



TOSJA VAN LIESHOUT
YELLOW GALLERY MARCH 2026 Leiden

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In the recent work of Tosja van Lieshout, rhythm emerges as both structure and sensation. Following a residency at Oharano Studio in Japan, her paintings reveal a renewed attentiveness to subtle stylization, in which nature assumes an even more pronounced and generative role. Flowers and grasses, recurring motifs within her oeuvre, unfold across the surface in measured pulses, introducing a distinctive cadence that animates her compositions and anchors them in embodied perception.

This rhythmic sensibility is heightened through her nuanced use of color and framing. Motifs are carefully isolated and set against contrasting grounds, producing a visual tension that recalls the formal economy of Japanese woodblock prints and the ornamental abstraction found in Imari porcelain and traditional lacquerware. Here, color operates not merely as atmosphere but as a spatial and temporal agent, orchestrating a dynamic interplay between foreground and background, intimacy and distance, stillness and movement.

Van Lieshout's engagement with these visual traditions situates her within a lineage of Western artists who have looked toward Japanese aesthetics as a catalyst for renewal. Yet her work resists quotation or pastiche. Instead, it translates these influences through a material sensitivity rooted in process: raw canvas, layered pigments, and the trace of the hand become sites of inquiry, where intuition and control continuously negotiate their boundaries. This dialogue between discipline and openness allows rhythm to surface not only as a visual motif, but as an embodied method of working.

Nature, in Van Lieshout's practice, is never descriptive. It is distilled into patterns, fragments, and gestures that function as carriers of memory and emotion. Her botanical forms do not settle into fixed identities; they drift, repeat, and dissolve, mirroring cycles of growth, decay, and transformation. In this sense, rhythm becomes a connective principle—binding material exploration to lived experience, and sensory immediacy to contemplative depth.

Through this synthesis of rhythmic composition, material research, and cross-cultural resonance, Van Lieshout's recent paintings articulate a quiet intensity. They invite prolonged looking, attuning the viewer to subtle shifts in color, texture, and form. What unfolds is not an image of nature, but an experience of its temporal and emotional undercurrents—an ever-unfolding field where movement and stillness coexist in fragile equilibrium.

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A foxy morning
Ink and Oil on cotton
75 x 40 cm | 29,53 x 15,75 in.



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Yellow thoughts
Ink and Oil on cotton
75 x 40 cm | 29,53 x 15,75 in.



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Zero change of rain
Ink and Oil on cotton
75 x 50 cm | 29,53 x 19,69 in.



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Evening bloom

Ink and Oil on cotton

75 x 50 cm | 29,53 x 19,69 in.



TOSJA VAN LIESHOUT

Braiding and knitting and twisting our
thoughts

Ink and Oil on cotton

180 x 140 cm | 70,87 x 55,12 in.



TOSJA VAN LIESHOUT

The duality of night
Oil on unprepared cotton
150 x 150 cm | 59,06 x 59,06 in.



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Tactical bliss
Oil and ink on unprepared cotton
150 x 150 cm | 59,06 x 59,06 in.



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Performatative devotion
Oil and ink on unprepared cotton
60 x 50 cm | 23,62 x 19.69 in.



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Mystery leads to misery
Oil and ink on unprepared cotton
60 x 50 cm | 23,62 x 19.69 in.



TOSJA VAN LIESHOUT

Sun

Oil and ink on unprepared cotton

23 x 18 cm | 9,06 x 7,09 in.



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BIOGRAPHY

Tosja van Lieshout (born in 1999) lives and works in Breda, the Netherlands. She attended the St. Joost School of Art & Design in 's-Hertogenbosch. After winning the AKV St. Joost/Van Gogh AiR Prize in 2020, she was an artist in residence at the Van Goghuis from December 2020 to January 2021. She then transitioned to the Frank Mohr Institute at Minerva in Groningen, where she obtained her master's degree.

Recent exhibitions include: The graduation show Frank Mohr institute (NL) *Van Goghuis* (NL), *Art The Hague Yellow Gallery* (NL), *Affordable art fair* (NL), *Enseoul Gallery* (NL)



GALLERY INFORMATION

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Opening times:

By appointment

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