

# Aušra Kleizaitė: hOMe, 2018—∞

*Curated by Dalia Stoniene*

**May 1- 30, 2025**

**Opening reception: Thursday, May 1, 5-9 PM**

SLA Art Space | 307 W 30<sup>th</sup> Street, New York



Left: Aušra Kleizaitė. Right: 'The Inherent state of Mind. Immigrants. His Ferrari', 2024, drawing, 70 x 90 cm, charcoal and pastel on handmade paper.

**NEW YORK** — SLA Art Space is pleased to present **hOMe: 2018—∞**, the first solo exhibition in the United States by Lithuanian artist Aušra Kleizaitė. On view from May 1 through May 30, the exhibition features a selection of drawings created over the span of seven years—works that trace a deeply personal search for safety, memory, and belonging through the most elemental of forms: the line.

Kleizaitė's practice begins with a dot. A home. From this point, a line emerges—trembling, wandering, pausing, breathing. It becomes a living mark, a thread that carries emotion and thought. "A line begins at home," she writes, "then it moves. And somehow, it always finds its way back."

This belief in drawing as both origin and return shapes the exhibition. Composed of several distinct series, **hOMe** unfolds as a visual meditation on the long, winding, often rocky road toward inner stillness. Her drawings are not illustrations of ideas, but places in themselves—spaces that hold questions, offer pauses, and suggest the possibility of calm.

Since 2002, Kleizaitė has lived and worked between Lithuania and India—a rhythm of movement that infuses her work with shifting perspectives, cultural contrasts, and hybrid sensibilities. Her visual language reflects this duality. “My world begins with drawing,” she reflects. “With a dot and a line. These marks travel through the viewer’s eyes and into memory, stirring shared emotions and opening the door to new ways of feeling, of seeing, of understanding.”

Drawing, for her, is not only an artistic act—it is a perceptual tool, a language, even a form of music. She uses humble materials—paper, charcoal, pastel—but her works are charged with emotional density and spiritual clarity. In this drawn world, animals—goats, cows—and human figures appear like memories or dreams. They are still, quiet, sometimes fragile, always searching. “In this home, we find animals and people dreaming of peace and happiness. Of home: sacred, and fragile.”



‘Unfolding Oneself,’ 2024, drawing, 140 x 90 cm, acrylic and charcoal on handmade paper from textile.

SLA Art Space | 307 W 30<sup>th</sup> Street, New York  
Gallery Hours: Friday: 5-8 PM | Saturday 4-8 PM  
And by appointment.

### **About the Artist:**

Born in Kaunas, Lithuania, Aušra Kleizaitė is a contemporary visual artist working across drawing, textile, and sculpture. Trained as a printmaker and textile artist, she creates expressive works on paper that explore the intersections of Eastern and Western aesthetics and cultural perspectives. At times, her drawings evolve into three-dimensional forms and become part of larger installations.

Since 2002, Aušra has lived and worked between Vilnius—the Baroque capital and largest city in Lithuania—and the lush, overgrown jungles of India. In 2013, she visited Odisha, a state in India with roots in the ancient kingdom of Kalinga, and was deeply drawn to its cultural richness. Her regular travel between Lithuania and India continues to inform her work with fresh perspectives on human experience, relationships, and everyday life.

Her practice reflects a sustained interest in the human condition—both spiritual and social. Guided by four principles—story, aesthetic, light, and emotion—she uses simple materials such as paper, charcoal, and pastel to tell layered, emotionally resonant stories. Her drawings explore the full spectrum of experience: war and peace, death and life, hatred and love, failure and belief.

Aušra Kleizaitė has presented solo exhibitions and participated in numerous group shows in Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Germany, Ireland, Greece, Ukraine, Georgia, and India. In 2004, she received the UNESCO-Aschberg Fellowship, and that same year was awarded The Best Artwork of the Year 2003 (Kaunas Picture Gallery, Lithuania) for her piece *The Art of Being a Girl*. Her work is held in private collections worldwide.

**SLA Art Space** is a 501(c) (3) not-for-profit organization dedicated to creating and offering a wide range of cultural events including live performances, film screenings, panel discussions, and gallery exhibitions that explore the evolving diversity and richness of Lithuanian culture. SLA Art Space strives to strengthen the identity and community of individuals of Lithuanian descent by generating new ideas and promoting cross-cultural dialogues through partnerships and cultural projects that provide mutual value and new perspectives, inviting audiences of all ages and backgrounds to engage and share culture and art.

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