

# INNA ETUVGI

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## BIO, ARTIST STATEMENT AND CV

### Bio:

Inna Etuvgi - a self-educated art photographer with Aphantasia, specializing in macro world of northern nature, based in Sweden

Etuvgi was born in 1982 in a small village on the shores of the Arctic Ocean in Chukotka, Russia.

In 2005 Etuvgi graduated from the Faculty of Technical Cybernetics of the St. Petersburg Polytechnic University with honours and a master's degree. In 2018 Etuvgi moved to Sweden, where being inspired by the local nature, she started macro photography in 2020. Technical education became for the author a good basis for self-education in photography, which in turn became her ideal way to express feelings and the way to explore the world. In 2022 Etuvgi became a finalist at the Arte Laguna Prize 16 with her macro photos of Cladonia Stellaris lichens. Etuvgi's artworks are in private collections in Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Russia, and England.

### Artist Statement:

Etuvgi has visual blindness of the mind, which is called Aphantasia. She can visualize neither memories nor dreams about the future. Her inner screen is off, says Etuvgi about the imagination. Instead of images, her fantasy stands on mental concepts, ideas, and emotions. The mind's disability in visual imagination has moved Etuvgi to find her way in creative photography. As she says, the camera became an instrument, a kind of prosthesis that helps her to see the imaginary world.

"I've grown up in the far north, where nature is undersized, and in some places, only lichens and mosses can grow. I think that macro photography is the best instrument to explore the world of northern nature, as it helps us to see something that is so small that often stays unseen or even hidden from our naked eyes. And for me, "macro" has become even more than photography, but is an instrument to explore my inner world.

Having Aphantasia, I never know in advance what I will shoot, I don't have any references or planning, as my imagination lacks images. Instead, I have emotions and ideas, that I perceive through the whole body. The visualization of my self-experiences and my fantasies, I find in macro photography. It is hard to explain, but it feels like the "video signal" of my imagination goes to the screen of my camera, which in its turn becomes a kind of my fantasy prosthesis.

Photography for me is more about an experiment and a search, which aim is to find something that captures me and reflects my ideas or feelings. And it is like a dialogue with nature when nature speaks with me in the visual language, telling stories that I can capture to share with others.

In my photos, I want to show people the world of Nature through my eyes and show that we live in a wonderful world! The same way as we want to know better someone with whom we fall in love, I offer to know better the world around us, as it also can be the way to understand ourselves" - says Etuvgi.

Thank you for your attention!  
Inna Etuvgi

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## Group Exhibitions:

- 2022 - Visingsö konstrunda - «Visingsö konstrunda» - Visingsö, Sweden
- 2021 - S.Eufemia Art Gallery - «SMERALDO» - Venice, Italy
- 2021 - Visingsö konstrunda - «Visingsö konstrunda» - Visingsö, Sweden

## Upcoming exhibitions:

- 2023 - ARTE LAGUNA PRIZE - Arsenale of Venice, Italy (11 March - 16 April)

## Honors and awards:

- 2022 - Finalist artist at the ARTE LAGUNA PRIZE 16
- 2020 - Arte Laguna Prize 15 - became an 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:

- 2021 - NEW YORK STYLE GUIDE - article "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

## Online editor's collections on Artfinder.com:

- Richard Kalman's print picks, curator's collection by Crane Kalman Brighton founder, Richard Kalman, on Artfinder.com, 2022
- New for September, curator's collection on Artfinder.com, 2022
- Best of May, curator's collection on Artfinder.com, 2022
- Dario's Top Picks, curator's collection by Dario Ilari, founder of Jealous Gallery, London, on Artfinder.com, 2021
- New for October, curator's collection on Artfinder.com, 2021
- New for June, curator's collection on Artfinder.com, 2021
- Best of April, curator's collection on Artfinder.com, 2021