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Cover Artwork

Woven, Oil on Canvass by Tiina Maria Kempainen

Tiina Maria Kempainen is currently living in Helsinki, Finland.

Kempainen has been inspired by distorted words since her mother had a stroke a few years ago. The stroke caused her aphasia: a communication disorder that affects the production and comprehension of speech. All of a sudden, she was mute, unfamiliar, and intimidating. Making art was her way to deal with the earth-shattering experience.

In her paintings there are words, but something has happened so they are impossible to read. Different kinds of figures, shapes, and traces appear when the letters are scattered. For her, her paintings deal with the topic of disaster in both personal and global levels. Words can be lost because of aphasia, but sometimes there just aren't the right words to communicate what we want to say.

Her work can be viewed at her website: www.tiinakempainen.com.

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