

LANDSCAPE STUDIES

EMILIJA & ONA RYGELIS

On View

Feb 2 - Feb 27, 2023

Opening Reception

Feb 2, 5pm - 9pm

Closing Reception

Feb 27, 4pm - 7pm

SLA Art Space

307 W 30th Street, New York

Gallery Hours: Wed - Sat, 3pm - 6pm



Ona Rygelis
Swan in Prospect Park
Acrylic Paint on Canvas, 2022



Emilija Rygelis, Arizona Cactus Garden, Acrylic Paint on Canvas, 2021

NEW YORK – SLA Art Space presents *LANDSCAPE STUDIES*, the second solo exhibition by Brooklyn native, NYC based artists, twin sisters Emilija and Ona Rygelis. On view February 2nd – February 27th, 2023. The exhibition features twenty paintings created in the COVID era 2020–present. The opening reception with the artists will take place on Thursday, February 2nd, 5pm – 9pm. A closing reception will take place on Monday, February 27th, 4pm – 7pm.



Emilija Rygelis, *Creek*, Watercolor, 2022

Inspired by nature, Emilija's paintings aim to capture the way light dances across landscapes. After watching many Bob Ross videos, Emilija took on an attitude where there are only happy mistakes. There is no such thing as perfect, and she doesn't try to paint anything perfectly real. She paints expressively, with a reference photo she takes of a place, and with the memory of how it felt to be there. Combining controlled and loose paint brush strokes, a play between realism and abstraction can be seen. Just the way she feels nature to be: purposeful and wild. Light is what makes us see color, and Emilija's use of color makes us see the light in her paintings.

Emilija Rygelis was born in Toronto, Canada, and raised in Brooklyn, New York with her identical twin sister Ona. She holds a BA in Fine Art and Political Science from Bucknell University. She has exhibited at Great Jones gallery in the West Village, Manhattan, Sideshow gallery in Williamsburg, The Living Gallery in Bushwick, and the Tender Trap gallery in Greenpoint, Brooklyn. Emilija's art has received coverage by MTV, and *Lonny* magazine. She currently works out of her painting studio in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. emilijarygelis.com

Ona has always been fascinated by the meaning of life. How are things alive and why are we here? She turned to mother nature as a way to make sense of it all. The energy observed in natural landscapes connects us to the same chaotic beauty within ourselves. For Ona, painting is a joyous meditation. Her brush strokes mimic the directions of wind and light. Her color choices aim to heighten the lucid experience one finds in nature. Her hope is to memorialize a moment of awe and share it with the viewer.



Ona and Emilija Rygelis at their loft in Williamsburg Brooklyn, 2020

Ona Rygelis was born in Toronto, Canada, and raised in Brooklyn, New York with her twin sister Emilija. She holds a BA in Fine Art and Environmental Studies from Bucknell University. She has exhibited at Great Jones gallery in the West Village, Manhattan, Sideshow gallery in Williamsburg, The Living Gallery in Bushwick, and the Tender Trap gallery in Greenpoint, Brooklyn. Her latest mural is featured on the wall of the Alchemist Kitchen in SOHO. When she is not painting, she is traveling around the United States and internationally live illustrating for fortune 500 companies. artbyona.com