CIRRUS/KUNO EXPRESS

Title of the course: Landscape as Interior Teaching period: 21st - 25th, May, 2023 Teacher: Andrius Zakarauskas, Jovita Aukštikalnytė-Varkulevičienė, Petras Lincevičius

ECTS: 2

Number of available places for CIRRUS/KUNO students: for KUNO students: 8

Level: (BA/MA)

Application deadline: 5th of May, 2023

How to apply: Fill the <u>application form</u>: In case of any questions please contact <u>petras.lincevicius@vda.lt</u>

Course Description:

This is an open call for 8 students interested in painting as a way of thinking about a specific place and its multi-layeredness. During the workshop, a team of teachers and students will research the theme "Landscape as interior" in Nida - a resort town in Lithuania, located on the Curonian Spit between the Curonian Lagoon and the Baltic Sea.

"Landscape as interior" is a visual project that invites you to think through the images you create and is open to interpretations both in the classical form of painting and by rejecting the usual "rectangle" form of an artwork. During this project, students will use a different visual language to explore Nida as a multi-layered narrative that changes through the interaction of urban and natural spaces. During this project, not only painting will take place in specific places, but also painting at different times of the day. Night painting will be carried out under non-natural light sources.

The purpose of these activities is to explore the landscape of Nida as an interaction of natural, social, cultural, and technological tensions in search of the relationship between closed and open spaces.

Discussions and presentations of creative works will be organized during these practical sessions. During them, the participants will present their artistic research analyzing the sensitive nature-human relations. Discussions on the topic of ecology will help students understand the multi-meaning of the area, interpret the project theme in various forms and experience a variety of creative solutions. All project participants (students together with participating teachers) will create paintings, drawings, and mixed media works using the authentic landscape as a source of creative expression and will present them at a public exhibition in the spaces of the Nida Art Colony.

Nida is a closed and open space at the same time. It is a living space, surrounded by natural and artificial boundaries, which form a unique horizon, but also "close" it, offering new possibilities of perception. Nida's images appear in a twofold sense. One, a natural environment opens up with a color, structure, and special light due to its geographical and natural location. Secondly, it is the urban space, which is a field of certain activities and living conditions. Therefore, we can talk about cultural and social spaces, which, like different interiors, provide different forms of creativity. These different environments are related, which presuppose specific, unique creative relationships: from individual to communal creativity, from plein-air to conceptual expression, from drawing to land art, etc. In other words, the image is an aspect of representation: we see what responds to our creative aspirations and what "breaks through" into our creative space.

Andrius Zakarauskas is a painter, lecturer in Vilnius Academy of Arts, Kaunas Faculty. The artist is engaged in a constant discussion with the history of painting and questions the established myths about the artistic work. He also explores the possibilities of painting as a means of expression and devotes much attention to the surface of a painting, its expressions and picturesqueness.

Jovita Aukštikalnytė-Varkulevičienė is a visual artist, doctor of Fine Arts (W100) (earned the degree in Vilnius Academy of Arts, 2016). Associate professor in Vilnius Academy of Arts Kaunas Faculty. Author of 25 personal exhibitions, co-author of 70 group exhibitions, coordinator of 12 group exhibitions, initiator and implementer of 8 social art projects. Member of Lithuanian Artists' Association. Fields of artistic studies: landscape painting reflection, portrait painting improvisation, arts for health, social art, social art practice, health promotion, cooperation, collective creation.

Petras Lincevičius is a visual artist, lecturer, and organizer of cultural projects. His work is rooted in exploring specific geographical locations, observing everyday life, and its relationship to the flow of virtual information. The author defines the theme of his research as the (in)significance of local identity in a global world. The conservation of Time, Memory, and Experiences are of utmost importance to this painter.

Additional information:

The workshop will take place at the Nida Art Colony of the Vilnius Academy of Arts, E. A. Jonušo St. 3, Neringa LT-93127, Lithuania.

Accommodation prices: a room with shared bathroom costs $16 \in / \text{person/night}$ or a room with a private bathroom $24 \in / \text{person/night}$. 2-4 students share rooms. Shared and self-funded cooking in the group will be planned for specific days as part of the study process.

