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ART MAGAZINE

Art Gallery

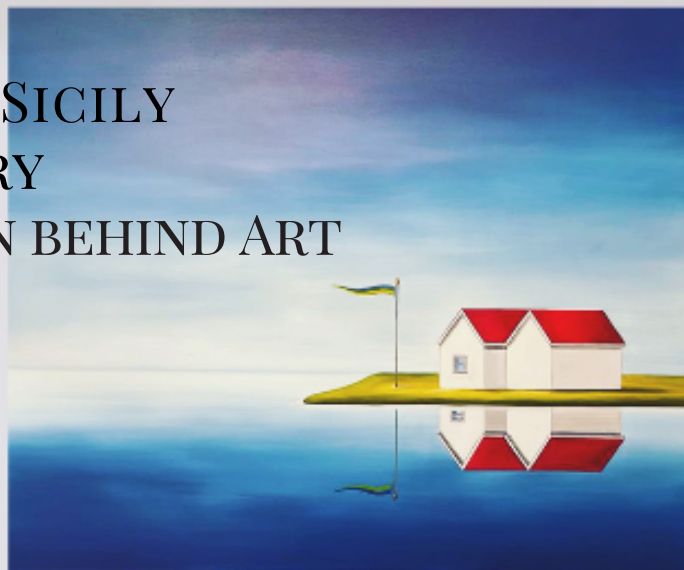
COLLECTION HOME & ART

IN THE STUDIO

Moved from
Sweden to Sicily to
follow her passion

In this edition:

- SWEDEN & SICILY
- ART GALLERY
- INSPIRATION BEHIND ART



MIKAELA OLOVSDOTTER ART

*"Swedish artist based in Sicily, with the
main theme of white houses with red roofs."*



"Early Morning"
Oil on Canvas
28x35 cm



*"Home is
where
love resides,
memories are
created,
friends and
family belong
and laughter
never ends"*

Unknown

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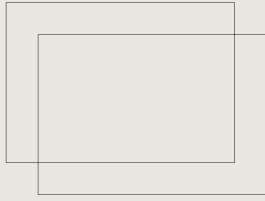
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"FAR AWAY"

100 x 150 cm
Oil on Canvas



WWW.POSA.SE/MIKAELA-OLOVSDOTTER-GALLERY/



ABOUT HOUSES & ART

WELCOME TO
THE FIRST EDITION
OF HOUSES & ART!



100 x 120 cm, Oil on Canvas, Private Collection

Welcome to our first Houses & Art magazine, dedicated to showcasing the works of an exceptional artist, Mikaela Olovsson. In this publication, we dive deep into the artist's life and work, giving you an intimate and comprehensive look at Mikaela's creative process, inspiration, and vision. Our focus will be on her paintings, which feature white houses with red roofs placed in various environments.

Our tour is more than just a glimpse of the artist's paintings. You will also be invited inside her studio, allowing you to witness the physical dimension of the creative act. During my conversation with the artist, Mikaela, she talked about her decision to move to Sicily, a land of scorching spaces, bright colors, and emerald seas. She invites us to explore Sicily through the eyes of a Nordic artist, to see the story of passionate love between a unique culture and a way of living.

Her "Home & Art" exhibition reflects her personal style, drawing inspiration from her native Scandinavian environment and filtering through eyes that perhaps look through a veil of Mediterranean light.

All the best,

Anna Posa

IN THE STUDIO

MIKAELA OLOVSDOTTER MOVED FROM SWEDEN TO SICILY, FIVE YEARS AGO, TO DEDICATE HER TIME TO ART



NOVEMBER 2022

It was a bright and sunny day when I met Mikaela in her studio, which is currently located in a room in the apartment that she shares with her family. We sat in the kitchen to talk about her art and how she ended up in Sicily.

Mikaela Olovsson was born in a small town called Kungsbacka in 1973. She spent most of her adult life in Malmö, a city in the region of Scania in southern Sweden. Her previous career was in administrative and customer service-related activities. Since moving to Sicily with her family, she has had the opportunity to devote much more time to her art. And here is the story, told almost like a novella, that led her to reach the lands of Sicily.

It was a Saturday morning in January 2018. Mikaela was sitting in the car with her husband waiting for their daughter to finish her

cheerleading practice. Suddenly, she turned to her husband and asked him straightaway: "Why don't we sell everything and move to Sicily?"

