

God is Dead, but...

acrylic and oil on canvas

2021

73 x 73 cm

Op al onze transacties zijn onze Algemen Voorwaarden van toepassing, gedeponeerd ter griffie van de Arrondissimentsrechtbank te Amsterdam op 30 november 1998 onder nummer 234 / 1998

Hikari Shimoda

Based in Nagano, Japan, Hikari Shimoda first studied illustration at the prestigious Kyoto Saga University of Art and Aoyama Juku School before beginning her career as a contemporary artist in 2008.

Soon afterward, Hikari Shimoda was selected for her first solo exhibition at Motto Gallery in Tokyo, and since then has held exhibitions annually in galleries worldwide, spanning Japan, the United States, Canada, and Milano, Italy. Shimoda's artwork paints a world where cuteness and horror coexist, and fantasy meets reality. She credits the Japanese pop culture she grew up with as the main source of inspiration of her Lowbrow-Irasuto style, inspired by anime and manga.

There are often children putting on heroic costumes such as Superman and Shojo girls, an anime sub-genre of young girls who use magic. Through depicting children especially, Shimoda reveals the problems people in today's socety struggle with from within. Children possess a simple existence because their identity is ambiguous which provides her with an original point of view.

In her Whereabouts of God portrait series of other worldly horned children, she also comments on Christianity's anointment of Jesus Christ as savior of humanity and mirror of our fantasy heroes. These characters not only represent heroism but an adult desire to watch our children grow and defend the world we have constructed. With each new piece, Shimoda advances her search for salvation and her deeper understanding of this chaotic world.

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