An abstract painting with a grid-like structure. The top-left quadrant is yellow with a dark, downward-pointing shape. The top-center quadrant is white with a white, rounded figure and two red dots. The top-right quadrant is dark with vertical red and orange strokes. The bottom-left quadrant is green with a yellow and orange circular shape. The bottom-center quadrant is dark with a large yellow and orange circular shape. The bottom-right quadrant is light green and yellow with vertical strokes. The text is overlaid in the center.

**KEES
PLAISIER
RHINO-
POEMS**

**A RHINOCEROS
IN MY
GARDEN**

An abstract painting divided into four quadrants. The top-left quadrant features a yellow and orange shape. The top-right quadrant shows a white, cloud-like form with two small red squares. The bottom-left quadrant contains a yellow and orange shape with a dark outline. The bottom-right quadrant shows a yellow and orange shape with a dark outline. The background is a mix of brown, black, and white.

**KEES
PLAISIER**

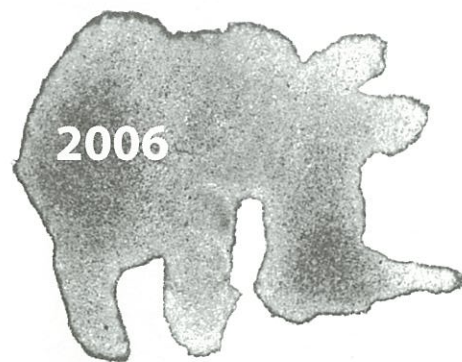
**RHINO-
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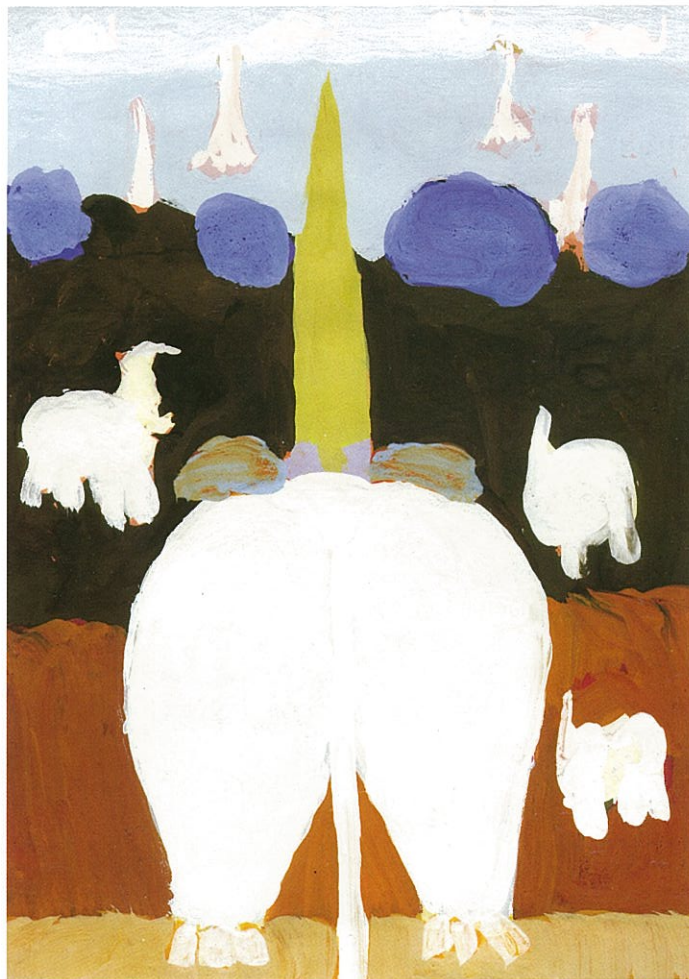
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Illustrations by Victor Sachivko

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EXAMPLE

a young rhino
stays for years
with the mother

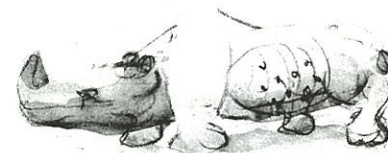
in those days
no hanky-panky
with possible fathers

no wonder
that the males
if given a chance
take out of the act
what they possibly can
-so to speak-

the endurance they show
during the act
combined with other male showing-off
provokes a man's imagination

it creates however
ridiculous nonsense too
stories
about secret aphrodisiac powers
hidden in the poor rhino's horn

too bad
for the species





THE DÜRER-RHINO

he looks just good-hearted
his armour seems frightful, it's true,
but elegantly decorated it is
and it fits quite well

however sad he may look
his friendly character
appears always in his eyes

his new master
Dom Manuel the First
wanted him to fight an elephant
like they did, according to excited stories
in ancient Rome

when confronted
with this armoured present
given by Sultan Muzafar the Second
the elephant
ran as fast as he could

