

DRIFTS

Janina Sabaliauskaitė

Catalogue

Art Fair Foto Tallinn

18 – 20 September 2026

Kai Art Center, Tallinn, Estonia

For Foto Tallinn 2026, *Drifts* presents selected works by Lithuanian photographer Janina Sabaliauskaitė. Janina's photographs are not mere images, but a form of being, a bodily coexistence of a human and earth. They are inhabited by bodies – ones loved and left behind, ones whipped and desired. These bodies are exploded by proximity, loneliness and lust, by the power of the earth charging the landscapes of bodies.

– by Laima Kreivytė

Janina Sabaliauskaitė, *Heather & Rene in their home. Gateshead, UK, 2022.*
NGCA and MO Collections. Silver Gelatin Print. 27,2 x 40 cm. 3/8 + 2AP. Price : 900 eur



Janina Sabaliauskaitė (b. 1991) is a photographer and independent curator working with archival material and analogue photography, based between England and Lithuania. In 2014, Sabaliauskaitė graduated from Sunderland University, UK, Photography, Video and Digital Imaging department. Her work is characterized by an intimate, feminist gaze that explores the body, queer relationships, identity, sexuality, and disability.

Recent exhibitions have been held at Contemporary Art Center in Vilnius, BGSW Ustka in Poland, KUMU in Tallinn, MIMA in Middlesbrough, Radvila Palace, Drifts, MO museum in Vilnius, Fondation Fiminco, Paris Photo, Latvian National Museum of Art, and Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art in Sunderland. Her work is included in the collections of MO Museum (LT), the Lithuanian National Museum of Art (LT), and the Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art (UK).

Please find more information about the artist below:

<https://driftsgallery.com/janina-sabaliauskaite/>



Exhibition view: *Anna-Stina Treumund: How to Recognise a Lesbian?*, KUMU Art museum, Tallinn, EE, 2025. Photo by Hedi Jaansoo



Exhibition view: *Anna-Stina Treumund: How to Recognise a Lesbian?*, KUMU Art museum, Tallinn, EE, 2025. Photo by Hedi Jaansoo



Janina Sabaliauskaitė
Marking my place with blood, 2021
Chromogenic print
20,3 x 25,4 cm
1/8 + 2AP
Framed with Artglass AR70
Price : 600 eur

Manager
Flyer Designer
Videographer
Casual Gallery Assistant
Art Handling Technician
Casual Art Handling Technician
Editorial Internship
Writer
Curatorial Intern
Curatorial Assistant
Audio Visual Technician



Exhibition view: *Superglue, or Inventing the Friend*, curator Valentinas Klimašauskas, Contemporary Art Centre, Vilnius, LT, 2026. Photo by Andrej Vasilenko



Janina Sabaliauskaitė
Aya, Boot Fetish, Vilnius, LT, 2023
Silver Gelatin Print
27,5 x 41,5 cm
1/8 + 2AP
Framed with Artglass AR70
Price : 600 eur

In Janina's photographs, the glances that meet on both sides of the camera create mutual trust, support, and proximity; her works span from intimate portraits of queer people to landscapes of bodies.

The way Sabaliauskaitė looks at the earth and rocks is not sculptural, but rather mythological, emphasising the changed attitude of the Anthropocene era: whereas previously the earth meant resources, in her photographs the Earth is a deity, a planet, soil and an element. These pictures are like an encounter of the archaeomythology of Marija Gimbutas, the Gaia Hypothesis of James Lovelock and Lynn Margulis, and the ideas of the pioneers of ecosexuality, Beth Stephens and Annie Sprinkle, who changed land art into the love of the Earth.

