

“The Ice Gate”

In the most remote places in the Arctic, the hunter's time and skills are very precious. The hunter used to be the noble class of the Arctic until development pushed them into a lower socio-economic status. Despite this social standing, their handmade products are considered to be of very high value. Since wood was a luxury and not easily available in the far north all the tools were made mostly of animal bones and skin. All the animal products were of wild animal origin hunted for daily needs in harmony with nature, not for commercial use or mass production.



“Joy of Life”

The young dog is a delightful puppy and in half year it will develop into a powerful Arctic machine. Greenlandic dogs eat snow, meat and frozen fish. In northern Greenland, the population of dogs is a few times greater than that of humans. The dog sledges are still frequently used as a tool in daily life. In central Greenland it becomes more of an attraction for the tourists. It is forbidden to take the dogs south and once a certain latitude is crossed it is forbidden to allow the dog back north.



“The Goddess”

“Child – Young Woman – Old Woman” 3 women symbolizing 3 generations of Greenlandic society. It is very important, as the boundaries between the generations are not as remarkable as in developed countries. All the generations meet together at the festivals and social events, as small towns are often not able to provide separate activities to each generation. In this case smallness turned out to be more advantage than disadvantage.



“Art”

How many wild animals are captured in this image? The chair alone consists of the parts of 5 wild animals: the seat is a whale shoulder blade; the legs a walrus penis bones; connecting the legs at the bottom are reindeer rib bones; the string is seal skin and the corner covers are polar bear fur. The Inuit boy wears whale parasite shells and narwhal small tusk necklace on a seal skin string, a reindeer anorak (Arctic jacket), polar bear pants and reindeer kamiks (Arctic boots). The narwhal tusk held in the boy's hand highlights a beautiful part of history: The narwhals has been hunted for thousands of years by the Inuit people. It is believed that in order to finance Icelandic sagas in the 13th century, Vikings offsprings hunted narwhals and sold the tusks to the European kings as unicorn horns.



“Brotherhood”

This image symbolically represents the importance of friendship as one of the factors reinforcing the will of life in the Arctic culture. Distant, unconnected small towns do not provide a wide diversity of activities one can become involved in. Therefore, understanding the connection with nature and its supportive surroundings are crucial to fulfil ones time joyously.



“Ummannaq Means Heart-Shaped”

Towns in Greenland are often named because of a special feature or historical event. The heart-shaped mountain seen in the background is the main landmark of the area and a reason why the town was named after it.





“Calling the snow”

“Calling the ice “

The weather in the last 12 years has been changing drastically. As a consequence, many of natural rhythms of life are disturbed and cannot be continued in the same way. Ice is not only visually essential but also practically. On the image we see a not yet frozen ocean with floating icebergs. The main consequence is the inability to utilise solid frozen ice as a road for dog sleds or snowmobiles or cars. The dogs, which are used to intense physical activity, are suffering because they are not able to run with the sleds on the rocky surfaces of the land when the ocean is not frozen



“Focus “

Tupilak is one of the national anthems and remains a bit mysterious. Ancient knowledge is disappearing and therefore an understanding of the culture and its passage to future generations is diminishing. Being between cultures is a bit like being tired when one can never sleep but also is never fully awake.



“Mask-Dance”

One of the most beautiful Inuit traditional performances where man unifies with the nature and paints his face using three colors: black, red and white, which symbolise the spectrum of life streams: magic, flash and bone. Colors were achieved from natural sources.



“Settlement”

Small settlements are one of the remarkable features of the structure of Greenland. This image symbolically pictures the beauty of it. Lack of road transportation makes travel more difficult and keeps the settlements alive. The nearest neighbor, Iceland “lost” its settlements because of the massive migration of the population to the capital, which consists of 70% of the population. In Greenland, the struggle and fight for the survival of the small towns is one of the country’s hot topics.

