

LISA ETTERICH – AN ARTIST DARES HERSELF TO ADVANCE IN COSMIC DIMENSIONS

„What does connect you to the Far East?“ I first asked Lisa Etterich, after I made a first acquaintance with her impressive artistic work. Her abundance of Japanese and Chinese motifs, themes and stylistic devices was what I liked at first sight. Living and working in Dülmen on the edge of the Ruhr, the painter was surprised by my question and looked for an explanation.

She herself had never been in the Far East, she said, „At most, in my mind, in dreams and in my imagination. But maybe it's my eyes. As far as I know I have no Asian relatives or ancestors. But since my childhood I repeatedly addressed it. Although I'm blonde, my eyes have obviously a far Eastern strike, they are almond shaped. This then has something to do with some kind of kinship. „

Aside from their foreign-looking, Lisa's eyes fixed Etterich rooted in her Westphalia home. She was born and raised on the edge of the Ruhr area in a quite „quaint“ landscape. She lived and worked for a long time in Dülmen and presented her work there for several years through her own successful gallery. She is married, has two adult children and has now already two grandchildren. The family gives her maintenance, security and orientation. Also the Catholic Church is firmly connected to her, despite all the criticism of the Church's practice.

Even if she does not see herself as a decidedly Christian artist and certainly does not paint saints and pictures of Mary, she finds her ideological commitment, especially in her abstract works of a diverse expression.

Lisa Etterich was attracted to art and painting since her early childhood. She was just four years old when she received a pack of crayons from her nanny. She was immediately hooked, and no more she released the pins and colorfully painted countless sheets as a small child. In elementary school, her class was appointed to paint the St Martin with his coat on horse. Lisa Etterich made her work so masterfully that the image was shown in the whole school and received a place of honor in school. Since then, her plan was clear: she wanted to be a painter.

After school diploma Lisa Etterich studied in Münster Design, but soon focused on painting. Determinedly, she continued her education at art schools in Hamburg and Zurich. For three years she studied at the prestigious Institute of Fine Arts in Bochum and was a student of Professor Shi Yang, a native of China. Artists and theorists were made familiar with the Far Eastern art of drawing and ink painting. This opened her eyes to the Chinese virtues of careful looking and meditative contemplation.

Lisa Etterich has worked hard since her studies. She has developed her stylistic means continuously and has long since then conquered her place in the diverse art scene at the Ruhrgebiet, which has now completed its structural change away from the industry in addition to the creative industries. In a separate gallery in the culturally ambitious

Marl she regularly presents her paintings. The painter has artistic ambitions despite all her family and the education of her children and has not neglected her artistic vocation and her family relationship is not perceived as contradictory, but as complementary and enriching. Etterich Lisa is a passionate painter. She revels in colors. Her paintings are imbued with colored light, they glow and radiate as if they had originated under the southern sun. Grey theory is far from the artist. She paints in pastel, watercolor, acrylic and oil paints; she uses mixed techniques and creates colorful collages and shimmering material images.

She works not only with brushes, but also with the spatula and the spray can. She mounts again square plates in her sizzling and vibrant color schemes in order to counter the influence of the chaotic and unformed geometric structures. First, the artist has painted mainly representational art and let yourself be inspired by motifs from the native environment, for example by Halterner lake. Again and again she was fascinated by the dormant, and also storming forward and trotting horses from the nearby Dülmener wild horse reserve. From art history is well known that it is in the painting, different from the plastic, that the great masters succeeded in presenting moving horses properly. Lisa Etterich has nevertheless made this task and thus expressed that she would like to meet high demands.

From all the roots in the region in the work of Lisa Etterich, nothing is felt of provincial narrowness or tightness. On the contrary, the artist sought distance in the remoteness, she aims to go beyond her ego and up into higher and more transcendent dimensions. With the resources of emotion, intuition and inspiration she lets the everyday reality behind and opens the cosmic worlds beyond space and time. With all the exuberant fantasy many of her artistic creations exude yet of harmony and peace. Her abstract representations are images of the soul, revelations of a „beautiful soul“ in the Platonic sense, a soul that is with itself, with its environment and with its Creator and Sustainer of the Pure.

Lisa Etterich denies the restlessness and the storms of the time, but she leaves them on the sidelines. She designs with her pictures an alternative world that aspires beyond chaos and violence for order and harmony of the cosmos. Her works invite the viewers who have eyes to see, for a meditation, to think about themselves, about their own background and their own way. They are bright spots coming from a light that does not come from this world of false appearances, but from other spheres. The artist cannot be driven by the market forces of the art world, she is instead driven by her metaphysical and cosmic oriented imagination. Even the title of her works show: it is an artistic cosmonaut. With the Baikonur cosmodrome of her art she is gearing up for a „Rocket Start“, they advance to the „Magic of Dreams“, she is taking a „Dragonfly Flight“, it moves as „Acrobat“ and „Cloud Rider“ in higher spheres, it moves to the „Moon City“, they staged a „Rainbow Magic“ and fears in their flights neither to heaven nor to hell.

Red is her favorite color, a symbol of fire, energy and passion. Accordingly, she calls

her portraits „Glow“, „Icarus in the Fire of Freedom“, „At the Height of the Volcano“, „Seething Earth“ or „The Universe is Created.“ It is, therefore, on the track of the God's creation mystery and shows the universe at the moment of becoming.

The colors that she uses in the original position seem to have just been invented. Her elementary and often erotically charged various colors come in pictures such as „Marriage“ to highest development, they are revealed in the five variations on the theme „Tropical Waters“ where indicated corals, cuttlefish, shipwrecks, incident solar radiation and dancing waves sing their hymn to the beauty of nature, or they light polyphonic manner in the triptych „Harmony in Blue“.

Lisa Etterichs obviously covers the ego of Far East. She draws a picture of the „Land of the Rising Sun,“ she created with her abstract means a „Chinese Dance“, a „Chinese“ or „Asian Bow,“ she stages red and cheerful a „Temple of Dance“, leaves a „Fire Dragon“ go and symbolizes „The Strength of the Three Envoys“ - a reference to Bertolt Brecht's drama „The Good Person of

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