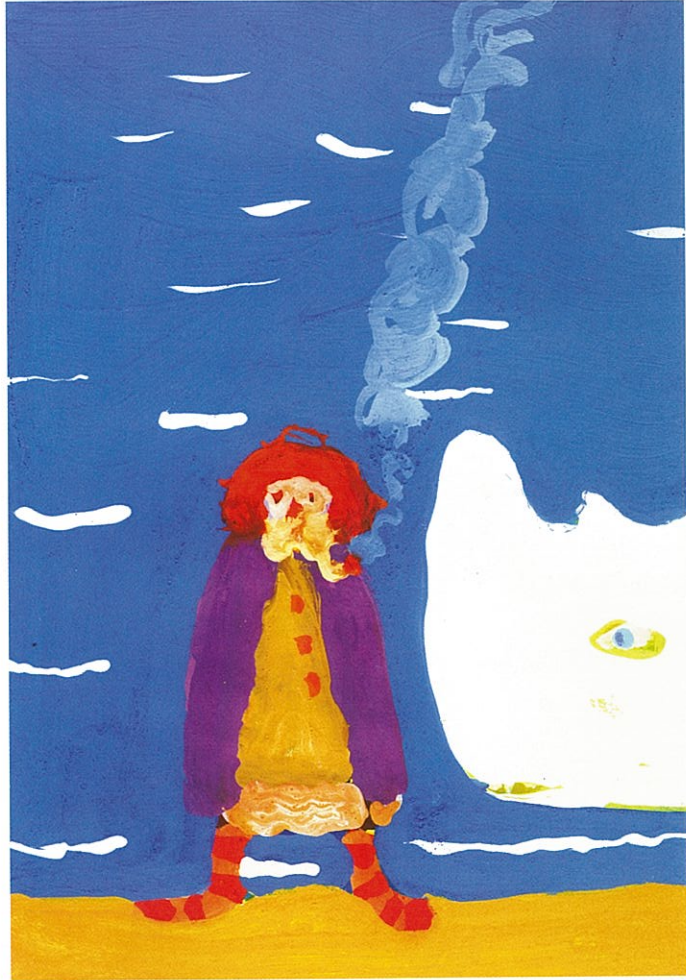
Dürer did not see the rhino in the flesh
himself
he was told about it
in words and pictures

that was enough

his imagination created
a creature, not quite accurate
but unforgettable

the little twisted horn
on the animals' shoulders
still kept centuries later
inquisitive zoologists busy





CLARA

when she was a young Indian Rhino
Clara was given as a present
to an important representative
of the Dutch East Indies Company
in Bengal

her youth was quite safe
and happy there
but then she was pulled
into the wide world
by Captain Douwe Mout van der Meer

long months at sea
and then again
seventeen years of touring
shown to the public
as an exotic curiosity

Douwe Mout enjoyed it
he travelled all over Europe
with this female celebrity
at his side

with genuine Dutch commercial spirit
he made money
out of the rhino

history doesn't tell
whether Clara suffered
anyhow
she was famously pictured
by Longhi and others

that's something different
for a rhino





INCONSOLABLE

stone and metal
were too strong
for the rhino's horn
in Rotterdam Zoo

what's left
is the base
and traces of paint
from the gate

the rhino was not at ease
at all in the zoo

he couldn't just run nicely
or trot firmly
he couldn't dream
while standing shoulder high in the water

