EGGSTENTIALISM

AN ART SERIES BY ELIN HAUKLIEN



How can one understand life without understanding oneself? Observe, listen, see, there is suffering, there is joy, there is contrasts and complexity, and also simplicity. Eggstentialmism, a playful twist of the name of the philosophy Existentialism. Organic and natural elements like the egg shape, the wood texture, are used to express the observations of life.

It is a symbolic and individual observation and expression of life. Fragile, raw, organic, simple and saturated with emotions, contradicting and with a humorous undertone. The human, born as free individuals, organically inter-chained by the world we are living in, the physical environment we are surrounded by and the people in our vicinity.

Life simplified, expressed in the deepness of the questions of life and the powerful emotions fuelling our inner being. Infused and inspired by African art and the use of patterns to express emotions and symbols of life. Organically inter-chained, sometimes obvious and other times hidden under the surface. With interest in psychology, the definitions and observations of life together with philosophers like Søren Kierkegaard and expressionist Edvard Munch. "Life is not a problem to be solved, but a reality to be experienced." – Søren Kierkegaard

The egg shape is used dualistically, both as a representation of life and of the earth as a physical element and in a holistic way. Different animals depicted represent powerful emotions appearing in our life throughout our existence. The emotions observed from a distance, simplified, raw and with a childish, humorous twist. Life expressed and emotions explained through the images carved. Or as Søren Kierkegaard says, "Life can only be understood backward, but it must be lived forwards."



Sickness

The feeling and observation of sickness in our lives and the sickness of the earth seen through the environmental changes. The pain, the uncertainty, the draining of resources and fragility. What is the taste of it?

Woodblock print on cotton paper Size: 997 x 490 mm



Hope

Essential, strong and fragile. Without it, where will we be and where will we go?

Woodblock print on cotton paper Size: 297 x 420 mm



Freedom

A craving, something to fight for, dreams and expectations. What is true freedom and what does it look like?

Woodblock print on cotton paper. Size: 997 x 490 mm



Protected

Life is unique, some view it as sacred. Throughout it we build a network to protect it, to nurture it. What is your nest?

Woodblock print on cotton paper. Size: 297 x 420 mm



Togetherness

Alone or together to keep standing?

Woodblock print on cotton paper. Size: 297 x 420 mm



In The Air

Far and close to the sea, the currents and the darkness. What keeps us soaring?

Woodblock print on cotton paper. Size: 297 x 420 mm



Balance

The complexity, the winds, the pressures. Like a magnet it stabilises us and brings balance. How?

Woodblock print on cotton paper Size: 297 x 420 mm



Interchained

I am me, I am an individual. Interchained connections from birth to the grave. Unbreakable and breakable. Can I stand alone?

Woodblock print on cotton paper. Size: 997 x 490 mm



Inequality

Heavy, in the blind spot, like a cliché. What is the smell?

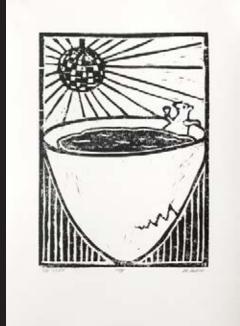
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Injustice

Surrounded by sharp edges, cannot anyone see? What is the colour?

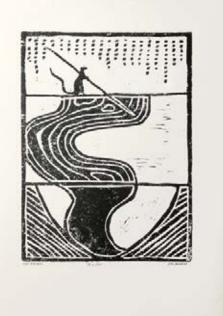
Woodblock print on cotton paper Size: 297 x 420 mm



Living

The sun, the breeze, the waves, the sparkles. Will it ever end?

Woodblock print on cotton paper. Size: 297 x 420 mm



On a Line

The force is so strong, it leads all the way to the darkness. Then there is the sky. Where does it lead?

Woodblock print on cotton paper. Size: 297 x 420 mm



Pinned

Every movement is sensed in my body. It pains and I feel trapped. The current is so strong. Where is the current to freedom found?

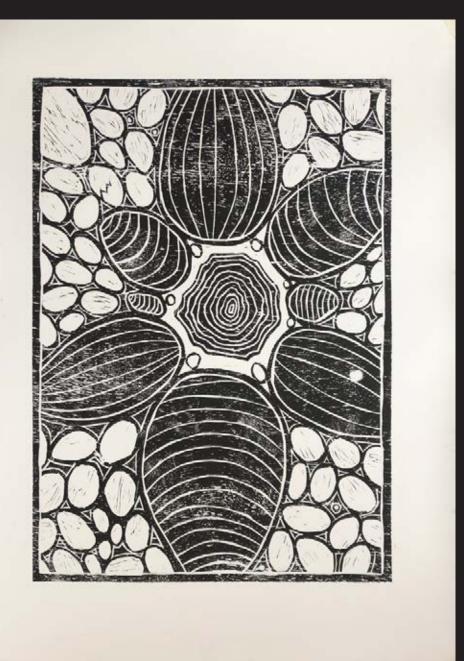
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Alone

I see many and at they are next to me. The silence is inside me. I want to reach out to touch them. I want to connect, but why are they so far?