– by Laima Kreivytė



Janina Sabaliauskaitė
Beatričė. Vilnius, LT, 2023
Silver Gelatin Print
35,7 x 28,4 cm
1/8 + 2AP
Framed with Artglass AR70

Price : 600 eur



Janina Sabaliauskaitė
Dylan. Glasgow, UK, 2023
Silver Gelatin Print
36 x 29,2 cm
1/8 + 2AP

Price : 500 eur



Janina Sabaliauskaitė
Simona Aukštulevičiūtė. Vilnius, LT,
2023
Silver Gelatin Print
35,4 x 28,8 cm
1/8 + 2AP

Price : 500 eur



Janina Sabaliauskaitė
Ksenija. South Shields, UK, 2023
Silver Gelatin Print
35,4 x 28,8 cm
1/8 + 2AP

Price : 500 eur



Janina Sabaliauskaitė, *Trust*, 2023, exhibition view, Drifts gallery, Vilnius. Photo by Andrej Vasilenko



Janina Sabaliauskaitė
*Love Nest II, Created in Love with
Dovilė Lapinskaitė. Vilnius, LT, 2022*
Silver Gelatin Print
26,8 x 40,2 cm,
1/8 + 2AP
Framed with Artglass AR70

Price : 600 eur



Janina Sabaliauskaitė
*Love Nest III. Created in Love with
Dovilė Lapinskaitė. Vilnius, LT, 2022*
Silver Gelatin Print
27,2 x 40 cm
1/8 + 2AP
Framed with Artglass AR70

Price : 600 eur



Janina Sabaliauskaitė
*Love Nest I. Created in Love with
Dovilė Lapinskaitė. Vilnius, LT, 2022*
Silver Gelatin Print
27,4 x 40,1 cm
1/8 + 2AP
Framed with Artglass AR70