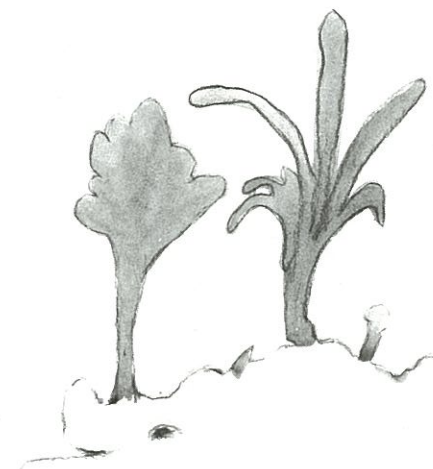
he couldn't walk along the Bengal tiger
just ignoring him in quiet superiority
over his helpless feeling
towards your size

and then on top of all
you're in the Zoo
and lose your horn
it's almost too much

the four-year old boy
who visited the Zoo
sensed that well

when he saw the horn missing
he burst into tears

inconsolable





IN BETWEEN THE RHINO'S

they stand left
on the piano

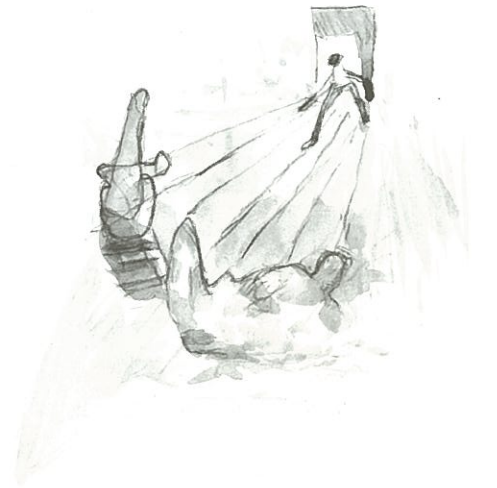
two rhino heads
elegantly cut out of ebony
meant to support books
but in fact
more partner in family-life

the latest information
about taxes, bank accounts,
invitations for openings,
jubilee-parties,
birth-announcements
death-messages

it's all
between the rhino's

they should be right in place
supporting scientific works
by Osborne, Guerin,
Rookmaaker or Clarke

but they fulfil
their trivial duties
on the piano
also very well





ANAESTHETIZED FOREVER

it took her some time
but now she was accustomed
to her housing
the rhino in Amsterdam Zoo

the men in charge however
had to make changes again
re-arranging and building
as always

they made a temporary wooden fence
around her place
she didn't like it

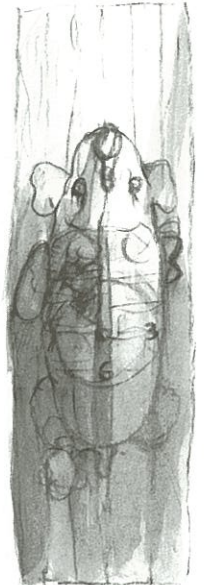
in the beginning
her unrest only showed
in more movements
than she normally made

but once on steam
she thundered
her full weight
through the fence

an anaesthetic-shot
was necessary to calm her down

when the first shot
seemed to have no effect
-she kept running-
a second was fired
which appeared to be
too much

now she is stuffed
forever
you can see in her eyes
that she blames us
still





BOŘIVOJ LOST AND FOUND

Bořivoj, the little woolly rhinoceros
was playing alone
for the first time in his life

he had asked for it
for a long time
and his mother gave in
eventually
you must let them go
eventually

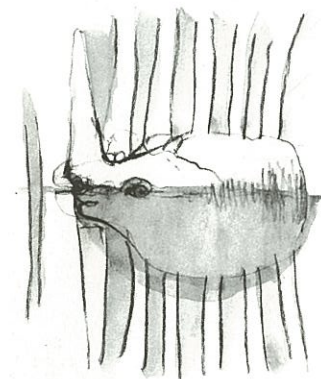
she however worried
about all the dangers
of which her Bořivoj
was unaware
and she was right