After a series of hesitations and considerations, Mikaela and her husband decided to proceed with their crazy plan. Five months later, in mid-June 2018, the whole family, including their cat, moved into their new home in Catania.

"The first month after our decision, we kept it a secret and didn't talk to anyone about it. For our crazy plan to proceed smoothly, we needed to make sure everything was in order. We started telling our friends only when we put our apartment up for sale. Naturally, some of our friends considered us daring and, in some cases, thought we were crazy."

SOME CALLED HER MAD AND SOME SAW HER COURAGE AFTER TAKING THE DECISION TO MOVE TO SICILY FROM SWEDEN.

-A year before leaving for Sicily, Mikaela had already started to pursue her interest in painting, a passion she had had since childhood. She had a strong determination to grow and nurture her artistic passion as much as possible. So, when she arrived in Sicily, she began taking lessons and attending various art workshops. "I have been lucky enough to attend classes with talented art teachers. They saw my potential and pushed me to grow further and evolve my technical skills. Since then, I have practiced and studied like crazy," says Mikaela, laughing.

The landscapes painted by Mikaela reflect the beauty of Scandinavian landscapes. Her main theme is that of houses. White houses with red roofs in the middle of the solitary countryside. Houses reflected in the water. Houses that bloom like flowers on winking islets. The sea is always represented. Not only as a generator of life, but also as a cradle of emotions, and horizons to conquer.

Her approach is clean, bold, and free, and the sensation is coming into contact with something "fresh and alive, imagining submerged depths where anything can happen."

In addition to her activities as an artist, Mikaela continues to take online courses in graphic design and digital marketing. She explains that art can be anywhere, from creating graphic designs to embroidery or wandering around to take photos that capture the existence of the moment.

I had the impression that Mikaela is a highly creative person who loves to work on many projects simultaneously. This led her to have a multifaceted approach to all the varied realities that surround us.

In 2021, she established contacts with a Gallerist who represents a major supporter of her work, particularly in the promotion of her works.

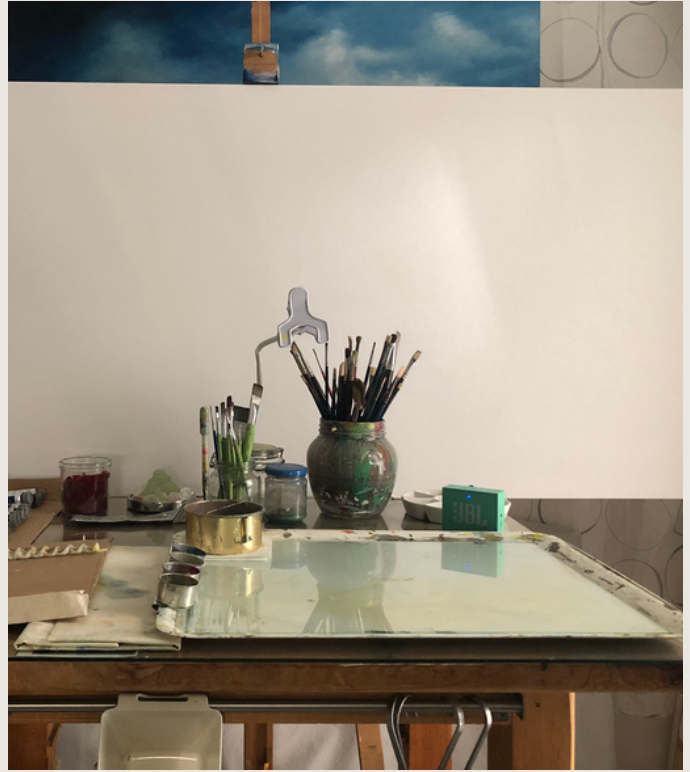


These are some of her first abstract paintings from 2017 (media acrylic).



IN THE STUDIO

Enter the studio of Mikaela Olovsson
you find paintings and different
projects everywhere.



IN THE STUDIO

"NEAR THE ROAD"

50 x 150 cm
Oil on Canvas



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SWEDEN & SICILY

Making the decision to move to Sicily from Sweden in less than five months is a crazy undertaking! Mikaela Olovsson is perfectly aware of this. She has flown between Sweden and Sicily for many years, and she has always felt at home on this island in the Mediterranean Sea.



