



Sonja Kalb

Germany
sonjakalb.com

She was born in Stuttgart. Studied Textiles and Design (Engineering Diploma) She lives and works in Düsseldorf. In 2018 she won the Best Abstract Artwork, Italia Award 21st Century Art, Biennale Chianciano. In 2019 she had the Special Mention for Excellence, Great Britain Award 21st Century Art, Biennale London. Sonja Kalb focuses on the essentials - the colors and how they flow in her abstract expressionist painting. The artist consciously excludes any use of concrete representation. Color contrast, composition lines and surfaces, surface structures and textures are all elements which Sonja Kalb uses to design her



Polar Light
Triptych, mixed media on canvas,
180x360 cm, 2017

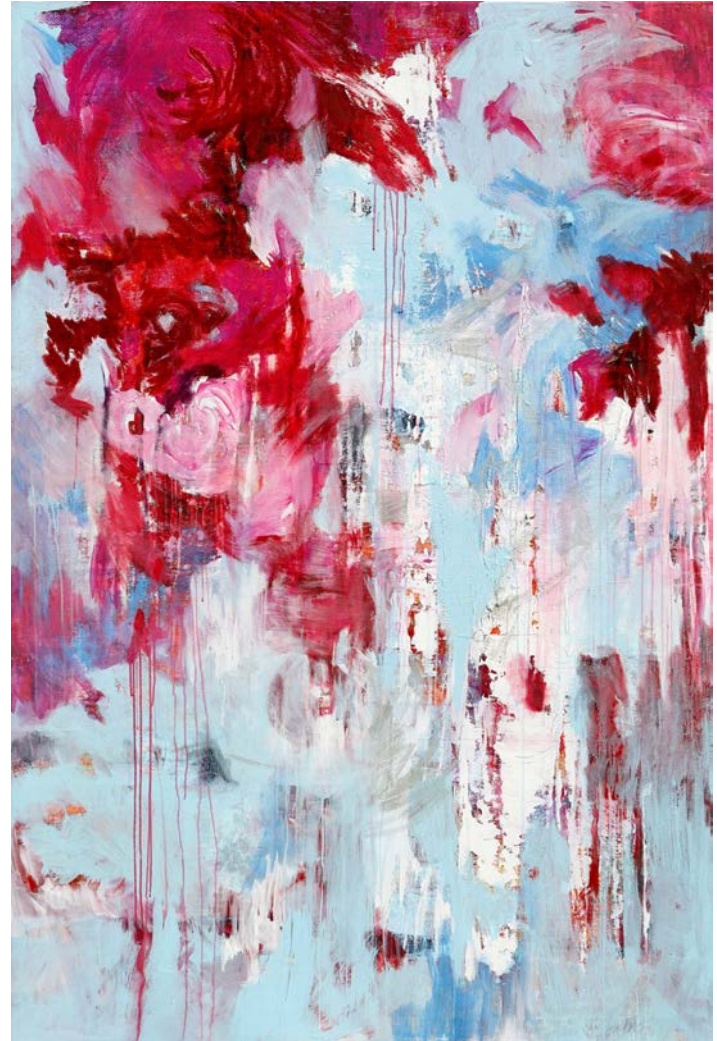
"color weaves". The flowing interweavements in Sonja Kalb's artworks invite the observer to let his thoughts wander and find expression in his own unique conceptions. Sonja Kalb's artworks are continually exhibited at different solo and group exhibitions, as well as at art fairs in Germany, Belgium, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, Czechoslovakia, Great Britain, Turkey, Iran and the USA. Her paintings are found in renowned private and company collections.



Rainforest
Mixed media on canvas
180x120 cm, 2017

"The intensely colourful paintings of Sonja Kalb generate an immediate suction on the canvas dragging the spectator into her works depth activating his or her entire senses. Her paintings can almost be tasted, felt, scented and heart."

Stefanie Lucci



BLütenzauber Magic of Flowers
Mixed media on canvas
210x140 cm, 2018

Interview with Sonja Kalb

How do you describe yourself as an artist to someone who does not know you?

I am open-minded and positive-thinking. A friend of mine would say: she is an artist full of energy with a profound spirit and enthusiasm for the beauty in the world.

What does it mean to be an artist today?

In the past, most artists depended on their clients. Only in the modern era has the artist become his own client. Today, with social media, the artist becomes the mirror of his art. There are more artists than galleries and the artist has to be an entrepreneur.

Mastering the craft alone isn't enough in the digital age.

When did you start your artistic career?

During my schooldays, I discovered my love for art. Colors, color compositions and beauty have always fascinated me. I have my talent from my grandmother.

How have your works changed over the years?

Like many artists of the 20th and 21st centuries, I have progressed beyond figurative painting to collages and from there to abstraction. I concentrate on the essentials, eliminate the



representational and reduce everything to color and form. Color contrasts, composition, lines and surfaces, surface structures and textures serve as my design elements.

Which of your works does your personality best focus on?

My personality flows into each work. When an artwork does not convey the right spirit, it will not be shown. I choose the colors depending on my emotions. The color serves for expression, sometimes in expressive tones.

Do you think art is able to affect the different points of view of people about important political and social issues?

Yes, I think so. Art has always reflected its time: think of Otto Dix's painting "Big City", which describes a difficult time in the history of Germany - the economic crisis in 1928. Or the painting Guernica by Pablo Picasso, which was used to condemn warlike actions during the civil war in Spain.

