

Sweden



Catarina Hjort Tolstoy. Born in 1962.

They are constantly with us, they are living in us. We live in them, they are our patron, we will not be without them. They are close to us, they mean everything to us. They are our fear and our courage. Painter, artist, Catarina Hjort Tolstoy owns them. She has taken a firm and quick grasp of them, she has brought them into our lives and given them spirit and fire. Catarina Hjort Tolstoy painted the

very most loving shaped figures and brought them into life. She has created beings who will become immortal cartoon characters, just as Tove Jansson's Moomintrolls, become loving figures for man - for all humanity. However this is not only something funny as you scroll down, when seeking entertainment or amusement. I see something completely different and much larger and richer in Catarina Hjort Tolstoy's pictures. I see poignant symbols of life. I see richness of life come forward, and give me joy, warmth and faith.

What are all these, clever, flexible, funny, tender, sensual beings, unless signs of our innermost beings, our rich life? Her creatures are involved in all aspects of life. They are in your and my eyes, in our desire and longing. The humour also emerges, they go alpine skiing, they fly high above us and take us everywhere. Suddenly I realize that it is you and me, she is talking about.

Just as in Palle Nilssen's art, or Francis Bacon's or Bengt Lindström's creations, you will soon realize, with joy and slightly fear, that Catarina Hjort Tolstoy brings us along, on a vital, exciting and fun trip in our inner landscape.

I had the opportunity to come along and see the bouquet, the vitality, the secret escapades in the forest, the trip to Barcelona, and to drink

champagne with a lush, beautiful, babushka.

Undressed, dressed up, I take the riverboat home, with an echo of joy in my heart!

Stig Åke Stålnacke Member of AICA, the Association of Art Critics.

<http://hjortisalen.blogspot.com>

hjortisalen@gmail.com



"Vikinghorses" 50 x 50 cm.