

IGNORED₂

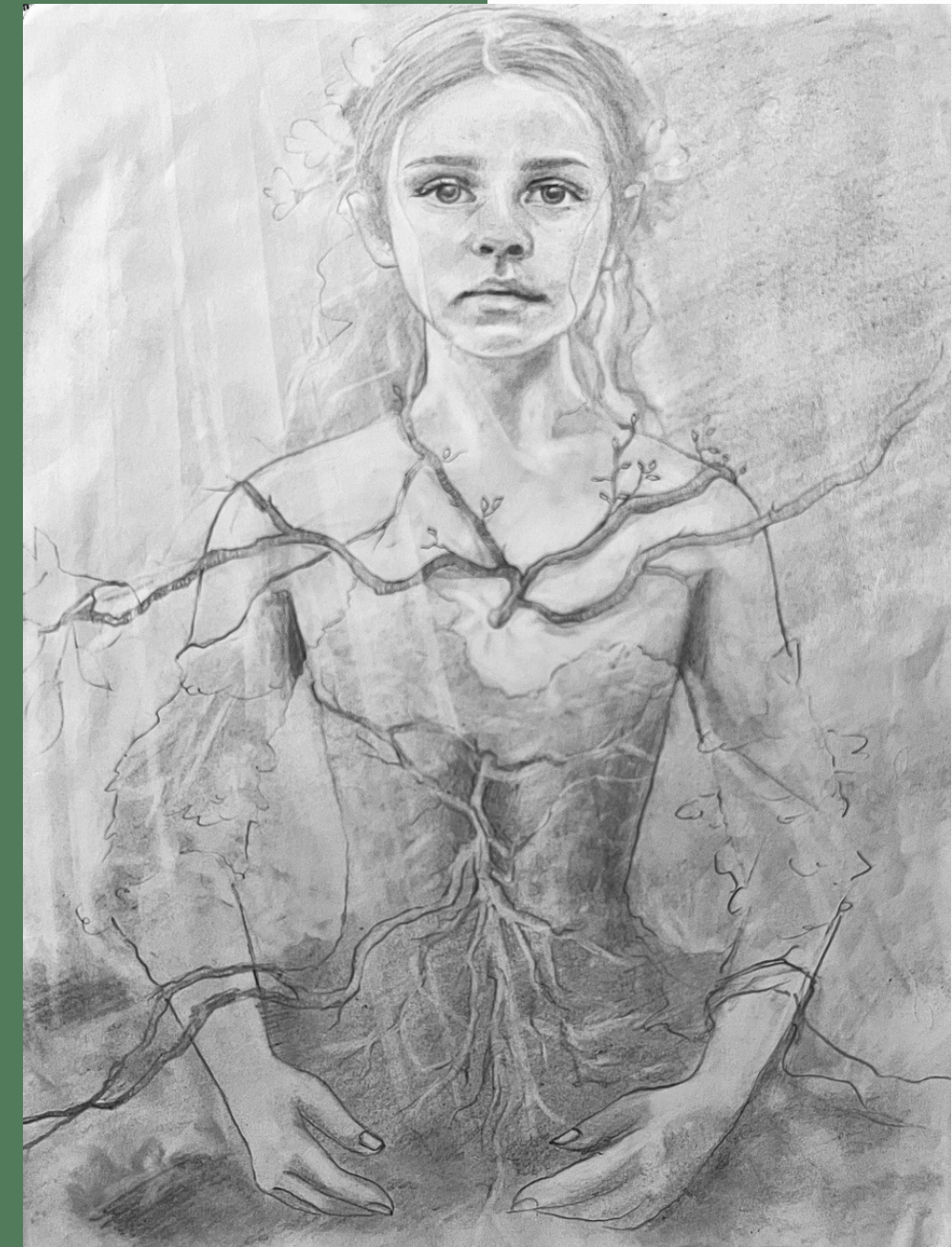
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VISION

The concept and teachings to explain the relationship of the human to the earth and the natural environment have been described in various philosophical and medical writings for centuries. Artists convey the beauty of nature and its vulnerability to human impact. Literature inspires a careful relationship with nature, while choreography and theater subjects express the human relationship with the Earth.

The theme remains relevant and important today, emphasizing human dependence on a stable and healthy environment. However, what happens to our connection to the Earth in destructive environments such as military conflicts?





For many centuries, humans have lived around the same three problems: famine, war, and disease. Recent decades have advanced humanity considerably on these issues. The 21st century is a time in which artificial intelligence algorithms delegate many intellectual and creative tasks. Advancement in biotechnology enables the creation of artificial tissues and organs for transplantation and treatment of diseases. Advances in renewable energy provide an opportunity to change the world's energy landscape and reduce dependence on fossil fuels. The paradigm has fundamentally changed. Today, in many countries, more people die from overeating than from starvation. There are more suicide victims than victims of terrorist weapons or soldiers, and more people die of old age than from infectious diseases.

Having achieved significant achievements in the modern world, and having stopped thinking about survival, human began to elevate himself to the rank of Gods, seeing the world exclusively through his own prism and acting only in his own interests. Now human faces a new challenge and this challenge is himself. Crossing the line of egocentrism, human tries to blame the problem on someone else, avoiding recognizing his role in its occurrence. It is not excluded that you also adopt a position of ignorance in some way.

To date, wars have been fought in Ukraine, Syria, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Afghanistan, Palestine, Yemen, and Egypt.

I learned about the connection between man and homeland from personal experience when a full-scale war broke out in my family's life in Ukraine. At first it seemed that a person becomes detached from reality, from the world and from all living creations on Earth. War is not only a challenge to people, but also to animals and plants including the destruction of their habitats and populations. In military conflicts and bombing, infrastructure and agriculture are destroyed, and the exploitation of natural resources is not controlled. All of this has long-term environmental consequences, such as soil and water poisoning, which negatively affects the health of the entire planet.

One night when I was in Kharkov in May 2023 before I went to bed at about 10 pm a bombing raid started and air defense could be heard shooting down missiles outside the city. These sounds were much different than what we hear in the movies. They seemed to be six rolling thunderclaps in our apartment.

War itself in our minds is distorted by the romanticism presented in movies and books. However, the human mind and senses cannot understand the immensity of the chaos and pain roaming in the souls during wartime, nor can we understand the strength of a person's connection to his home.

My mother shouted for me to run out of the apartment, and I took the dog in my arms and walked out into the dark entryway. The apartment door was wide open, the light was on in the living room. While I waited for my mom I stared at the bulb for a long time at the warm and blinding light. I was trying to focus and not let fear take control. As always happens when you stare at a bright spot of light for a long time, phosphenes - visual illusions appear.





Giant children with trees, branches and leaves sprouting through their bodies, such images popped up quickly like sparks in my imagination. The characters at first were all realized and seemed godlike. However, I realized that it was not they who were great, but we seem small in the eyes of our descendants.

I present two works without titles, they are united by the name O₂ - the formula of oxygen. I am making an allegory with oxygen, which I personally associate with liberation. In the hope of showing that the next generation is free from oppressive systems.

SYMBOLISM:

Trees

The family tree, with its roots and branches symbolizing the connection of ancestors and descendants.
Cyclical time.

Swallows

A symbol of emigration. They tell the story of mothers who were forced to leave their homes.

Children

Their image can serve as a symbol of purity and undeserved suffering.



Materials:

charcoal on canvas

Dimensions:

180 x 120 cm