Price : 600 eur



Janina Sabaliauskaitė

We always played. Cullercoats, UK, 2023

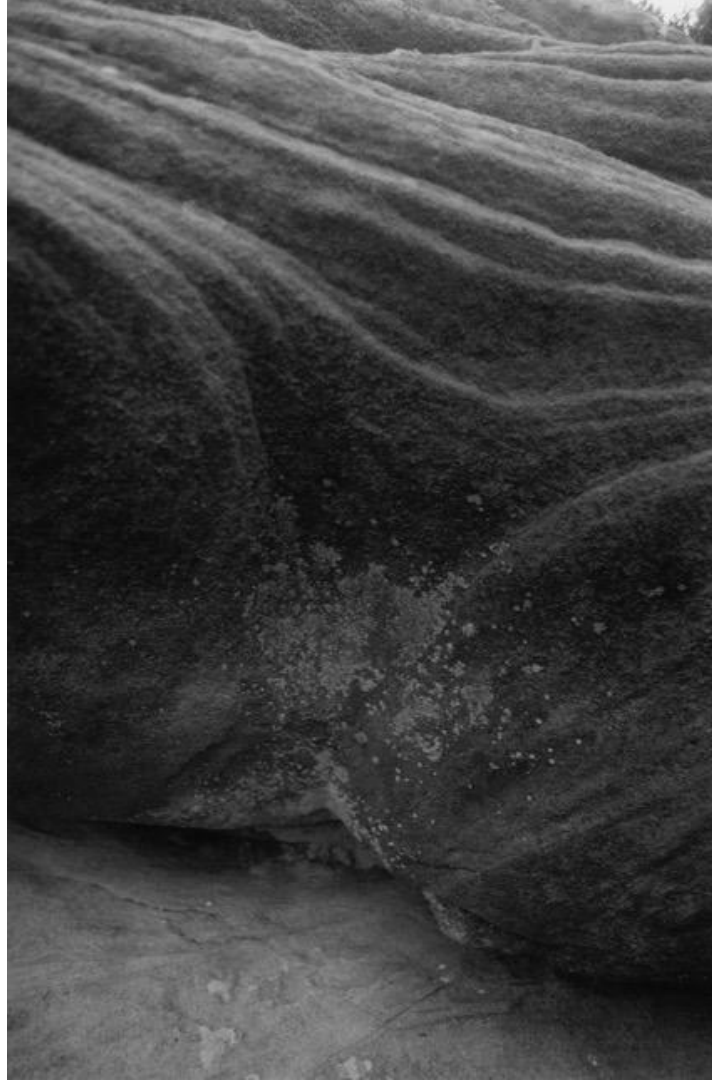
Silver Gelatin Print

26,5 x 39,5 cm

1/8 + 2AP

Framed with Artglass AR70

Price : 600 eur



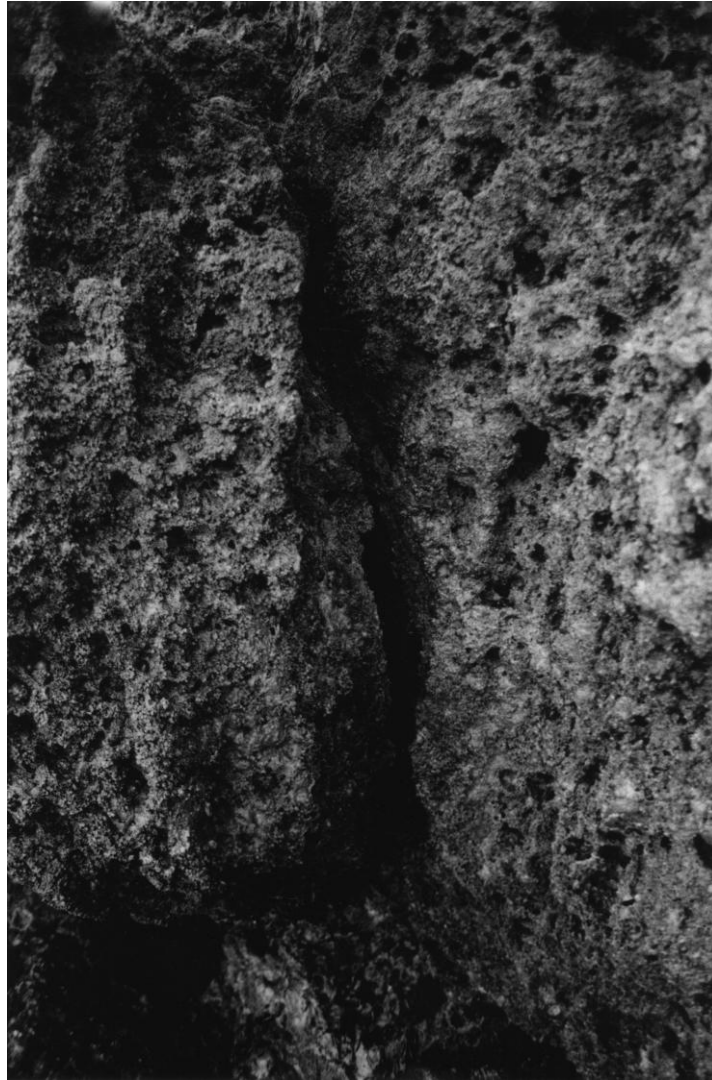
Janina Sabaliauskaitė
*Erotic, Sensual, Landscape Body I. South
Shields, UK, 2023*
Silver Gelatin Print
40 x 27,2 cm
1/8 + 2AP

Price : 500 eur



Janina Sabaliauskaitė
Erotic, Sensual, Landscape Body II.
South Shields, UK, 2023
Silver Gelatin Print
40,1 x 27,4 cm
1/8 + 2AP

Price : 500 eur



Janina Sabaliauskaitė
Erotic, Sensual, Landscape Body III.
South Shields, UK, 2023
Silver Gelatin Print
40,2 x 26,8 cm
1/8 + 2AP
Framed with Artglass AR70

Price : 600 eur



Janina Sabaliauskaitė
Erotic, Sensual, Landscape Body IV.
South Shields, UK, 2023
Silver Gelatin Print
40 x 27 cm
1/8 + 2AP
Framed with Artglass AR70

Price : 600 eur



Janina Sabaliauskaitė
*Liveta and Inesa, Sapfo Queer Feminist
Festival, Lithuania, 2025*
Silver Gelatin Print
29 x 35,5 cm
1/8 + 2AP
Framed with Artglass AR70

Price : 600 eur



Exhibition view: Janina Sabaliauskaitė, *Trust*, 2023, Drifts gallery, Vilnius. Photo by Andrej Vasilenko



