

Kalus

This French artist, with roots in Poland and Burgundy, trained at the Académie Jullian in Paris. He set up his studio near Fontainebleau, where for four years he has had a gallery, aptly called "Peinture Fraîche" (Fresh Paint). He has also run drawing and painting classes in schools and for community groups.

His work is well represented in private collections in France, Italy and eastern Europe.

Kalus's painting

Outside, the freezing air stings his face. His collar turned up, he hurries through the empty lanes of this forgotten village. Suddenly, passing by a tumbledown cottage, sounds reach his ears. He comes closer ... music? He pushes at the double door.

A quartet sits in isolation in the middle of the room, bathed in a ghostly light. The players fail to notice him come in. Concentrating on their instruments, their outlines divide the space into lines and planes. Shapes seem to disappear into thin air. Vertical lines quiver with a succession of jolts.

From a distance, he warms himself up in the middle of the group. The composition comes together in a vanishing point – a focal point that attracts the eye to a specific detail: the violinist's hand, the strings of the double bass, a peeled apple ... A cross gives a geometrical aspect to each canvas. From this calculation, the picture is built up in receding framings. Around them, the tones shade off in dull tints.

Kalus whispers that he paints "to recapture the emotions and the legacy of distant times". Jean Bazaine, Paul Cézanne, Nicolas de Staël, Viera da Silva ... are names that come to mind, and provoke an emotional reaction.

At the far end of the room a shaft of light peeps through an unclosed door. He makes his way over. All of a sudden he's suffused in the bright light of a strange setting sun, broken into the kaleidoscope of his artist's eye.

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