

NATALI KARPPINEN

In photography, Russian born, Croatia-raised, Helsinki-based Natali Karppinen discovered the vital means of expressing herself – she is extremely passionate about the form of art that allows her to tell a story through each image, yet simultaneously she manages to play with it with childlike wonder and enthusiasm.

“I have always been very imaginative, which surely, at least partly, derives from my harsh childhood in a broken family and hiding places in stale bunkers. Already at an early phase I found security and consolation in fantasies; an opportunity to escape from and to cope with the tough day-to-day life”, Natali explains and adds, that “We all have our daily challenges, and if my photos make even a single viewer disconnect from agony and indulge in daydreams, I have succeeded in my mission”.

Being married to Mika “Kaasu” Karppinen, drummer of the world-renowned love metal band HIM, has opened Natali unique doors through which she has gained access to the Finnish music and art scenes. Collaboration with numerous famous Finns, such as members of the global heavy metal icons Apocalyptica, Nightwish, and HIM, has enabled her to present celebrities in environments in which they are less familiar to the big audience.

Blending themes from music, mythology and the tales of Pushkin and Grimm, Natali’s art reflects strong desire to touch the soul, to raise questions, and to entice in adventures far deeper than the surface. Every new project has provided a new opportunity to tell a story – a story of her own but a story open to individual interpretation.

Natali resides currently in Finland with her husband and five-year-old daughter. She has held four group and solo exhibitions in Helsinki in addition to her debut in New York in the fall of 2013. After this summer, the 26-year-old artist will join the New York Film Academy to deepen her skills under the guidance of world class instructors. And then... *“Since they say imagination is the only limit, I would say that in my case this translates into ‘there are no limits’, which is a fantastic situation to be in”, Natali says with a humble smile on her face. And a bright sparkle in her eyes.*