Exhibition view: Janina Sabaliauskaitė, *Trust*, 2023, Drifts gallery, Vilnius. Photo by Andrej Vasilenko



Janina Sabaliauskaitė
Dovilė Dobravolskaitė Dyking the Lake
II. Asveja Lake, LT, 2023
Silver Gelatin Print
35,9 x 29,2 cm
1/8 + 2AP
Framed with Artglass AR70

Price : 600 eur



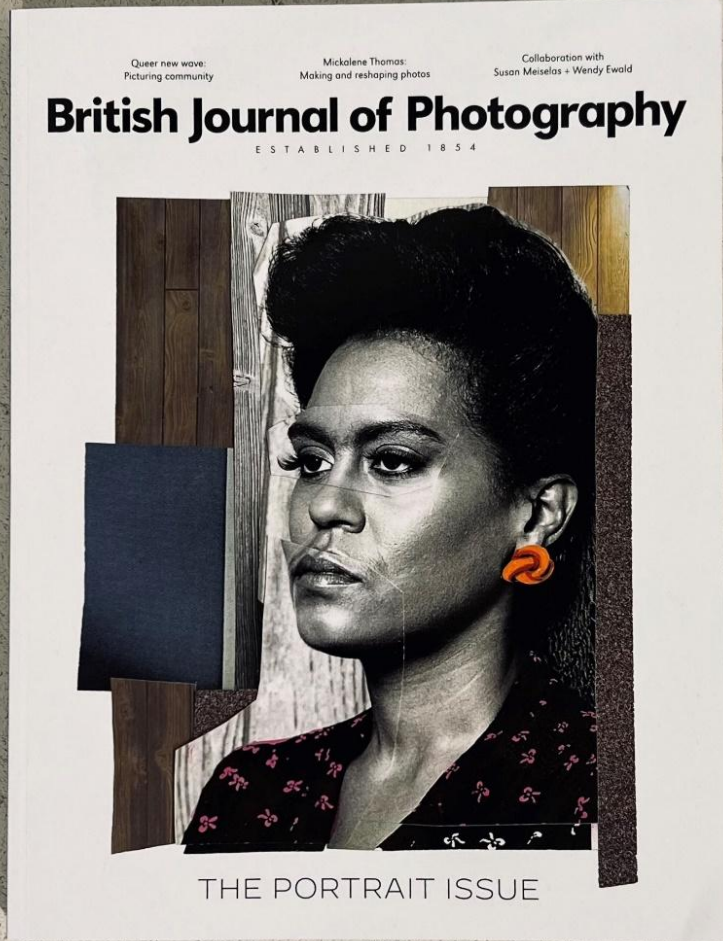
Janina Sabaliauskaitė
Dovilė Dobravolskaitė Dyking the Lake
III. Asveja Lake, LT, 2023
Silver Gelatin Print
35,1 x 28,7cm
1/8 + 2AP

