

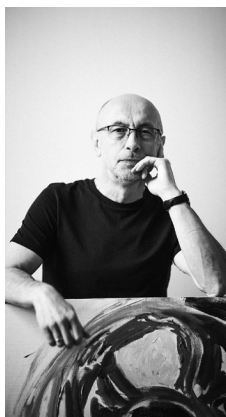
VANO ALSALU

Vano Allsalu (b. 1967) graduated from the Estonian Academy of Arts, Department of Painting, in 1991, having begun exhibiting in public art exhibitions as early as 1985. He has worked as Associate Professor of painting at the University of Tartu and the Estonian Academy of Arts. From 2013 to 2019, he served as President of the Estonian Artists' Association, and subsequently as Vice President until 2025. Allsalu is a member of the Board of the Estonian Painters' Union, of the Council of the Art Museum of Estonia, and of the Advisory Board of Pallas University of Applied Sciences.

His works are held in the collections of the Estonian Art Museum, Tartu Art Museum, the Bank of Estonia, Swedbank, Akzo Nobel, and the National Library of Estonia, as well as in private collections in Estonia and abroad. He lives and works in Tallinn.

Vano Allsalu observes and interprets the world through a strong subjective generalisation, focusing on his own distinctive chromatic language. His artistic approach is powerfully expressive and predominantly abstract, at times engaging playfully with figuration. Allsalu works primarily in painting, but has also experimented with printmaking, installation, and performance art.

The thematic scope of Allsalu's work ranges from elemental forces of nature to mythological constructs and states of mind, addressing both the intimately personal and offering interpretations of current cultural and social processes. Central to the artist's practice are the underlying structures of thought that inform visible pictorial form, the interrelations between the visual and the verbal, as well as the emergence of meaning at the boundary between abstraction and representation.



Vano Allsalu (f. 1967) tog examen från måleriavdelningen vid Estonian Academy of Arts år 1991, efter att redan från 1985 ha deltagit i offentliga konstutställningar. Han har arbetat som docent i måleri vid University of Tartu och vid Estonian Academy of Arts. Mellan 2013 och 2019 var han ordförande för Estonian Artists' Association och därefter vice ordförande fram till 2025. Allsalu är medlem i styrelsen för Estonian Painters' Union, i rådet för Art Museum of Estonia samt i rådgivande styrelsen för Pallas University of Applied Sciences.

Hans verk finns representerade i samlingarna hos Estonian Art Museum, Tartu Art Museum, Bank of Estonia, Swedbank, Akzo Nobel och National Library of Estonia, samt i privata samlingar i Estland och internationellt. Han bor och arbetar i Tallinn.

Vano Allsalu betraktar och tolkar världen genom en stark subjektiv generalisering med fokus på sitt eget särpräglade koloristiska språk. Hans konstnärliga uttryck är kraftfullt expressivt och huvudsakligen abstrakt, men leker emellanåt med figurativa inslag. Allsalu arbetar främst med måleri, men har även experimenterat med grafik, installation och performancekonst.

Tematiskt sträcker sig Allsalus verk från naturens elementära krafter till mytologiska konstruktioner och sinnestillstånd, där han både behandlar det intimt personliga och erbjuder tolkningar av samtida kulturella och sociala processer. Centralt i hans konstnärskap är de tankestrukturer som ligger bakom den synliga bildformen, relationerna mellan det visuella och det verbala samt hur mening uppstår i gränslandet mellan abstraktion och representation.

Vano Allsalu



Curriculum Vitae

Born 21 March 1967 in Tartu, Estonia

Education

1985–91 Estonian Academy of Arts, painting (MA)
1974–85 Tartu 7th High School

Academic and professional career

2022– Estonian Art Museum, member of the council
2019–25 Estonian Artists' Association, vice president
2019– Pallas University of Applied Sciences, member of the advisory board
2013–25 Tallinn Art Hall Foundation, member of the council
2013–25 International Association of Art (IAA), chairman of the Estonian national committee
2013–19 Estonian Artists' Association, president
2012– Estonian Painters' Association, member of the board
2011– Tartu Art School, member of the advisory board
2011–17 Estonian Academy of Arts, associate professor of painting
2001–13 Art education portal www.kunstikeskus.ee, editor
1996–98 Tartu Artists' Union, member of the board
1993–95 Estonian Painters' Association, member of the board
1992–96 University of Tartu, holder of the Chair of Painting
1991– Sally Stuudio Art School, cofounder and lecturer
1990–92 Estonian Academy of Arts, lecturer of painting

Memberships

1992 Estonian Artists' Association, Estonian Painters' Association and Tartu Artists' Union

Selected solo exhibitions

2025 *The Mystery of Blooming*. Haus Gallery, Tallinn, Estonia
2024 *Conversation in Colour*. Vaal Gallery, Tallinn, Estonia
2023 *Sense and Mood*. Sensus Centre of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy, Tallinn, Estonia
2023 *Antidolorosum*. Gallery of Jaani Church, Tallinn, Estonia
2023 *Rhetorical Exercises*. Office of the Chancellor of Justice, Tallinn, Estonia
2022 *The Corner and The Garden*. Vernissage Gallery, Tallinn, Estonia
2022 *Cursing in Spring*. Gallery of the Estonian Parliament, Tallinn, Estonia
2021 *World in the Head*. Tartu Art Museum, Estonia
2020 *Order of Chaos*. Pärnu City Gallery, Estonia

