

Katja Novitskova (EE, 1984)

*Expansion Curves (fire worship, purple horns)*, 2016

Digital print på pet-g, digital print på aluminium dibond, plexiglas

Katja Novitskova er en estisk kunstner bosat i Berlin. Hendes installationer er befolket af alt fra mikroorganismer over planter og dyr til robotter. Ofte integrerer hun pile og infografik, som kortlægger en verden i hastig udvikling og peger i et utal af retninger.

Hendes billedunivers, der overlapper med internettets, kan virke nutidigt, men elementerne stammer ofte fra vidt forskellige perioder, og perspektivet er evolutionært: *“Jeg kan godt lide, på den ene eller anden måde, at starte med en kosmologi. Den aktuelle videnskabelige forståelse af vor verden er, at materiens iboende egenskaber har sat den i stand til at organisere sig selv i galakser, organisk liv, dinosaurer, mennesker og ved vores mellemkomst i bøger, mikrochips og digitale billeder.”*

Værket *Expansion Curves (fire worship, purple horns)* blev lavet sidste år til businessskolen ESTM i Berlin som et monument over årtusinders dyrkelse af vækst, ild og status. Fokus på horn finder man i okse-kult ned igennem historien fra østlige stenalderbyer, hvor tidlige økonomiske systemer så dagens lys, til skulpturen *Charging Bull* i vore dages Wall Street i New York.

Flammehavet synes at næres af fossile brændstoffer. Det er et billede på en kort historisk periodes massive forbrug af millioner år gamle reserver af komprimeret organisk materiale så som olie, der siden industrialiseringen har accelereret alt fra verdensøkonomi til klimaforandringer.

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Katja Novitskova is an Estonian artist who lives and works in Berlin. Her installations are populated by everything from microorganisms to plants, animals and robots. She often incorporates arrows and infographics, mapping out a rapidly evolving world and pointing in countless directions.

Her imagery, which overlaps that of the Internet, can seem very contemporary, but the various elements often date from widely different periods, and her perspective is evolutionary in scope: *“Somehow I like to start with a cosmology. The current scientific understanding of our world is that innate properties of matter allowed it to selforganize into galaxies, organic life, dinosaurs, humans and eventually via us into books, microchips and digital images.”*

The work *Expansion Curves (fire worship, purple horns)* was created last year for the ESTM business school in Berlin as a monument to thousands of years of worship of fire, growth and status. Horns appear in cults of the Sacred Bull throughout history, right from the eastern Stone Age settlements where early economic systems saw the light of day to the sculpture *Charging Bull* in present-day Wall Street in New York.

The sea of flames seems to be nourished by fossil fuels. A poignant image of a very brief historical period's massive consumption of compressed organic material such as oil, that has lain dormant for millions of years and accelerated everything from the world economy to climate change since the advent of industrialisation.