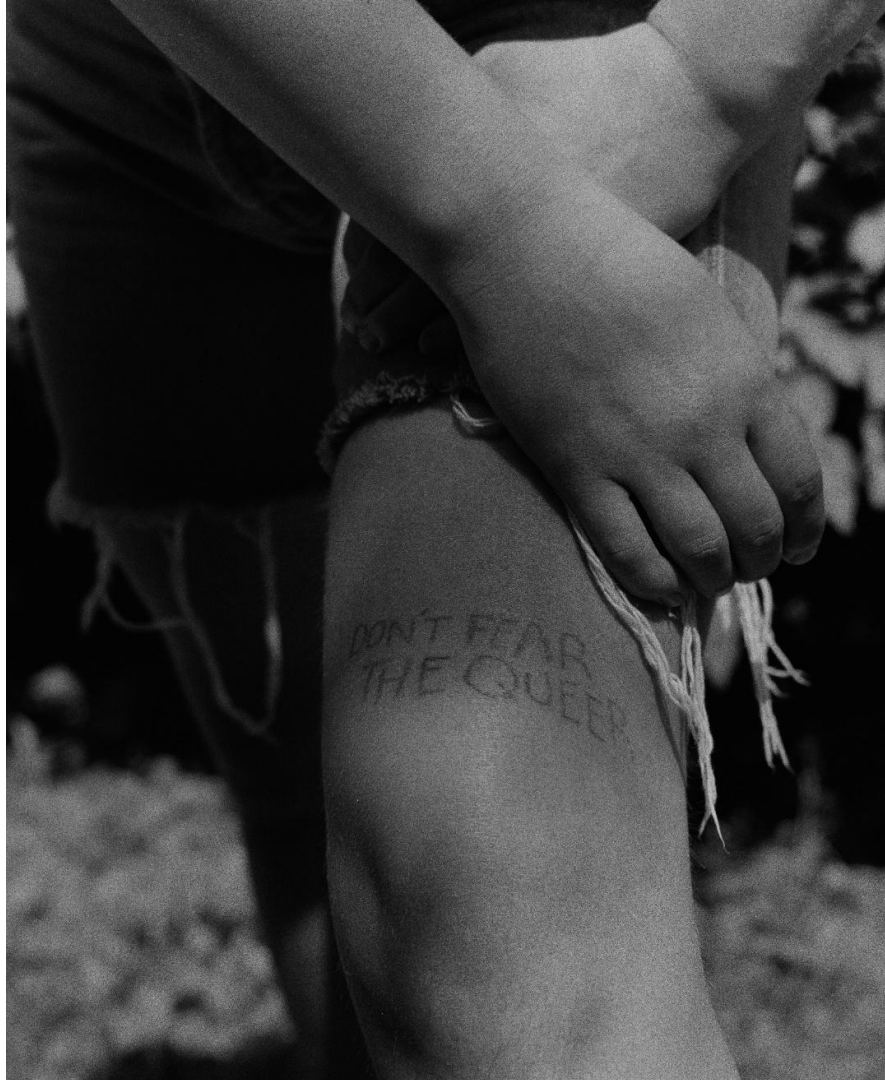
Price : 500 eur



Janina Sabaliauskaitė
Dovilė Dobravolskaitė Dyking the Lake
IV. Asveja Lake, LT, 2023
Silver Gelatin Print
36 x 29,1 cm
1/8 + 2AP

Price : 500 eur





Janina Sabaliauskaitė
*Ellie, Don't Fear The Queer. Newcastle
upon Tyne, UK, 2023*
Silver Gelatin Print
36 x 29,1 cm
1/8 + 2AP

Price : 500 eur

A black and white photograph of two women sitting in a field of tall, dry grass. They are facing each other and kissing. The woman on the left has dark, curly hair and is wearing a dark tank top and light-colored jeans. The woman on the right has short, light-colored hair and is wearing a dark tank top. The background is a soft-focus field of tall grass.

New Rules

**Janina
Sabaliauskaitė**

WEPRESENT by WeTransfer

Listening in

Janina Sabaliauskaitė

Creating opportunities to embolden others often enables us to be bolder ourselves, or at least that's held true for Janina Sabaliauskaitė, who has been grassroots organizing in the arts for the last ten years. From uniting people in creative festivals to skill sharing in a community darkroom, every endeavor is an intentional gesture to empower others, encouraging them to share their stories. As a queer person growing up in Lithuania, Sabaliauskaitė has been acutely aware of the importance of art and image-making as sites of resistance and togetherness. Here, she shares why community organizing is the lifeblood of her practice, why safe spaces are vital for artists and how her guiding principle is to write herself into history.

My "Sending Love" exhibition was a collage of my life. It was a collection of images born from meeting people, building relationships and being vulnerable in front of each other for ten years. It was about celebrating my community in the UK and Lithuania and making political and intergenerational work. In many ways, I'm an archivist of my community. My practice is very collaborative and I love hearing people's stories and preserving them together through photography. Making this show was the first time I wasn't scared to take up space. I could publicly, openly and proudly show my desire, and hopefully I would empower others to do the same.