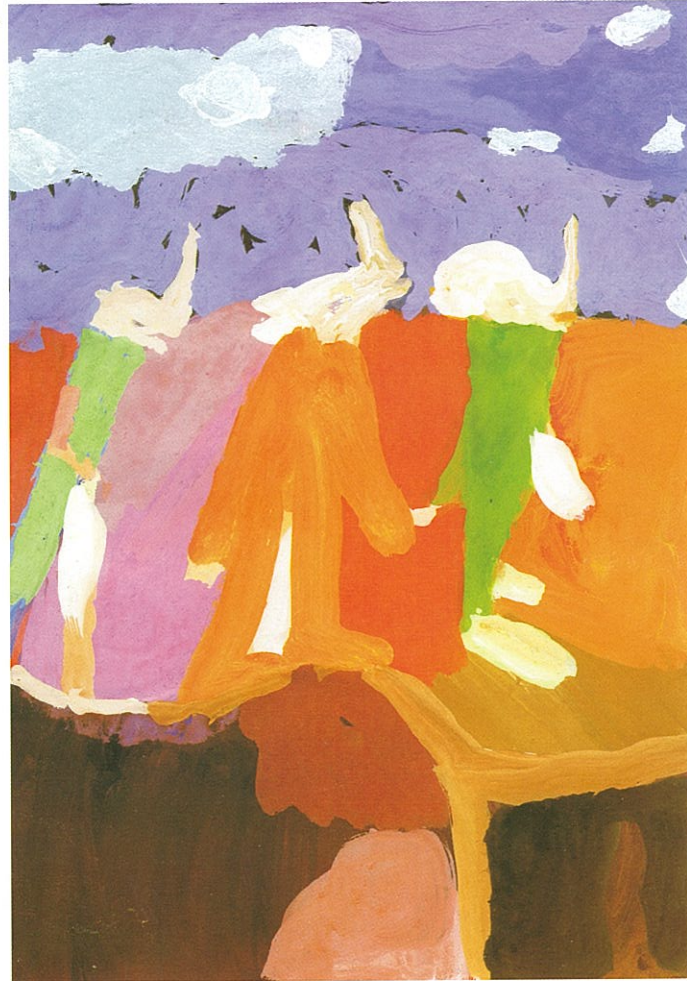
he enjoyed himself
so much in the snow
that he didn't notice
a weak spot

he fell down
and sunk slowly
into an oily substance
resisting made things only worse

30.000 years later Bořivoj was discovered
by excited scientists
almost fully in tact

even his long hairs were sufficiently preserved
to compare them with those
of the Sumatran rhino
it was proved
they were related





CHANGE

in three acts
and four parts
Ionesco wrote
"Le Rhinocéros"

a fascinating play
wherein slowly but surely
the persons change
into rhinoceroses

it's however a painful experience
especially for those
who were still "themselves"

in any case
you could recognize the old man
inside
by the look in the eyes
and the affectionate behaviour

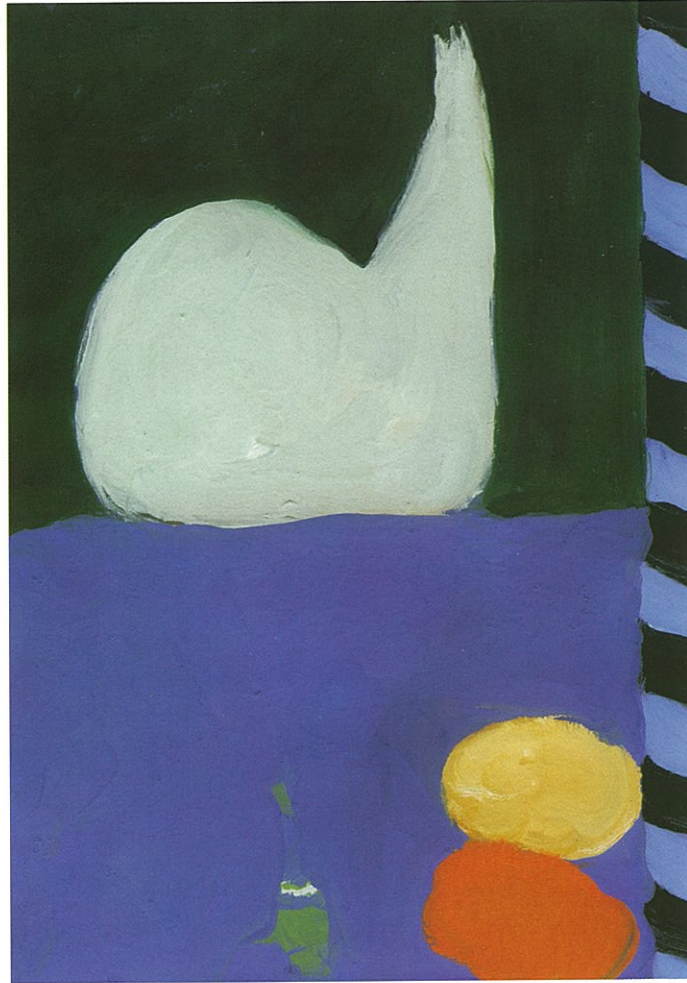
perhaps it's not so terrible
to change into a rhino
as long as it happens to everyone

the question remains however
in what kind of rhino the people changed

the main characters in the play
argued, mainly sitting in a pavement café,
whether it was the African
or the Asian rhino
who has two horns

since Petrus Camper
we know better
he explained it quite clear
although he wasn't so sure himself





