

MERIKE ESTNA *SOIL WILL NOT CONTAIN OUR LOVE* AT KAI ART CENTER

19 August – 27 November 2022



EDUCATION PROGRAMME

About Kai Art Center

Kai Art Center is the cultural heart of the seaside Noblessner harbour complex – a mix of regional history, period-tinged architecture, and contemporary art and culture. In a century-old former secret submarine plant, visitors will encounter captivating and thought-provoking exhibitions, art, and cinema, four cafés and restaurants, a joint office for cultural organisations, and various venues for hosting events both in Kai's interior spaces and outdoor sea view areas.

About the artist and the exhibition

Merike Estna is one of the most important contemporary artists in Estonia whose ongoing exploration of painting as a creative work and mode of expression is based on both a critical and conceptual approach and a deep respect for her craft. This exhibition at Kai is the artist's first major institutional solo project in Estonia since her solo exhibition at Kumu in 2014. Over the last 7 years, the artist's focus has been on international projects

Estna is known as a bold experimenter with the medium of painting who is masterfully creating stages and spaces for an audience to inhabit. *Soil will not contain our love* has been conceived as a mini-retrospective of the artist's work, showing her new series as well as several pieces that will be shown in Estonia for the first time. This exhibition stands out for its experimental use of materials – Estna has experimented with embroidery as well as burning both on textile and on wood, for example. Combining time-consuming and traditional techniques with materials and themes of contemporary art, *Soil will not contain our love* is inspired by traditional Estonian folklore and craft, creating a mesmerizing ambience.

About the education programme

Students will:

- get to know Kai Art Center and the surrounding Noblessner district;
- take part in a guided tour of the exhibition;
- get an overview of the "toolbox" of a contemporary artist and the various techniques used by the artist (e.g. painting, glass working, burning, tattooing, creating installations)
- get an overview of combining traditional craft methods (e.g. carpet weaving, embroidery) with contemporary approach;
- engage in a discussion about the possibilities of expanding and experimenting with painting as a classical medium;
- take part in an interactive task.

The programme lasts approximately 60 minutes.

Learning outcomes

The participants of the education programme will:

- analyse a contemporary artwork and discuss the topics currently relevant in contemporary culture;
- get acquainted with the terminology used in contemporary art;
- learn to see the connections between art and other areas of life;
- get acquainted with the wide interpretation of the term "contemporary art" and the scope of artistic methods;
- will understand the international context and local level of the exhibition;
- get to know one of the newest art centers in Tallinn and get inspiration for further independent visits.

Practical information:

- the cost of one programme session is 4 euros per person;
- young people between the ages of 10 and 19 are invited to participate;
- the minimum group size is 12 people (for smaller groups the programme costs 48 euros);
- education programme sessions can be held at any convenient time by appointment.

The education programme is supported by the Estonian Centre of Folk Culture.

Additional information and booking

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