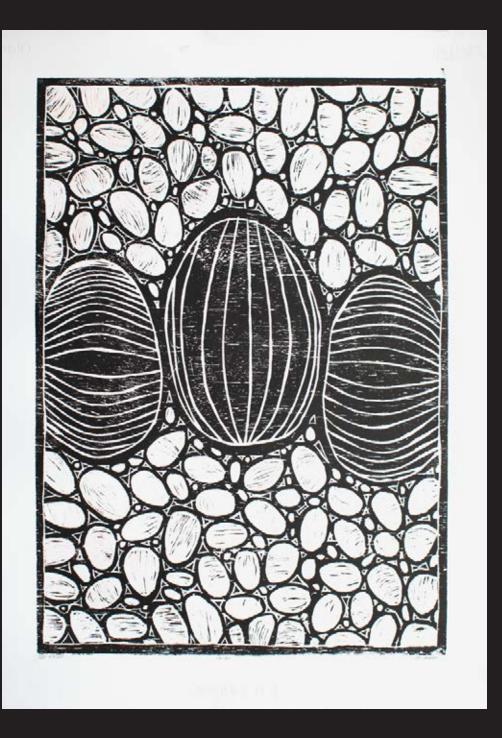
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The Mothership

The warmth is beaming and the floating movement. Constant growth and change is inevitable. It's like a foreverness. Will it ever end?

Woodblock print on cotton paper.

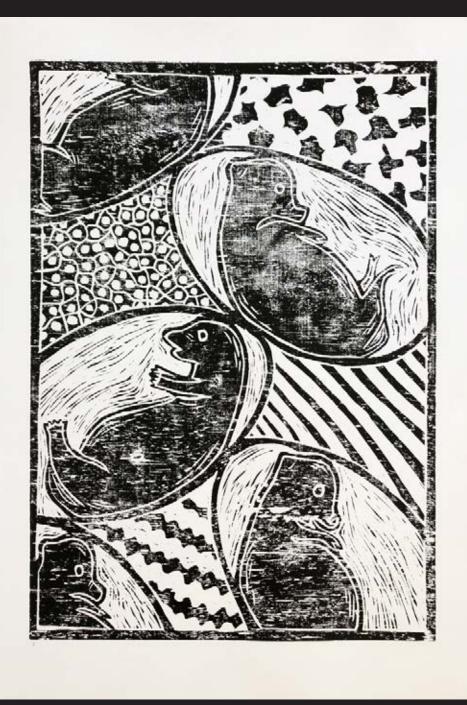


The Nest

Their are dancing like an unison harmony in the honey comb. All unique and different, still they are one. What is their secret?

Woodblock print on cotton paper.

Size: 560 x 760 mm



Before The Beginning

Floating in safety and unaware of the journey ahead.

Protected and fragile in the nest. Will they become a nation or the only one?

Woodblock print on linen paper. Size: 500 x 700 mm



Domination

The sound of thunder is overwhelming and fear is knocking on the door. Strength and power in unison. Where am 1?

Woodblock print on cotton paper.

Woodblock print on cotton paper



Flexibility

Floating in uncertain waves while transforming patterns of rhythms that makes the body move. Limbs too short to reach, but with a mind creating music of unfamiliar paths. What is stronger, the hands that holds or the mind that transforms?

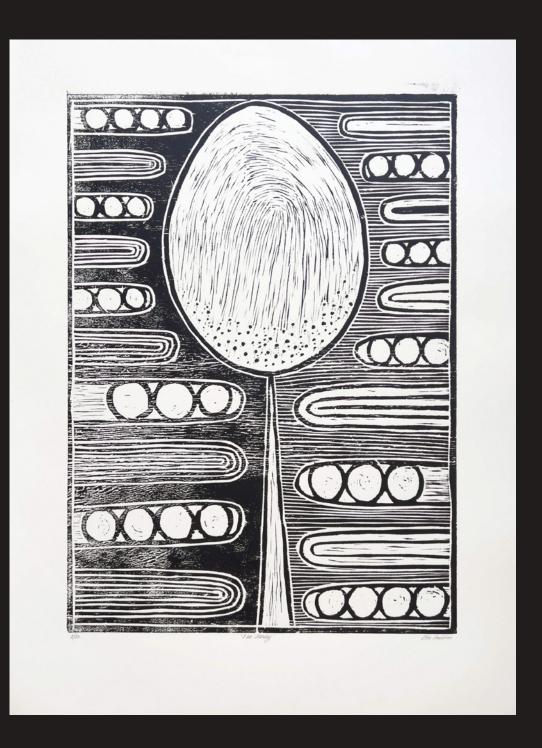
Woodblock print on cotton paper. Size: 560 x 760 mm



Resting Place - Where Healing Happens

With whom restoration and consolation happen, despite hungry wounds. A place of safety and rejuvenation of joy, while the scars dominate the surface. Is it real? Can true healing be found?