"SICILY IS LIFE & PASSION"

She has learned to appreciate Sicilian life and culture; in her soul, she feels more Sicilian than Swedish. Even so, she has certainly noticed the significant differences between the two countries.

She describes her impressions by saying that Sicily is chaotic, disorderly, and noisy: "In the big cities, you get the feeling that people never sleep. Sicilian life starts early in the morning and continues until late at night. Sicilians prefer to meet at a bar or restaurant; only close relatives and friends meet at home. In the late afternoon, many Sicilians gather in bars and restaurants for an aperitif. Dinner is usually late into the evening,

around nine o'clock or even later, especially in summer. This is because the climate in Sicily is very hot during the day, so people prefer to stay at home during the daytime hours, except for going to the beach, and then gather more in the evening."



Pasticcini

Walking into a bar for your afternoon espresso, who can resist this?!



La Nonna

Under the festival of Walnuts, a sweet grandmother is preparing a walnut cake.



Sweden and Sicily are definitely two opposite poles, both geographically and in spirit. In Sweden, everything is very organized, and daily tasks can be managed essentially through the Internet. For example, going to the post office to handle documents or payments is unnecessary. Buses and trains arrive on time and work perfectly. Everything is perfectly planned, and all of this makes life easier, but...

In Sicily, it's a bit different. You're happy when the bus arrives on time and heads in the right direction. So, you can imagine how everything is more chaotic. To live in Sicily, you need a lot of patience and to know the language (maybe a bit of dialect). Italians in general are not very skilled in English (or any other language), but if they can help you, they always find a way to do it.

This magnificent land offers a lot in terms of culture, history, and gastronomy. If you take a tour for two years, you will always find places you will find breathtaking, places with beauty and human connections that will leave you breathless.

It is known for its delicious cuisine, almost magical flavors, true nourishment for the body, and... for the soul. You can taste arancini, fried rice cones seasoned with meat, cheese, tomato sauce, and many other flavors in which chefs love to indulge. There is also an arancino with Nutella!

And what about caponata, a traditional dish made with eggplants, peppers, celery, and olives? It's called caponata because, originally, wealthy families in Palermo enjoyed this dish that was based on fish, especially caponata. The version that has come down to us is the one invented by the poor. The poor, not able to afford fish, acquired vegetables from their home gardens or bought them cheaply. At least that's how the story is told. Of course, there are many dishes based on seafood and fish, but talking about this would deserve a chapter of its own!

And then, of course, there's the famous Sicilian cannoli. Tasting them is like living in a symphony of flavors. And we must not forget pasta, pizza, and ice cream! As you can imagine, it's almost impossible to follow a diet in Sicily.

"SAILING HOME"

80 x 100 cm
Oil on Canvas



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INSPIRATION BEHIND THE ART



It may not be so difficult to understand where Mikaela gets her inspiration from. Her paintings, islands, and white houses with red roofs take us to the land of her birth, Sweden. The land of infinite nature, and wide spaces.

Now that she lives in Sicily, I wonder where she draws inspiration for her creativity. "There is a lot to draw inspiration from," says Mikaela. "You can't exclude anything. A lot depends on my mood. I can be inspired by people I've talked to, different environments I've visited, or even a book I've read or an image. All art is a form of self-expression through one's interpretation. Something unique in relation to the subject you've chosen to create. You take your ideas, thoughts, and feelings and put them together to produce something original. The driving force of inspiration is the desire to bring an idea to life that materializes through form and color. It's like giving birth to something that didn't exist before."



The creative process can also be seen as complex. Maintaining form requires a lot of effort, repetition, and patience in the long run. The biggest challenge is overcoming internal limitations and periods of low inspiration. Without being afraid to make mistakes. It's about falling down and having the ability to get up and start all over again.

What Mikaela says turns out to be the essential ingredient for the journey and exploration of the creative act and for keeping the flow of inspiration alive. Her minimalist approach is rooted in the idea that by eliminating unnecessary details, the viewer has the opportunity to grasp the essence of the work. All of these elements helps Mikaela create a sense of quietness and tranquility in her works.



SKÅNE/SCANIA

"Maybe there is nothing more beautiful than Swedish summers. The nature explodes in green, the nights are clear and bright."

