

Eela Laitinen (1991) is a Finnish artist based in Occitanie region en France. Her work is rooted in a sensitive mapping approach, exploring the deep connections between territory, nature and biodiversity. Inspired by the landscapes and flora and fauna of the Pyrenees and the Mediterranean, her works combine contemporary art and ecological questions, evoking spaces where geographical reality enters into dialogue with the imaginary.

Her works, often imbued with mystery, evoke enchanted landscapes, populated by tumultuous torrents and forests where myths and dreamlike creatures come to life.

Eela Laitinen's work, at the crossroads of art and research, revolves around non-traditional cartography, in which she captures the sensory and emotional aspects of places. Through painting, drawing, photography and installation, Eela maps not only what is visible, but also what is felt, offering a subjective and poetic reading of landscapes. By adopting this approach, she invites us to rediscover the territory, questioning notions of borders. She explores the profound interconnections between nature, biodiversity and the human experience of landscape, asserting a radically subjective and sensory approach to cartography.

In her ink paintings, Eela Laitinen explores the boundaries between control and letting go, a space where the spontaneity of gesture rubs plays with the precision of deliberate form. She draws her inspiration from Japanese aesthetics and traditional « sumi-e » painting: a Japanese ink technique inherited from Zen calligraphy that emphasises expressive gesture and beauty in simplicity. Her works are like suspended moments, moments of silence between the artist and the material. The movement of the ink, as fluid as it is unpredictable, recalls both natural phenomena - such as the flow of water or the movement of the wind - and deep inner states, evoking a kind of mental landscape. The contrast between the deep blacks and the empty areas evokes the Japanese philosophy of « ma », the importance of negative space as an integral part of the composition.

Very involved in local cultural initiatives, Eela leads participatory workshops and performances in which local people are invited to contribute to the collective creation, weaving together a network of sensitive experiences. This relational dimension of her art highlights the richness of personal histories and their interconnection with the territory, offering a renewed exploration of our link with nature

She is a member of the Freddy Morezon collective.

Website

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