

Yulia Lastochkina

Artist's Statement

My painting methodology is based on a game I played in my early childhood spent in the nature-rich area of Far East of Russia. Little Secrets, *Секретуку*, is a game where children collect various elements of nature, dig a small hole in the ground, and arrange the found objects at the bottom of the hole. A piece of glass protects the objects before they are covered with soil. In my painting practice today, I collect elements of nature from the places I travel and preserve them with acrylics, creating textured, abstract works that allude to both the microscopic and as topographic landscapes.

My latest location specific series is called Little Secrets Joshua Tree. The textures of the paintings are inspired by ceramic glazing processes. Pieces of nature from around Joshua Tree, California are embedded within the paintings.