Vano Allsalu (cont)

- 2020 *Of Nature*. Haus Gallery, Tallinn, Estonia
2019 *So Much*. Viimsi St Jacob's Church, Pringi, Harjumaa, Estonia
2017 *All of It*. Vabaduse Gallery, Tallinn, Estonia
2017 *All of It*. Gallery of the Saaremaa Art Studio, Kuressaare, Estonia
2016 *One Other Time*. Evald Okas Museum, Haapsalu, Estonia
2015 *Afterburn*. Vaal Gallery, Tallinn, Estonia
2015 *Motive*. Embassy of Estonia, Berlin, Germany
2014 *Motive*. Draakoni Gallery, Tallinn, Estonia
2012 *In Every Way*. Haus Gallery, Tallinn, Estonia
2012 *Night Terror*. Draakoni Gallery, Tallinn, Estonia
2010 *The Age of Innocence*. Hobusepea Gallery, Tallinn, Estonia
2008 *Nocturnal Icarus*. Vaal Gallery, Tallinn, Estonia
2005 Gallery of the Estonian Parliament, Tallinn, Estonia
2005 *Lovely Times*. Haus Gallery, Tallinn, Estonia
2004 Gallery of the Bank of Estonia, Tallinn, Estonia
2004 *Painting Is Landscape*. Tartu Art Museum, Estonia
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1993 *Black and White*. Tartu Art House, Estonia

Selected group exhibitions

- 2026 *26th Spring Exhibition of the Estonian Artists' Association*. Tallinn Art Hall, Estonia
2026 *Ideal Landscapes*. Museum of New Art, Pärnu, Estonia
2025 *Pärnu Art Summer 30*. Pärnu City Gallery, Estonia
2025 *Untold Stories*. Museum of New Art, Pärnu, Estonia
2024 *Allow Yourself to Change*. Painting at the Time of Artificial Intelligence.
ARS Project Space, Tallinn, Estonia
2023 *Reality and Imagination*. Museum of New Art, Pärnu, Estonia
2023 *The White Ship*. Estonian House, Stockholm, Sweden
2022 *The Sea*. HAA Gallery, Helsinki, Finland
2022 *Love Story*. Museum of New Art, Pärnu, Estonia
2021 *Temporary Surface*. Museum of New Art, Pärnu, Estonia
2020 *It's Incredibly Cool to See All of You Here!* Tartu Art House, Estonia
2020 *Global/Local*. Museum of New Art, Pärnu, Estonia
2019 *19th Spring Exhibition of the Estonian Artists' Association*. Tallinn Art Hall, Estonia
2019 *Expressive! About Local Speech in the Global Era*. Gallery of the Artists' Union of Latvia, Riga, Latvia
2018 *Est.Eetiline?* Museum of New Art, Pärnu, Estonia
2017 *Right Now*. Museum of New Art, Pärnu, Estonia
2016 *1091*. Vaal Gallery, Tallinn, Estonia
2015 *Continuity and Innovation*. Contemporary Estonian Painting. Museum of New Art, Pärnu, Estonia
2014 *Chain*. Gallery ARKA, Vilnius, Lithuania
2014 *Compulsion*. Tallinn Art Hall, Estonia
2013 *Two-Way Street*. Contemporary Estonian Painting. Municipal Gallery of Corfu, Greece
2012 *Man. Sexuality. Art*. Tartu Art House, Estonia
2012 *Hematoma*. Galleria 5, Oulu, Finland
2011 *Abstract*. Tallinn Art Hall, Estonia
2010 *Contradictions*. Tallinn Art Hall, Estonia
2010 *House Party Vol 2*. Haus Gallery, Tallinn, Estonia
2009 *3rd International Drawing Triennial Manu Propria*. National Library of Estonia, Tallinn, Estonia
2009 *The Accident of Painting*. Tartu Art House, Estonia
2009 *A Collection: Selected Works I*. Tallinn Art Hall, Estonia
2008 *Insights*. Works from the Art Collections of EU Central Banks. European Central Bank, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
2008 *Wake Up!* Rotermann Salt Storage, Tallinn, Estonia
2007 *The Right Choice*. Tartu Art House, Estonia
2005 *Identities*. Tallinn Art Hall, Estonia
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1985 State exhibition of young artists. Tartu Art Museum, Estonia

Vano Allsalu (cont)

Curated exhibitions

- 2016 *Freak Show and Other (Non)Stories*. ARS Project Space, Tallinn, Estonia
2013 *Muuttuum*. Pärnu City Gallery Art House and Draakoni Gallery, Tallinn, Estonia
2013 *With. Without*. Hobusepea Gallery, Tallinn, Estonia
2009 *Self-Exposure*. Tallinn Art Hall, Estonia

Awards and scholarships

- 2007 Annual Award of the Visual and Applied Art Endowment of the Cultural Endowment of Estonia
1997 Akzo Nobel Art Award
1994, 1996 and 2002 National cultural scholarship

Works in collections

Art Museum of Estonia, Tartu Art Museum, Tallinn Art Hall, Bank of Estonia, National Library of Estonia, Akzo Nobel (Akzo Nobel Baltics AS), Swedbank Art Collection and private collections (Estonia, Finland, Sweden, Norway, Germany, Belgium, Luxembourg, Great Britain and Australia)

Catalogue *Maailm peas / World in the Head*

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