DAGENS NYHETER.

JANE WILBRAHAM

Birgitta Rubin, Jane Wilbraham, Vanity Project, Dagens Nyheter, 30 October 2019



Jane Wilbraham, Fox, 2019. Photo by Carl-Henrik Tillberg

British artist Jane Wilbraham shows her low-key nature studies "at home" with former gallerist Eva Livijn in Stockholm.

The art consultant and former gallerist Eva Livijn invites the audience to an exhibition at her apartment at Karlaplan once a year. This fall British artist Jane Wilbraham's watercolours, drawings and sculptures are nicely incorpereated into the home environment.

The exhibition is called "Vanity Project". But what Wilbraham expresses is hardly vanity, but rather the values that overconsumption threatens. Nature in the first place. And by extension all of humanity is understood.

The watercolours are low-frequency close-up studies of tree branches, lichens, insects. A single small beautifully caught mosquito, hops or dragonfly in an empty space is enough to wake my climate misery. But at least as refined are her small wooden sculptures, mainly made from found wooden pieces of the plane, lime, apple, pears, cherries and quince.

Wilbraham sells her sculptures with mora knife in a time-consuming, traditional craft. An act of resistance. The central work "Small arms" has appeared on a table. From wooden clubs, miniature hands stick out in the closet; everything in from high forks to carpet whips. But the rebellious "mob" is surrounded by little devils, who stick their ugly looks out of "weapon sleeves", of reusable lipstick sleeves.