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Expressionismus VS Concept

Elias Klein

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Paint Shop Berlin

Elias Klein comes from Alsace and studied at Kunsthochschule Weißensee from 2015 to 2021. Today he lives and works in Basel. His pictures and stories draw on his experiences in everyday life and on numerous journeys.

His is an astonished and affectionate view of the absurdities of life in the big city, with a child's spirit of discovery, youthful high spirits and adult self-doubt as his constant companions.

In his works, small encounters become great adventures – and so become tangible for audiences of all ages.

"I sat in the kitchen of my thirty-four-square-metre flat in Berlin-Wedding, completely lost in thought. Whatever was to become of me? I still wanted to go to the studio, work on my projects, get some momentum going, hope for the best...

[...]

Sitting on the roof like that in the dark, I watched people in their flats and houses and often thought that they had found their way, were leading perfect lives and did not constantly have to ask themselves these existential questions. Where to? Why? I was fascinated by how people lived and moved about in their safe homes. They didn't know I was watching them, and I longed to be taken into these cosy flats, for all my questions to have an answer and for the life ahead of me to be a smoothly levelled road with a clear horizon."

Excerpt from "Kunststudium" (Art School), Elias Klein, collected drawings and stories