

Jessica Fleming Artist Biography

Jessica Fleming was born in Fulda, Germany in 1992. Raised by a German mother and American father, Fleming mostly grew up in the suburbs outside of Philadelphia. She later went on to study Fine Art and Art Therapy at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Receiving a BFA, and graduating with honors in 2014, Fleming decided to move to Germany shortly after graduation. She now lives and works in Osnabrück, Germany, teaching English and giving art classes when she isn't painting in her studio.

Since her first solo exhibition, “Are we not drawn onward to new era” in 2014, Fleming's works have grown in various directions. While some oil paintings and drawings aim to capture the sublimity of vast landscapes, other works disrupt the viewer with ironic text, or create an unsettling mood with the erasure of objects or figures. For example, in Fleming's piece, “Misty Mountainscape,” (2019) Fleming entices the viewer to simply marvel at the movement of clouds and shapes of the mountain tops, whereas in “Eat Me,” (2014) Fleming dismisses what could have been a “picture perfect” ideal image of a stack of pancakes, playing tongue and cheek with the implications of the added text. Fleming's “Untitled” works, dealing with erasure, suggest a passage of time, the presence and absence of objects or figures all at once.

As one can see, Fleming's oil paintings tend to explore different directions conceptually. However, a theme which pieces her body of work together, is the duality of a desperate search for beauty and truth in this world, combined with the conflicting reality of impermanence and social manipulation. This can be best interpreted in her series, “Jeju 1, 2, and 3” (2018). In these works, the same landscape of an area of Jeju is painted three times. Each painting becomes increasingly littered with waste. Each painting is framed as a post on social media, using symbols for likes and shares. As the island becomes increasingly destroyed, the number of shares multiply. These numbers also reflect the OECD's statistical predictions of rising pollutants to the according years.

Jessica Fleming has received several awards and honors in recognition of her skillful achievements while living in the States. Awards such as the Earnest Greenfield Memorial prize in painting, and the Ted Carey Prize Competition have helped Fleming greatly in moving forward with her artistic goals. Inspired by her travels around the world, Fleming continues searching for exhibition opportunities, artist residencies, as well as other creative challenges for personal artistic growth.