

Reinterpreting the Lives of the Fashionistas of the World

A girl likes her fashion and the Polish artist Olka Osadzińska likes these girls – at least to be inspired by their stylish airs and turning them into boldly colored illustrations. Osadzińska stumbled into her artistic career when a friend of hers showed her how to use really basic illustration tools on the computer; Osadzińska started making little drawings herself and eventually got the hang of it. That was five years ago, when Agata Nowicka's paint-brush illustrations were all the rage in Poland, and Osadzińska still believed that she could not do anything in the way of art herself.



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Value beyond chemistry

Osadzińska, a Warsaw native takes her daily dose of inspiration from Mark Hunter's fashion/party/lifestyle site www.thecobrasnake.com. "I look at his website every day, and pick photos that grab my attention. I share with Mark the same love for skinny wrists and skinny legs, so I can find everything I like in his picks and pictures", says Osadzińska. So her illustrations are really her way of expressing her fascination in exploring and interpreting the lives of the people she sees in the pictures. She points out that she has a very particular focus within the drawings, namely her obsession with faces, hair, little expressions and moves. From a stylistic point of view, she has "rediscovered" Pop Art, as an ideal way to powerfully showing pure emotions.



Tokyo © Olka Osadzińska

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As an artist herself, she experiences the scene in Warsaw as still a somewhat awkward mix of trashy London style, "deep underground Berlin movements, with poor and suffering artists," plus a dose of gay art style from New York thrown in. Naturally, a booming Warsaw with all its current political and social issues and changes is an immensely inspirational place, but, at the same time, the super thin hipster girls in Osadzińska's illustrations are not from "there [Warsaw], which shows [her] jealousy of what is going on abroad, and [her] hope this will happen there soon."

Traveling a lot like many young Polish people and knowing what is going on in the world in terms of art, fashion and design trends, Osadzińska is hopeful that Poland's teenagers of today will rock the scene tomorrow. And yet maybe it is the uncertainty and shifting of gears that makes it all the more appealing.



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