



## **Rubica von Streng – Painting the Future**

The works of Berlin-based artist Rubica von Streng initially appear to the viewer as an open space that leaves room for their own consciousness, but also for associations or interpretations. The artist's own perspective is a clearly forward-looking view of our world - current issues such as the climate crisis or human conflicts and, in particular, their impact on our natural world are expressed in some of her works. The artist does not create dystopian or even hopeless views of the world around us, but rather shows in her paintings the possibility of a respectful coexistence: superimposed, almost translucent organic forms are reminiscent of flora and fauna, but completely elude representationalism. The bright colors, sometimes glazed or opaque, appear dreamy and yet not fake or alien - for the artist they are plausible views and prospects of the future.

Von Streng works with a painting technique she has developed, which she compares to a musical arpeggio: like a sequence of notes that sound one after the other and yet produce a consonant overall impression, she uses delicate, superimposed layers of oil paint to bring all the colors and shapes into direct relationship with each other. This method creates a special depth in what is actually a two-dimensional space and allows each layer of color to exist and work on its own, while at the same time remaining part of a harmonious whole. The painterly structures not only complement each other, they exist in a kind of symbiosis without losing their independence.



The artist began the 'PortLand' cycle of works in 2018. It now comprises more than 120 works (oil on canvas, oil on paper, sculpture). 'PortLand' - an art word made up of portrait and landscape - stands both for the fusion of two painting genres from traditional art history and primarily for the artist's dialogue with her medium about the future and its possibilities.

- Anna Bode