

Liina Aalto-Setälä



The Egg and the Nest I, 2023, laser print on wood



The Egg and the Nest III, 2023, etching, edition of 5 + 2 AP

My artistic work deals with the spiritual and emotional connection between human and nature, based on Balto-Finnic folklore. My work aims to create new relationships with old beliefs and rituals, and to explore their place in modern society. The structures of consciousness shaped by myths lie deep within us, and are part of our collective history. In this group exhibition I present a series of works called *The Egg and The Nest*, in which I focus on the traditions and beliefs associated with ants. From a natural science perspective, ants are a key species in forests and have a major impact on the ecosystem. In many old Balto-Finnic rituals, the anthill has been a symbol for the whole forest. It has been a typical place to approach forest spirits, and especially eggs were a common sacrifice to give to the ant hill, as they were a sign of nature's vitality.

Biography

Liina Aalto-Setälä is a multidisciplinary visual artist based in Helsinki, Finland. Her primary mediums are ceramics, photography, graphics and sound. She has a Master of Arts degree from the department of Photography at Aalto University ARTS. She has participated in several group exhibitions, as well as solo exhibitions in Bgallery in Turku (2021), Gallery Uusi Kipinä in Lahti (2022) and Gallery Ratamo in Jyväskylä (2022). Her next solo exhibition takes place in Gallery Huuto, Helsinki, in November 2024. In addition to her artistic work, Aalto-Setälä is also part of the Kosminen Collective, which ran an art space in Helsinki from 2016-2022.

ARTIST LIST