So wild and unpolished

The current exhibition on ground floor at Konstfrämjandet confuses me at first. It almost hits me on the forehead with the large amount of pictures and sculptures with its daring expressions. After a while I get more and more enchanted and happy for a female to dare being so wild and unpolished. I represent the well-raced "nice" women I guess.

The confusion does not vanish totally. The inspiration is taken from pictures of old habitants in Hälsningland, but the result looks sometimes African or like Indian sculpture, sometimes it has a kind of orthodox icon feeling. Pictures of women from documents from the middle ages have become goddesses with closed eyes in concrete with amazing hairdos and jewellery. The sculptures are transformed and shown on graphic sheets, one large image is decorated with horse hair and small packages of hair with a magical a sense.

I sense some kind of battle between the sexes and it's hardly the men that are the strongest, even if they are armed with powerful symbols. The Priests are funny men, grouped in a row, taking themselves too seriously. The women are presented in a variety of ways; powerful, bitter, sad, good, and dangerous. Amongst the large number of smaller graphic sheets there are many beautiful, but also some I have seen before.

As a whole the exhibition is a great manifestation of a creation working in its own way.

Lena Asker

Translated by Jennie Weglin and Ben Yeates.