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Observing the collapse

My painting process begins by accepting and deeply understanding how our ecosystem is collapsing. I peel off all the psychological protective shields that allow us to live our daily lives in this destructive construction. I live with the knowledge that our planet is dying. We're killing it. At a fast pace. I let this information sink into every one of my cells, at every moment, at every choice, to feel the despair it causes and to see the madness in which we live.

The scariest words I've ever heard; positive feedback loops, ecosystem tipping point, hothouse planet and mass extinction. That these could happen in our lifetime I can no longer ignore. It makes all the things I used to appreciate seem insignificant. All human made structures seem not only meaningless but also destructive. By stripping away all the signs of human made structures in the paintings I refuse to be a part of this destructive culture.

While waiting for the icebergs to melt, the release of Siberian methane, the bees and birds to die, the economic system and social harmony to collapse, I'm looking at humanity floundering eyes closed into unknown annihilation and I paint future beings so I would not forget their suffering. I paint them looking at me to see my own guilt, leaving the future generations an indication that I thought of them.

These paintings are dystopian scenes and metaphors of the sorrow that surrounds us in this time and the fear of the future. They are images of anthropocenic guilt that comes from our lifestyle that is responsible for the destruction of the ecosystem. At the same time they are an attempt to imagine a different kind of humanity. Dreams of people living in balance.

This is not an artist statement. It's a desperate plea. Peel off your cynical protective mechanisms and join the struggle for life.