Woodblock print on cotton paper. Size: 560 x 760 mm



I am Standing

Tall, whole and confident in uncertainty. Unwavering and edgy. On my own, but not alone. Standing while life is pushing and currents are coming from new directions. At times I wonder, how should I move?

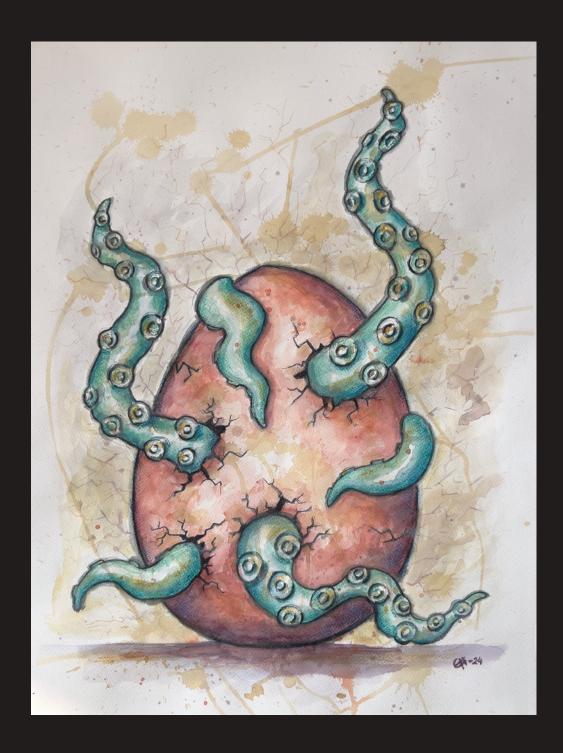
Woodblock print on cotton paper. Size: 560 x 760 mm



Abundance

I can't see because of the green. My body is fresher than the youth. It has been fulfilled, the abundance has come to stay, not only for some, but for all.

Woodblock print on cotton paper. Size: 560 x 760 mm



Entangled - It Might Hurt

More than all lingering questions, are the overwhelming feelings fighting to take control. There was a way to enter, but where is the path to exit without hurt? Does it exist?

Mixed Medium on Watercolor paper. Size: 490 x 594 mm



Twisted Thinking - A Growing Mushroom

Words pronounced painting surreal pictures of disturbance. Born from thoughts cultivated in fields of fungus. Roots in disorder guiding growing sprouts of thoughts. Is twisted good or can they be untwisted again?

Mixed Medium on Watercolor paper 297 x 420 mm



The Birth of Unexpected Events

It has been observed and it has been felt. Unexpected in many ways, but not for some. Was it always there or when was its birth?

Mixed Medium on Watercolor paper. 297 x 420 mm



Thought Patterns or Patterns of Thoughts

There are patterns, complex, organic, intricate, too profound to be fully understood and then there is simplicity. Life explained and expressed as patterns of thoughts are being constructed and old ones being remembered or forgotten. Old patterns repeated and new patterns made. Is there an end to them?

Woodblock print on cotton paper 297 x 420 mm



Different Hoods

Born in the same soil, but grew up on different grass. Invisible borders planted and cultivated until the illusion is real. Only the brave ones crosses the borders and gain the price. Who can free the disillusioned mind?

Watercolor on Watercolor paper.



Rebuilding

Broken in pieces, but not crushed beyond repair. Arms of love patching a soul that injured hers. Trust being touched to the inner bone, to be rebuild to thrive again. Who has the power to rebuild?

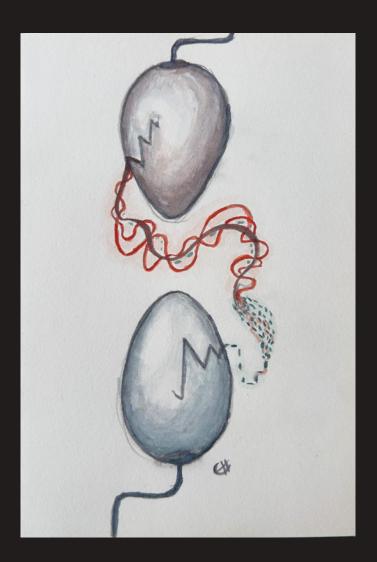
Watercolor on Watercolor paper.



I Laughed at Life, Then Life Laughed at Me

All strength were used, to shine with the power of the cracks. The strength and beauty of a resilient egg. Day in and day out gathering together what was lost. Then the innocent came to tell a message of peace. I laughed as I mirrored the reflections of the innocent.

Glass blown sculpture with flame worked beak



Soul Bonding

Curious and cautious at the same time. Sending signals waiting to interpret the song sang in return. A new song merging with the vibrations in the air in between. Something most amazing happens, a new symphony is being made and orchestrated in unity.

Watercolor on Watercolor paper.



Just Didt It

Watching the colors reaching his view, the story was complete in the most incomplete way, as the journey had just begun. A most happy mouse reaching for his dreams in the vastness of the universe. Will time travel the journey with him or will it stand still?

Sand-infused acrylic paint on canvas