness and nature, which, in addition, also cohere with geometric patterns she likes to draw. Often the result can be a reflection of multiple states or meanings that she observes in herself or in the outside world.