

ARTIST STATEMENT

Yevhenii Lytvynenko is a Ukrainian multidisciplinary artist born in 1987 and based in Kyiv. Working with appliquéd, watercolour, gouache, and graphic techniques, his art evokes a refined existential experience through the observation of nature and its subtle phenomena. His practice explores the philosophical and chromatic mysteries of nature, aiming to convey a metaphysical understanding of the world that can be felt rather than seen.

My approach is spontaneous: works are created impulsively, in a single session, as a response to a fleeting emotion or moment. The appliquéd compositions are made from hand-painted gouache sheets, cut into flattened, ornamental shapes. Some elements are modeled with light, shadow, and tonal gradations to achieve a painterly effect within the appliquéd itself.

My watercolour and gouache works are executed alla prima, maintaining the freshness and intensity of colour. Blurred paint washes combine with clear graphic lines to form expressive, dynamic compositions. In my drawings, I aim to capture the character of objects through minimal, lively lines. I select materials intuitively according to the subject: charcoal or pencil for old trees, ink and nib for rugged stone, a straw for delicate field sketches. I also periodically work with linocut and woodcut, using a minimal number of carved lines to capture fleeting moments.

A key feature of my style is the immediacy of execution—whether working outdoors or in the studio. Each work reflects a momentary impression, mood, or detail—subtle phenomena that are often overlooked, yet carry deep meaning.

My visual language is a synthesis of Fauvism and Impressionism with a subtle influence of folk art. My works are distinguished by a palette of vivid, flat colours in appliquéd and a painterly technique marked by soft gradients and a carefully developed foreground. My drawings are linear compositions that convey both form and light, distilling the essence of the subject.

The world around me is my primary source of inspiration. My creative process is an attempt to discover beauty in the simplest of things and meaning in what is barely perceptible. Through attentive observation of nature, I focus on details that often go unnoticed but embody the core of life. My vision encourages a deeper awareness of essential values—the moments and impressions nature offers unconditionally and freely. The motif of nature is a constant in my work, offering both an aesthetic experience and a space for reflection.

My artistic path has passed through several important stages. The first was an academic phase, shaped by classical art education and a deep passion for plein air painting. This period laid the foundation for my emotional and imaginative perception of nature. The next phase was a practical one, shaped by experience in design and applied arts. Due to financial necessity, I worked in decorative and commercial art, graphic design, interiors, and branding. I later co-founded a family wallpaper and textile brand and also worked in fashion design as part of a family denim project.

For nearly ten years, I worked in the field of furniture design, holding art director roles and organizing exhibitions and installations. This experience broadened my understanding of how art can be integrated into architecture, fashion, and object design. Despite this, drawing has always remained the core of my practice—a tool for observation and reflection, and a way to focus on form, structure, and essence.

The natural world—plants, flowers, forests, rivers, lakes, birds, animals, and the sky—remains central to my work. For me, nature is not only a source of imagery, but also a space of renewal—a silence that contrasts with the pace of urban life. Immersing myself in the natural environment becomes a meditative act that restores inner balance and renews vital energy.