

Tanya Leighton

LUNITA-JULY DORN

Lunita-July Dorn (born 1999, lives and works in Berlin) studies at the Kunsthochschule Weißensee under Friederike Feldmann. She is one of the five finalists of the Young Generation Art Award 2026. The winner will be announced in February 2026.

In her large-scale acrylic paintings, Lunita-July Dorn creates dynamic visual worlds that oscillate between surreal narrative and personal reflection. Her works are poetic intertwinings of personal memories and artistic expression, revealing a haunting, almost tangible intimacy. Dorn seduces with an unmistakably free painting style: broad, energetic brushstrokes and expressive gestures meet subtle details. Her process is radically intuitive—figures emerge spontaneously, without preliminary sketches, flowing directly from her imagination onto the canvas. Layers of overpainting and correction remain visible, lending her works their distinctive, pulsating vitality. The only elements rendered in clear, precise detail are the faces of the protagonists—self-portraits that return our gaze again and again. The self-portrait has become Dorn's signature. With unflinching clarity, she places herself at the center of her practice, using her own image as a compass for emotional and intellectual exploration. Through subtle gestures, shifting expressions, and immersive settings, she captures the complexity of a young woman seeking her place in the world.

Solo Exhibitions

- 2025 *Wenn man Musik malen könnte, wär die Welt ne schönere*, Tanya Leighton, Berlin
Wer passt schon ganz in diese Welt?, Elektrohalle Romberg, Salzburg
+ am Ende nichts vermissen, Galerie Judith Andreae, Bonn

Group Exhibitions

- 2026 *New Voices from the Museum Collection*, AMOCA, Cardiff
2025 *Young Generation Art Award*, Degussa, Berlin
Gegen den Strich, Schloss Sacrow, Potsdam
Unapologetic WomXn, Palazzo Bembo, Venice
2024 *Gegen den Strich*, Schloss Sacrow, Potsdam
Unapologetic WomXn, Palazzo Bembo, Venice
2023 *Sonderausstellung*, Winzstraße 58, Berlin
Underground MoMA, U-Bahnhof Bundesplatz, Berlin
CHERRIES ON TOP, Galerie Judith Andreae, Bonn
Big City Baby, ZAK Zentrum für aktuelle Kunst, Zitadelle Spandau, Berlin

Permanent Collections

Artistic Museum of Contemporary Art, Cardiff

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Collection Andra Lauffs-Wegner, Bad Honnef-Rhöndorf
Ekaf Collection, Dubai
Miettinen Collection, Berlin