SÁMI fine arts

Dálá SÁMI dáidda – SÁMI Contemporary

14.11.2014–4.1.2015
Sami Center for Contemporary Art,
Karasjok, Norway

Please see Tuija Hautala-Hirvioja’s article about early Sámi visual artists in Barents Studies 1/2014
The Sámi people are well known for their traditional and colourful handicrafts. What is not so widely known is the role they play in fine arts. This might be about to change.

Professor Tuija Hautala-Hirvioja from the University of Lapland is one of the curators of the Dálá SÁMI dáidda – SÁMI Contemporary exhibition that is currently travelling in the North. Here she describes some of the main themes that can be seen in the works of art on display.
Continuation of the Sámi Duodji tradition. Outi Pieski has re-created her grandmother’s medicinal pine tree. The twigs are made of strands of silk like those used in the fringe of women’s traditional scarves.
Handling personal life and emotions through art.

Reflecting on the Sámi identity. Marja Helander lives in two Finnish municipalities that are almost as far from each other as can be – Utsjoki and Helsinki. She often represents the tensions between Western and Sámi culture in her work.

Dealing with the colonialist past and threats from the modern world. Anders Sunna lives in Jokkmokk, Sweden. His art is explicitly political and often based on his roots in reindeer herding.

Documenting everyday life.