



'Wherever We Go' is an on-going project looking at cultural inheritance as both a blessing and a burden.

I am exploring my Latvian roots by looking at old family photographs, documents and treasured keepsakes, as well as making new family portraits. Within these materials, I discover the traditions and myths that form a part of our family story.

My grandmother fled Latvia as a young woman during WWII when the country was being invaded by Russian Soviet forces and the German army. She would never see her family or her home country again. My mother was born in a refugee camp after the war in Germany.

When I look at our family history, I find both pain and joy and see how these emotional memories have been an ongoing theme in my own life as I seek to explore my own identity as a child of two cultures and the daughter of a refugee.

When I look at my daughters, I see two women who identify as completely British and are happy in their own skin. I experience a sense of relief that the transgenerational trauma seems to have stopped with them. But with their strong British identities perhaps have they lost touch with the rich history of their genetic and cultural heritage.

In making these images I have used ancient pre-Christian Baltic folk symbols or Zime, which are said to bring luck, to harmonise and to protect. By utilising a variety of techniques such as hand colouring, collage, and the painting of these pagan folkloric symbols directly onto my photographs, I have found a way to honour my ancestors and to create a contemporary vision of three generations of women in my family.

Sarah Ketelaars 2022



Untitled #1

Photographic print 24 x 16 ins, Giclee prints on Hahnemühle German Etching, with hand painted details in ink.

Framed £ 450



Untitled #2

Photographic print 24 x 16 ins, Giclee prints on Hahnemühle German Etching, with hand painted details in ink.

Framed £ 450



Untitled #3

Photographic print 24 x 16 ins, Giclee prints on Hahnemühle German Etching, with hand painted details in ink.

Framed £ 450



Untitled #4

Photographic print 24 x 16 ins, Giclee prints on Hahnemühle German Etching, with hand painted details in ink.

Framed £ 450



Untitled #5

Photographic print 24 x 16 ins, Giclee prints on Hahnemühle German Etching, with hand painted details in ink.

Framed £ 450



Untitled #6

Photographic print 24 x 16 ins, Giclee prints on Hahnemühle German Etching, with hand painted details in ink.

Framed £ 450



Plaits

Photographic print 12 x 8 ins, Giclee prints
on Hahnemühle German Etching.

Framed £ 200



Klara Wearing Mučuk's hat

Photographic print 12 x 8 ins, Giclee prints
on Hahnemühle German Etching.

Framed £ 200



Untitled #7

Photographic print 12 x 8 ins, Giclee prints
on Hahnemühle German Etching, with hand painted
details in ink.

Framed £ 200



Untitled #8

Photographic print 6 x 4 ins, Eco prints on recycled waste paper with collage.

Framed £ 200



Untitled #9

Photographic print 6 x 4 ins, Eco prints on recycled waste paper with collage.

Framed £ 200



Untitled #10

Photographic print 6 x 4 ins, Eco prints on recycled waste paper with collage.

Framed £ 200



Untitled #11

Photographic print 6 x 4 ins, Eco prints on recycled waste paper with collage.

Framed £ 200



Untitled #12

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Framed £ 200



Untitled #13

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Framed £ 200



Untitled #14

Photographic print 6 x 4 ins, Eco prints on recycled waste paper with collage.

Framed £ 200



Untitled #15

Photographic print 6 x 4 ins, Eco prints on recycled waste paper with collage.

Framed £ 200



Embrace

Photographic print 12x 8 ins, C type Fuji matt print.

Framed £ 200



Trainers

Photographic print 12x 8 ins, C type Fuji matt print.

Framed £ 200



Holding

Photographic print 12x 8 ins, C type Fuji matt print.

Framed £ 200



National Costume

Photographic print 12x 8 ins, C type Fuji matt print.

Framed £ 200



Untitled #16

Photographic print 12x 8 ins, C type Fuji matt print.

Framed £ 200



Hallway

Photographic print 12x 8 ins, C type Fuji matt print.

Framed £ 200



The Day After Mid Summer

Photographic print 12x 8 ins, C type Fuji matt print.

Framed £ 200



My Grandmother

Photographic print 12x 8 ins, C type Fuji matt print.

Framed £ 200