Kronetorp's mill is Scania's largest mill from 1841. The mill is a Dutch mill, i.e. built on a fixed base with a movable hood that can be adjusted according to the wind direction.





"Skånelänga" are characteristic old houses in Skåne built around 1850 by farmers. The width of the house was about 4.8 to 6 meters and had no solid foundation but were made of rammed clay.



Large parts of Skåne consist of agricultural land. For a few weeks in May, you can see yellow-colored fields of rapeseed and feel a pleasant sweet aroma.





TO THE LEFT,
MALMÖ INNER LIGHTHOUSE

Is 20.2 meters high
Inaugurated in 1878
Stopped being used for real in 1983

IMAGE BELOW,
RAPSFIELD OUTSIDE MALMÖ

Malmö Municipality, also called Malmö City,
is a municipality in Skåne County.
Skåne county is the southernmost of Sweden's
counties.



"SKÅNE"

50 x 150 cm

Oil on Canvas

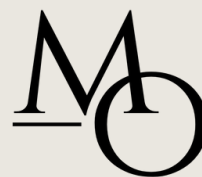


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A photograph of a dining table with four chairs. The table is made of light-colored wood and has a dark metal base. The chairs have white upholstered seats and backs with dark metal frames. On the table, there is a large, decorative bowl with a geometric pattern in black, white, and blue. The floor is made of dark wood planks.

COLLECTION HOME & ART

This collection has been inspired by the Scandinavian landscape in the south of Sweden, Skåne. The beauty of Swedish nature can feed your soul and open your mind. The landscapes are open and colourful and the sky is wide and bright on sunny days.



MIKAELA OLOVSSON ART

COLLECTION HOME & ART

For this collection, Mikaela drew inspiration from the Scandinavian landscape in southern Sweden, Skåne, her native land. The beauty of Swedish nature can nourish the soul and open the mind. The landscapes are open and colorful, and the sky is wide and bright on sunny days.

The main aim of these works is to show how her art is perceived in different environments as well as in home décor. Art that is experienced inside a home can create a sense of balance or become the focal point of a room.

She hopes to capture the unique feeling of nostalgia associated with a home or a familiar place through her paintings. The white houses become symbolic of the beauty found in nature while the red roofs may represent the passion and vitality found in the Sicilian people and culture.

Regardless of where the viewer is, her artwork evokes a sense of warmth and calm. Aesthetically, her work can easily be adapted to a variety of settings, both traditional and modern. Her use of color is intuitive, with clean lines and a balanced minimalism that gives the viewer the sensation of truly being inside the painted images.

"I try to bring the viewer to these Scandinavian places and give them a feeling of purity and serenity."

It is a pleasure for us to present her work in this personal exhibition, and we hope you appreciate it as much as we have enjoyed experiencing it.





"A quiet place II"
80 x 100 cm
Oil on Canvas



"Her minimalist approach is rooted in the idea that by stripping away unnecessary details, the viewer is left with the essence of the work. This helps her create a sense of stillness and tranquility in her art"



"Solitudine"
50 x 150 cm
Oil on Canvas



"The quiet place"
80 x 100 cm
Oil on Canvas



"Sailing Home"
80 x 100 cm
Oil on Canvas



"Two houses"
80 x 100 cm
Oil on Canvas



"Red Roof Barn"
80 x 100 cm
Oil on Canvas



"Little Red House At
The Beach"
80 x 100 cm
Oil on Canvas



GALLERY

24 - COLLECTION HOME & ART

"Bus Stop
Red Bicycle
Mail Boxes"
80 x 100 cm
Oil on Canvas



GALLERY





"Fishermans House"

