

BRAT NADEZHDA

is a collection for the Silver Needle award (2018). As my interest in slavic aesthetics was strengthened by my graduate project, I continued to work with this topic on a broader scale. I went on a trip to Ida-Virumaa and photographed all the peculiarities of the area.

Forever, a spectacular region in Maarjamaa - heavily influenced by abundant Russian aesthetics, it still emanates from melancholy, deserted palaces, factories and panel houses that overlap with abundant cultural layers. It's beautiful but literally moulding at the same time. And nonetheless life is rolling there in full swing- from the panel houses to the church, from there to the cemetery and beyond, to the market- across the streets people shine positivity.

The main element of the collection is a technique that I developed to mimic the peeling paint, moss and mold on the walls. The main fabric is covered with applique pieces, puff paste and foil print. Some parts are melted or burned. The print is applied by free hand strokes which gives the patterns unique quality. The inspiration behind the forms of the headpieces stem from the onion-shaped Orthodox church domes.

The purpose of this project is to portray the beauty and pain of Ida-Virumaa and furthermore my hope towards developing this region.