

AUGUST 2020

OVER THE RAINBOW



Oftentime I hear questions like “How is the weather during summer time in Estonia?”

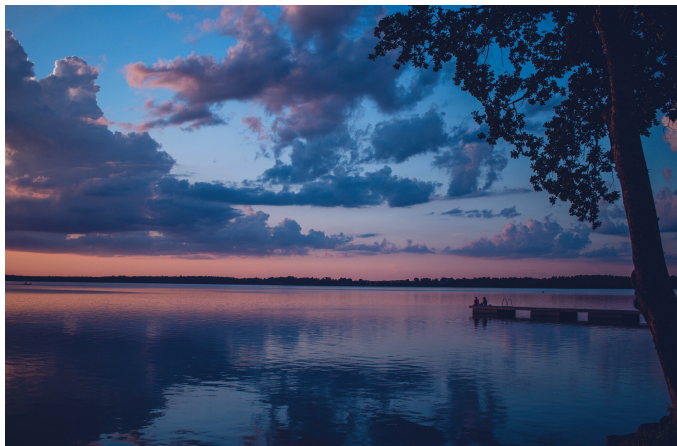
Well, in Estonia it can be really warm and sunny that the skin in the corner of your eyes gets wrinkles from squinting, but all of a sudden, you can get a heavy shower of rain like “oh, i’m so gonna ruin your day now”. After some time you get used to it. So even though you are soaking wet, you yell to the sky “yeess rain, come on, you can do it harder. Yes, pour on me! But you will not ruin my mood, you can’t rain forever.”

And then you get a rainbow.

That is why no matter how rainy and windy it was, when we had to meet and visit the places for **Tartu Made Out of Memories** map, Agnieszka, Dominika and I just grabbed our umbrellas and walked. Tartu never ceases to amaze me. This time it was the Tahtvere neighbourhood. It is so adorable how each neighbourhood has shared community spirit and care for the environment. I also took photos of each place, to document and save it for later use in creation of the map.

Remember Mana Kaasik, my photography mentor?

Well, whenever I get compliments for my photos, I think of her. Each of my good photos is proof of a powerful combination of an attentive student and a quality teacher. One can say they mastered some skill, only when they can effortlessly teach their mastery to someone else.



My August days were mostly spent in TYPA.

Even though there are smells of glue, paper and stinky paper pulp, I still feel like I can breathe there the most. There we have complete freedom to express ourselves. And I love that. It takes much more courage to put trust into someone else, it takes much more faith in people that they will not fail you and it takes much more effort to teach them how to do the work, then do everything by yourself. The peak of the month would be Museum Night. It was super crowded, busy and even though it was physically exhausting for me, I was happy that many people arrived and saw how TYPA is a distinctive museum. It breaks the stereotype of museums being boring places. History and past can be lively, when you actually experience it and not only read about it. HANDS ON WORK PEOPLE!



Also, this month TYPA welcomed two Serbian artists **Ljiljana Maletin Vojvodic** and **Dragan Vojvodic**. Believe it or not, they were from my hometown! I was so thrilled to have them here!! I love to speak serbian language in Tartu.

Ljiljana had an amazing project about home. Simple word, but with so many meanings, depending on our own beliefs and life experience. I personally was intrigued from the start that many centers in Tartu have "maja" in their name. I know in English "maja" is house, but on Russian, it is "дом", and I think it is more personal, more close to the heart, something warm like. It makes the workplace more comfortable and safe. Additionally, Dragan as multimedia artist had an art installation with the same topic in Aparaaditehas.





Next, ESC volunteers were participating in **Loodusfestival** with a natural ink dyes workshop. Ania and Leonor were the creators of it, while Leonor, Agnieszka and I were the presenters. I think this workshop can be good for all ages to have some fun and different approach to everyday cooking ingredients.



Big news are that I started to volunteer in **International House of Tartu**. Their team is truly amazing and well-organized. They provide meaningful educational activities for foreigners, so I was eager to help them out however they need. I am taking photos of their events, and help out with setting up the stands. While assisting them I have opportunity to participate in various interesting events, such as Arvamus Festival in Paide. Very colorful and crowded event! Also, I get to meet a lot of people.

I am still an active member of **Erasmus Student Network**, so I had couple of fun events to prepare with them too!



Days in **Loodusmaja** were dynamic. I enjoyed when we had guests from Lithuania. Large group of teachers came to see and learn more about our center. It was lovely to see how huge inspiration is Nature House for them, and how profound is their admiration for Loodusmaja teachers.

Oh, and I have started one project enthusiastically, but more of its details will be revealed in September's report. May it rest a secret for now! :)

