

Post-images

(from Aftonbladet/Kultur, 9 April, 1992)

The shadow of ecological warfare contains images that stay on the retina – or, rather, post-images of the non-images we are offered: what happens in the aftermath of the Gulf War, for example, is not shown in the picture but in the interpretations of painters.

At the Hera Gallery in Stockholm, Marianne Arnbäck's enlarged close-ups describe the destruction that is warfare's farewell gift to the ecological system; it does not really matter what war it is, it might even be the warfare of everyday marketing. The paintings resound in the negations of their own colours, red against green, yellow against purple. Nature gathers its forces in geometrical formations to put up resistance, blades stand at attention like guerilla soldiers; but there is also room for the small, unexpected things: odd little plants that unfold their impulsive leaves under cover of 'the many'.

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