



MY PSYCHEDELIC GARDEN

PHOTOGRAPHY AND DIGITAL ART BY INNA ETUUGI

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HELLO AND WELCOME!

I'm Inna Etuvgi, an art photographer and digital artist based in Sweden, known artistically as My Psychedelic Garden.

I navigate the world of visual storytelling through the lens of Aphantasia, creating vivid macro photographs of nature and AI-enhanced digital art. My work is a journey into the intricate beauty of the micro-world and a reflection of my inner perceptions of our evolving society.

Welcome to my portfolio, a space where each image is a conversation between the seen and the unseen, the tangible and the imagined. I invite you to join me in exploring these visual narratives.



ARTIST STATEMENT & CV

OF PHOTOGRAPHER AND DIGITAL ARTIST INNA ETUVGI



ARTIST STATEMENT

Inna Etuvgi, a Swedish artist with Chukchi heritage and Aphantasia, crafts art that delves into the intricacies of nature and the human experience. Beginning her artistic journey in 2020, Etuvgi has quickly earned acclaim, including recognition from the Arte Laguna Prize and the Swedish Arts Grants Committee.

Her work, a celebration of nature's overlooked splendors, ranges from the delicate patterns of dewdrops to the complex worlds of mosses and lichens. Through her photography, Etuvgi uncovers the hidden symphony of symbiotic relationships and stories within these tiny landscapes, inviting a deeper appreciation of our bond with the natural world.

Art critic Tabish Khan observes, "Whether she's taking us close to the Earth at its smallest scale or creating fantastical figures covered in plant life through digital art, her work is about transporting us to other worlds—both real and imaginary, but always in harmony with nature."

This insight captures the dual nature of Etuvgi's art: a journey into both the minute beauty underfoot and the broader strokes of imagination and identity.

Expanding her canvas with AI and digital tools, Etuvgi explores contemporary societal themes, blending photography with digital artistry in her "Secret Garden" series. This work navigates the complexities of identity and self-expression, reflecting on the ever-evolving roles we play in a changing world.

Etuvgi's creations oscillate between reality and fantasy, the individual and the collective, serving as a bridge that connects diverse perspectives through the universal language of art. Her work is an invitation to see beyond the visible, into the heart of the interconnectedness that binds us all.

Solo Exhibition:

2023 - Macro photography as another way to see the world - Persgården Galleri - Visingsö, Sweden

Group Exhibitions:

2024 - WOMAN'S ESSENCE SHOW - Valid World Hall - Barcelona, Spain

2024 - THE NEW ARTIST-6th Edition - Boomer Gallery - London, UK

2023 - ARTE LAGUNA PRIZE - Arsenale of Venice, Italy

2023 - PHOTOGRAPHY IN THE VISUAL CULTURE - Centro Internazionale di Fotografia, Palermo, Italy

2022 - VISINGSÖ KONSTRUNDA - VISINGSÖ KONSTRUNDA - VISINGSÖ, SWEDEN

2021 - SMERALDO - S.Eufemia Art Gallery - Venice, Italy

2021 - VISINGSÖ KONSTRUNDA - VISINGSÖ KONSTRUNDA - VISINGSÖ, SWEDEN

Honors, awards and grants:

2023 - Stipendi grant from the Swedish Arts Grants Committee

2022 - Finalist artist at the ARTE LAGUNA PRIZE 16

2020 - Arte Laguna Prize 15 - artist in the spotlight

2020 - Top 12 best photographers at the thematic contest «Art photography 2020» by 35AWARDS

2020 - Top 8 of best photos and Top 9 of best photographers at the thematic contest «Abstract shot by phone 2020» by 35AWARDS

Articles and publications:

2024 - JÖNKÖPING POSTEN - "Inna kan inte se när hon blundar" - 11 January 2024

2023 - JÖNKÖPING POSTEN - "Lavar blir till Aliens i Innas makrolins" - 22 Augusti 2023

2023 - PHOTOGRAPHY IN THE VISUAL CULTURE 22/23 - book by SerradifalcoEditore

2021 - NEW YORK STYLE GUIDE - "Discover Sant' Eufemia gallery and the Emerald Exhibition"

2021 - MARIKA MAGAZINE NATURE & TRAVELS (Issue 791 - April), Kavyar

2020 - MARIKA MAGAZINE NATURE & TRAVELS (Issue 468 - December - published on the COVER), Kavyar

SELECTED WORKS





"WHEN WE SAID 'YES!'" is a macro photograph that captures *Cladonia pyxidata* lichen in a moment graced with dew, set against the serene backdrop of a Swedish forest in 2021.

As an art photographer nurtured by the Arctic North, I am captivated by the delicate beauty of lichens and mosses—nature's unsung heroes that play a vital role in our ecosystem. Through my lens, I seek to amplify their beauty, celebrating the profound artistry of nature.

This image is a **testament to synergy**, the collective power that emerges from unity and collaboration. Lichens, a symbiosis of fungus and algae, thrive against the odds, a natural metaphor for the transformative "yes" that binds and builds, transcending the individual.

The scene captured here mirrors a partnership bound by mutual respect and love—a family, a community, growing from the strength of shared vows. It is a moment of convergence, a visual harmony of two beings uniting to form a single, flourishing existence.

'WHEN WE SAID "YES!"' is a visual ode to the concept of togetherness, teaching us that collaboration is not just a force of nature, but the very essence of life and love.





"Inside the drop" - macro photograph of Cladonia Stellaris lichens adorned with the raindrop

“**INSIDE THE DROP**” is a macro photograph of *Cladonia Stellaris* lichens, taken in the verdant forests of Sweden in 2021. This image invites viewers to glimpse a whimsical reflection within a raindrop – a serendipitous silhouette resembling an animal. It's a celebration of those fleeting, magical moments where nature unveils its stories, allowing me a silent yet eloquent dialogue with the wilderness.

