

Alena Gastaldi

Born 1984, Kostroma, USSR

Lives and works in Luxembourg, Luxembourg City

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BIO

Alena is a contemporary impressionist artist working primarily in oil, painting en plein air and from life in the alla prima style. Her subjects range from landscapes and architecture to objects often found at antique markets. With a background in architecture and interior design, Alena brings a subtle but distinct graphic quality and structure to her work, along with a deep appreciation for interiors and objects. Her eight years in tropical Singapore, along with extensive travels throughout Southeast Asia, have infused her palette with vibrant colours, energy, and light. After years of balancing her roles as an artist and educator with a career in architecture and design, Alena made the bold decision to become a full-time artist in 2023—and she hasn't looked back since.

CURRENT PROJECT

Alena Gastaldi's current body of work explores the concept of home for individuals who are constantly living away from familiar surroundings. Having lived an expatriate life for the past 12 years, Alena has been drawn to the question of what defines 'home' when its physical presence is ever-changing. Rather than a fixed location, she investigates how people cultivate a "sense" of home—a fluid, evolving idea that differs from one temporary dwelling to the next.

Her paintings reflect these subtle yet intimate connections, capturing moments that represent the creation of home through new traditions and routines—be it visiting the local market, enjoying coffee in a favourite café, or the simple act of arranging personal items in a space. Over time, these objects and routines come to embody the spirit of home, with the clutter of everyday life forming natural still lifes that reveal the character of the inhabitants.

As Alena continues to settle into a new country, she documents this process of adaptation and discovery through her art. She paints objects found in markets, collected during walks, or encountered through new friendships, along with scenes from her own home as it develops. This practice is not only an artistic exploration but a way of grounding herself, offering viewers a deeply personal narrative on the evolving meaning of home.

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

July 2024 - Group exhibition, Art In The Open Plein Air event.

Ireland, Wexford. *Artist's Choice Award and Quick Draw prize winner.*

Mar 2024 - Solo exhibition, "Gratefully, yours"

Singapore, Drawing ETC Gallery and creative space

Nov 2023-Jan 2024 - Art residence, PlayPan.co

Singapore, Peace Centre

Nov 2023 - Group Exhibition , "Strictly Singapore"

Singapore, Selegie Art House

2015 - Group Exhibition, "L'Art D'Ici et D'Ailleurs"

Espace Saint-Mengold, Huy, Belgium. Artists from the Eastern Countries, second edition.

AWARDS

July 2024, Artist's Choice Award

Art In The Open plein air event, Ireland, Wexford

July 2024, Quick Draw sectional winner

Art in The Open plein air event, Ireland, Wexford

GALLERIES

Rosslaire Gallery, Rosslaire, Co Wexford, Ireland

PUBLICATIONS

Female Magazine. Jan-Feb 2024 issue

"The World of Urban Sketching". Book by Stephanie Bower

Pratique des Arts 162. "Alena Kudriashova : mes carnets de vie"

EDUCATION

2012-2013 - University of the Arts, London. Graduate Diploma, Interior design.

2001-2007 - Kostroma State Agricultural Academy. Specialist Diploma in Architecture

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