I think a lot about the differences between the UK and Lithuania. In the UK, we have a lot of queer visual culture; you can pick up a book and find a portrait of someone in the community. In Lithuania, there is very little. I've always wanted to see my work in magazines and books so they can live in libraries, museums and galleries. I want the work to be public. I want to write myself into the history of photography so the generations after me can see queer representation. I want them to see my work and know their life matters. My practice is a love letter to my community.

As queer people, we can't wait for laws to change. We have to take chances, express ourselves and embrace our desires. We must be visible! I never wanted to censor myself; it was always about being vulnerable, and I had a community behind me, empowering me to do my work. There is nothing more powerful than creating a safe space for art and storytelling to happen.

A commitment to community started to enter my practice when I changed my context. First, I moved to England to study, then left the university bubble, where I was surrounded by people who cared for me and moved to a different city. I've always needed people, and being an immigrant created this potent sense of isolation. I craved a meaningful way to meet people, and as an educator, I have always found it essential to share knowledge and learn from others. When I moved to Newcastle, I started volunteering at The NewBridge Project, an artist-led studio, bookshop and workshop space. They had a lot of darkroom equipment, but no one cared for it, so I volunteered to look after this space.

"I want to write myself into the history of photography so the generations after me can see queer representation."

Janina Sabaliauskaitė

"Wipe and Asta kissing" (2023),
Janina Sabaliauskaitė





Left: "Dovils after swimming in Vinetai river" (2021), Janina Sabaliauskaitė.
Right: "Dovilė Dobravolskaitė Dyrking The Lake" (2023), Janina Sabaliauskaitė.
Below: "Rene & Heather at home" (2022), Janina Sabaliauskaitė.

Now, I run the space with Phyllis Christopher. As artists, we both understand the importance of being independent and having the freedom to make the work we want to make. We want to create a safe space for other people to make their ideas a reality and control the process from beginning to end—something that is very important when you're making intimate or erotic work. Over the last decade, I've seen what can happen when you empower somebody by teaching them how to use a camera, develop a film and print their pictures. You enable them to tell their stories and archive their own lives.

Community organizing has empowered me to use my energy to create change and resist. It enabled me to find trustworthy peers and feel more grounded in my work. We have a lot to manage as photographers, and it can be very anxiety-inducing, no matter how much support you have. I'm constantly thinking about how we can come together or give people tools. I love hosting and facilitating, and sharing what we have is vital. I'm constantly on the edge of discovering something new, gaining new knowledge and then wanting to share it.

Now, I'm involved in many communal activities besides photography. For the last seven years, I have volunteered for Sapfo Fest, the only queer feminist festival in the Baltics. It brings together artists, poets, activists and a broader public in a grassroots way. It's organized by the community for the community. We have collective guidelines to ensure the space is safe and that all different types of people feel welcome to express themselves. Building it has been transformative. Everything has grown out of love, curiosity and wanting to create visibility together—to make something bigger than ourselves. ■