British street artist Banksy painted a huge EU flag with an artisan



removing a star on the wall of a house in Dover, which represented Britain's decision to break away from the European Union. Artists use their representational talents to present situations and influence perceptions and opinions.

What is your relationship with social network, social media and all new technologies which affect art and the audience?

I also use Facebook and Instagram. It's a wonderful opportunity to connect with the public and make your own art visible. Due to the use of media, people participate in current societal issues and

problems. It is a new kind of information source.

What is your experience with art collectors?

I have a personal relationship with all my collectors. They are very appreciative and believe in my art and me.

Do you have a piece or a series, which you are particularly proud of?

When I visit my collectors and see how they have treasured my artworks for many years, I am often proud of myself.

An artwork comes to the public only after I have had it for a while

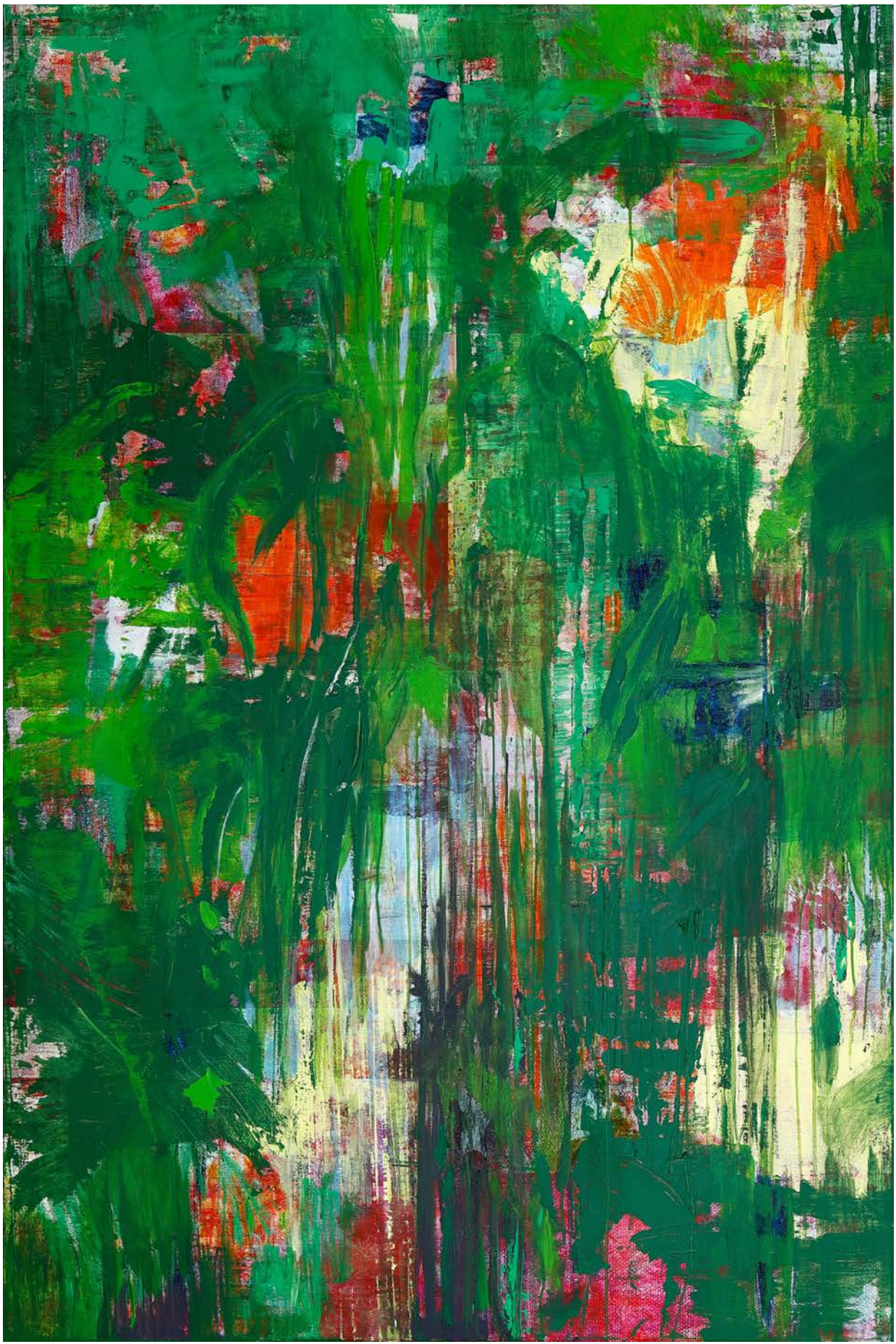
in my environment and feel it is ready.

What projects are you planning in the future?

In September 2020 there will be a group exhibition at the Metropolitan Art Museum in Tokyo. More projects are in planning but I cannot speak about them yet.

Cosmos

Mixed media on canvas
140x210 cm, 2019





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Virgin Forest

Mixed media on canvas
180x120 cm

Blue Mountains

Mixed media on canvas
120x180 cm, 2019

"Sonja Kalb's entrancing opuses have the relentless capability to offer the viewer the illusion of utter transportation to realms of mysterious oceanic depths or ethereal journeys traversing a cosmos of thought and expression. Kalb's abstract creations truly reflect her sincere affinity with the natural world, through which she shares an erudite understanding of the environment that she presents with resounding aplomb."

Timothy Warrington