80 x 100 cm

Oil on Canvas

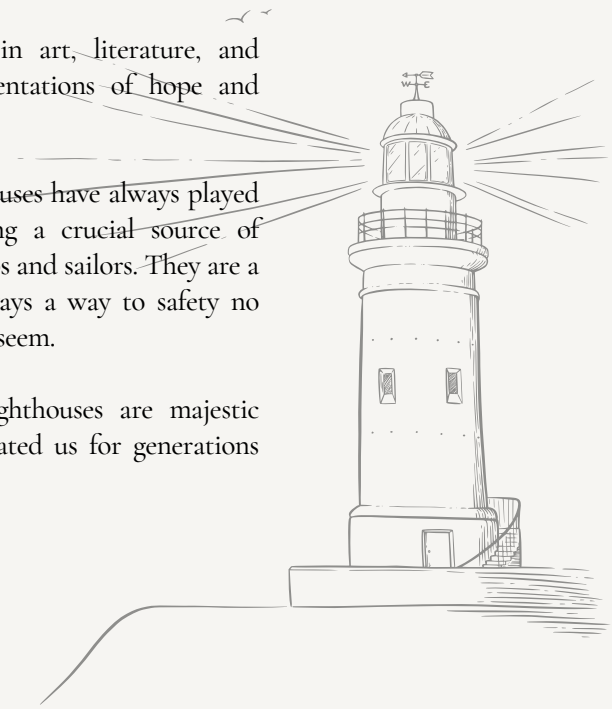
There is something special about lighthouses. Lighthouses have their own unique beauty and are captivating. They guide us in the darkest moments, the darkest hours of the night.

Stands for strength and protection. During the wildest storm with the wildest sea, they always stands firm.

They are often featured in art, literature, and popular culture as representations of hope and guidance.

In maritime history lighthouses have always played an essential role, providing a crucial source of guidance and safety for ships and sailors. They are a reminder that there is always a way to safety no matter how difficult things seem.

We can all agree that lighthouses are majestic structures and have captivated us for generations and still do today.



"The Artist Atelier"

80 x 100 cm

Oil on Canvas





"TWO SWEDISH ISLANDS"
150 X 200 CM
OIL ON CANVAS

28 - COLLECTION HOME & ART

"Early Morning"
28 x 35 cm
Oil on Canvas



GALLERY



"Mountain House"
28 x 35 cm
Oil on Canvas



"By Night"
80 x 100 cm
Oil on Canvas

"Swedish Sauna"
80 x 100 cm
Oil on Canvas



GALLERY

30 - COLLECTION HOME & ART



"Near The Road"
100 x 120 cm
Oil on Canvas

"Far Away"
100 x 150 cm
Oil on Canvas

GALLERY





"Skagen"
80 x 100 cm
Oil on Canvas



"Skåne"
50 x 150 cm
Oil on Canvas

GALLERY



There are places in Sweden where stillness and silence are at their greatest. In general Swedish nature is known for its incredible beauty and diversity. The coastline is long and varied, with thousands of islands and skerries along the way.



"Swedish Reflections"
100 X 120 cm
Oil on Canvas



GALLERY





"Lighthouse"
120 X 100 cm
Oil on Canvas



"Closer to each other"
100 X 150 cm
Oil on Canvas

GALLERY



"Homage to René
Magritte II"
70 x 50 cm
Oil on Canvas



"Homage to
René Magritte"
50 x 40 cm
Oil on Canvas

Homage to René Magritte

I have been fascinated by René Magritte's paintings for many years and still am today. I think that his paintings, apart from their surrealist connotations, are humorous, and ironic, and challenge us to look at art in a very different way. If you look at his paintings long enough, you may get the feeling that he is hiding something from us... and watching us with a sly glance.

I often wonder how he could create such bizarre images and find the right blend between the mysterious places of the unconscious and the elements of reality. He was surely a genius, but also a witty man. René Magritte once said: "There are no answers in my paintings. Only questions." And I couldn't agree more with him. It is precisely for these questions that I admire his paintings even more.

As you can see in my two paintings above and to the right, I brought René with me and placed my art inside his.

Mikaela Olousdotter





EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear readers and art lovers,

We've come to the end of this edition of "Houses & Art," and it's been a fantastic journey creating the magazine's inaugural issue. Putting together this first edition has been a labor of love.

We'd like to express our gratitude to all of our wonderful contributors, from the writers to the artists. We thank them for their dedication and work in bringing this magazine to life. We sincerely hope that you enjoy reading it as much as we enjoyed creating it. Thank you for being a part of this journey with us.

And remember these words by
Niclas Jacquemont:

"Creativity gives us meaning and creates positive emotions. It makes us discover, explore and develop as people"

Sincerely,

Anna Posa

Editor-In-Chief



"Perfection is not achieved when there is nothing else to add, but when there is nothing left to take away"

Antoine de Saint-Ezupéry

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Mikaela Olovsson



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