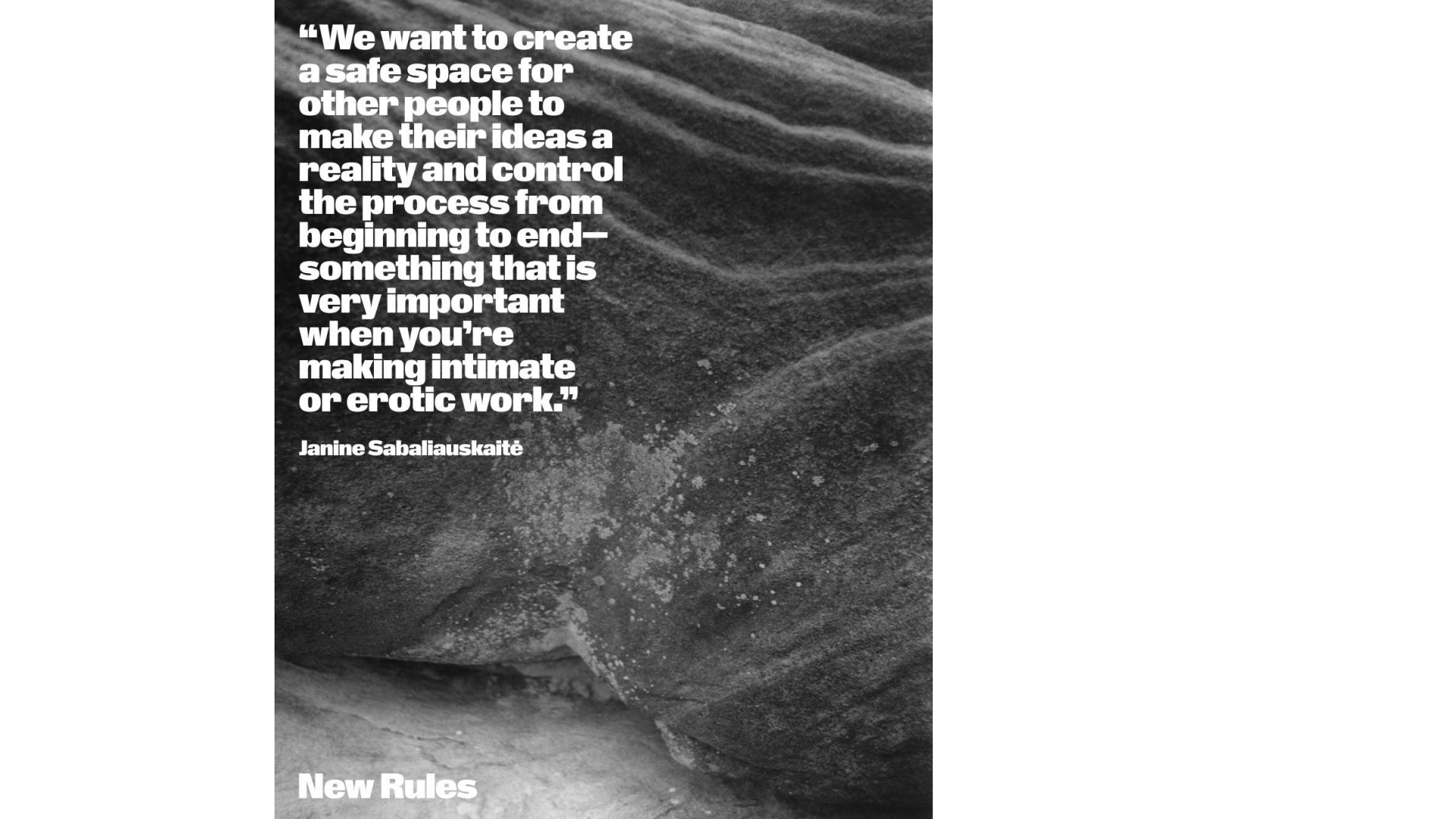


"Erotic, Sensual, Landscape Body II" (2023), Janina Sabaliauskaitė.



“We want to build something bigger than ourselves.”

Janina Sabaliauskaitė



**“We want to create
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Janine Sabaliauskaitė

New Rules



Exhibition view: *We Don't Do This. Intimacy, Norms and Fantasies in Baltic Art*, curated by Inga Lāce, Adomas Narkevičius, Rebeka Põldsam,

MO museum, Vilnius, LT, 2024. Photo by Jonas Balsevičius



Janina Sabaliauskaitė
Dovilė in the early morning mist, 2021
Chromogenic print
30 x 37 cm
1/8 + 2AP
Framed with Artglass AR70
Price : 600 eur



Exhibition view: *Pleasure*, curator Monika Kalinauskaitė, Radvila Palace, Vilnius, LT, 2025. Photo by Gintarė Grigėnaitė

Janina Sabaliauskaitė, *Julius and Tanya in their van bed. Disability and Sexuality Project.*
Kaunas, LT, 2024. Silver Gelatin Print. 29 x 36,5 cm. 1/8 + 2AP. Price : 600 eur





Janina Sabaliauskaitė
*Skin to Skin II. Created in Love with
Jade Sweeting. Newcastle upon Tyne,
UK, 2018*