This photograph is a tribute to the lichens, those unsung architects of life, which lay the foundation for entire ecosystems on the bare rocks. They are the silent sentinels of the forest, engaging in photosynthesis even beneath the winter snow, initiating the cycle of life where it seems least likely. This image, a testament to their quiet vitality and their significant role, reminds us that every being, regardless of size, holds intrinsic value in the intricate web of nature.

Honored as a finalist in the **Arte Laguna Prize 16**, 'INSIDE THE DROP' was exhibited at the prestigious Arsenale of Venice in 2023.





“Dreamscapes. Beyond”: macro photograph of dewdrops on a grass blade



"**Dreamscapes. Beyond**" is a macro photograph capturing the delicate beauty of morning dew on a blade of grass, illuminated by ethereal morning sunlight.

As someone living with Aphantasia, I am unable to visualize dreams or memories in the traditional sense. My inner world is an intricate tapestry woven from concepts and emotions, articulated through words rather than images. This abstract and elusive realm, difficult to convey, finds a visual counterpart in the realm of macro photography.

This photograph was born from a state of deep **contemplation**, as I found myself captivated by the sunlight's dance upon the dew. Seeking to capture this enchanting moment, I discovered that my camera could act as a bridge to a world that transcends the visual

limitations of my mind. Through the lens, the dewdrop becomes more than a mere reflection; it embodies the '**me-idea**' — my essence **floating within an abstract landscape of thoughts and feelings**. The camera, thus, becomes an extension of my consciousness, enabling me to visualize and step beyond the boundaries of Aphantasia.

"**Dreamscapes. Beyond**" invites the viewer to look deeper, to explore a world where the simple elegance of a dewdrop reveals the intricate interplay of identity and consciousness. It celebrates nature's power to mirror our inner narratives, seamlessly connecting the tangible world with the abstract realm of our thoughts and emotions.



"Rainbow Walkers" is a macro photograph revealing the subtle beauty of morning dew on grass, bathed in gentle morning sunlight. This image draws viewers into a fantastical world, guiding them on a journey through a realm tinted with the colours of the rainbow.

Look closely, and you may discover two ethereal figures, seemingly in silent conversation, as they wander through this vibrant space. These **mystical beings**, standing **at the junction of different realities**, transform the ordinary grass into a magical scene. This visual spectacle isn't the result of colour manipulation but a natural phenomenon, with each dewdrop acting as a prism, casting light and rainbow reflections.

"Rainbow Walkers" serves as a reminder that our world is a living wonderland, filled with extraordinary beauty and untold narratives intricately woven by nature. It invites us to look deeper, to uncover **wonders hidden right beneath our feet** in the everyday world.



“The Last Mask”: AI-assisted digital art

“**The Last Mask**” is an AI-assisted digital art piece that furthers my exploration of inner space, a central theme in my macro photography of dewdrops. Just as those photographs capture the 'me-idea'—my essence within an abstract realm—this artwork delves deeper, examining human personality as an integral part of society.

Emerging from the macro photography of dewdrops and enriched by textual prompts, this piece represents the journey inward, past the myriad social masks, to the core of one's being.

“Does the last mask exist? What would we find if we peeled away the final layer?”

Social roles are interfaces, channels of communication with the outer world. Some roles we select; others are imprinted upon us by primal instincts. In moments of solitude, when we act upon our deepest intentions, we face the essential question: Who are we beneath these masks?

“The Last Mask” beckons us to contemplate **the essence of self** and to look inward, beyond the facades we present to the world. It challenges the viewer to explore what lies beneath—to seek the **fundamental truth hidden behind the last mask**, and to reveal the pure personality that remains when all disguises are shed.





“Soft Body - Hard Shell”: AI-assisted digital art



"**Soft body - hard shell**" is an AI-assisted digital art piece that delves into the complexities of human personality and the paradoxes of our inner selves.

This work contemplates the delicate balance of the human soul's vulnerability against the rigid defences we construct to protect it. It mirrors the inner struggle between the desire to reveal our true selves and the fear of being exposed or judged.

Have you ever felt the urge to break free from your protective shell **to embrace your unique quirks**, only to be held back by the fear of standing out too much? It's a **common human experience** where the simple advice of "just be yourself" becomes as complex as solving a puzzle without sight.

"Soft body - hard shell" is a visual metaphor for this **internal conflict**. It speaks to the heart of what it means to be human—the constant challenge of balancing authenticity with self-preservation. It's an invitation to reflect on the layers we wrap around our essence and what it truly means to step into the light of our genuine identity.

LIMITED EDITION PRINTS



Each photograph and digital work is available as a limited edition print, crafted with meticulous attention to detail and quality. I use fine art paper and canvas, paired with archival pigment inks, to ensure the rich colours and subtle nuances of each piece are faithfully preserved.

All prints are signed and numbered, and come with a Certificate of Authenticity, ensuring the provenance and exclusivity of the artwork.

Sizes and Editions

To suit various preferences and spaces, the prints are available in the following sizes and limited editions:

- Miniature: 20x25 to 21x28 cm (up to 8x11 inches), in an edition of 25
- Medium: 30x40 to 40x60 cm (up to 16x24 inches), in an edition of 15
- Large: 60x80 to 90x120 cm (up to 36x48 inches), in an edition of 3

THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING MY PORTFOLIO!

Each piece is a dialogue between the tangible world and the unseen depths of perception, and I am honored to present this interplay for your review.

Should you wish to discuss any of the pieces further or have any questions, please know that I am readily available for a conversation.

Warm regards,
Inna Etuvgi



CONTACTS

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