Silver Gelatin Print

19,8 x 21,4 cm

3/8 + 2AP

Price : 900 eur



Janina Sabaliauskaitė
*Skin to Skin, Our Birthmarks. Created
in Love with Jade Sweeting. Newcastle
upon Tyne, UK, 2018*
Silver Gelatin Print
27 x 23 cm
4/8 + 2AP
Framed with Artglass AR70

Price : 1 200 eur



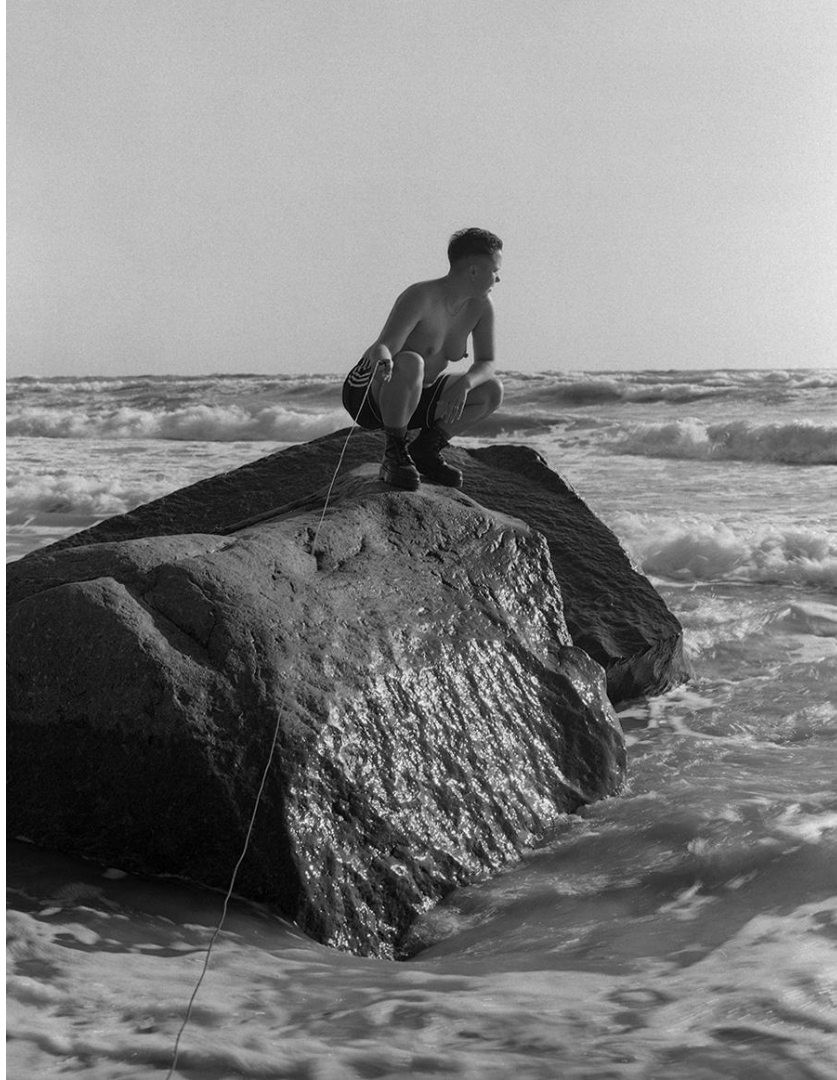
Janina Sabaliauskaitė
Your Body, Foreign Land / Outer
Hebrides, UK, 2021
Silver Gelatin Print
40,1 x 27,4 cm
2/8 + 2AP

Kaina : 700 eur



Janina Sabaliauskaitė
Aistė's Hand. Vilnius, LT, 2023
Silver Gelatin Print
34,9 + 28,3 cm
3/8 + 2AP

Price : 900 eur



Janina Sabaliauskaitė
Grief. All the feelings. Klaipėda, LT,
2026
Silver Gelatin Print
29,5 x 37,5 cm
1/8 + 2AP

Price : 500 eur

Thank you.

Drifts gallery
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Lithuania

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