MOLAR

this tooth was for 30.000 years
or more
lost on the bottom of the sea

the woolly rhinoceros
-in whose lower jaw
the molar crushed tough grasses-
was probably wandering around
on the spot where much later
the Van Hoboken family
constructed their villa Dijkzigt

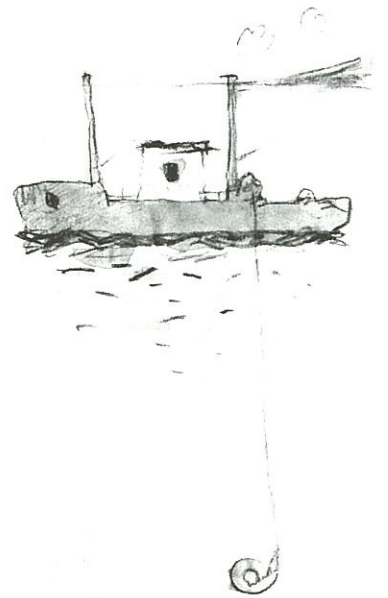
by weather and wind, wind and water,
frost and rain
the tooth was carried
to the bottom of the North Sea

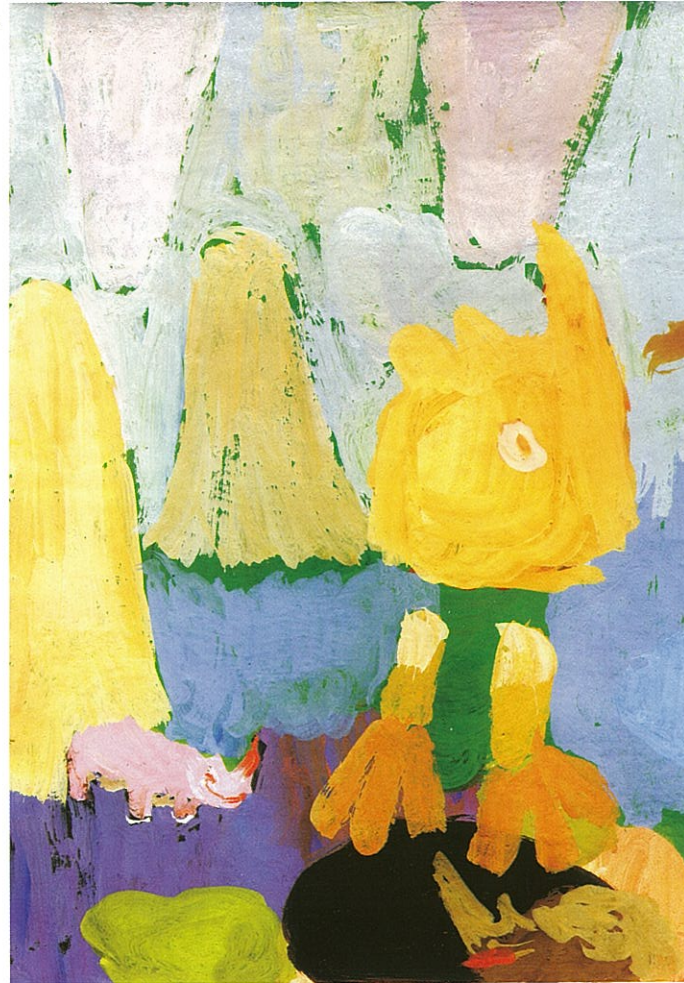
it was caught and noticed
in 1986
by an observant fisherman
between the Brown Bank
and the English coast
about sixty miles west of IJmuiden

a member of the working-group
on Pleistocene mammals
took care of its preservation

eventually the lower jaw molar
ended up in my collection
swapped for a booklet with rhino-poems

a poetic exchange it was
because it's a genuine molar
showing a nice medifossette!





VIOLENCE

the black rhino is known
as aggressive
what seems to be caused
by his short-sightedness

it's an acceptable explanation
for humans that is

the beast is not really vicious

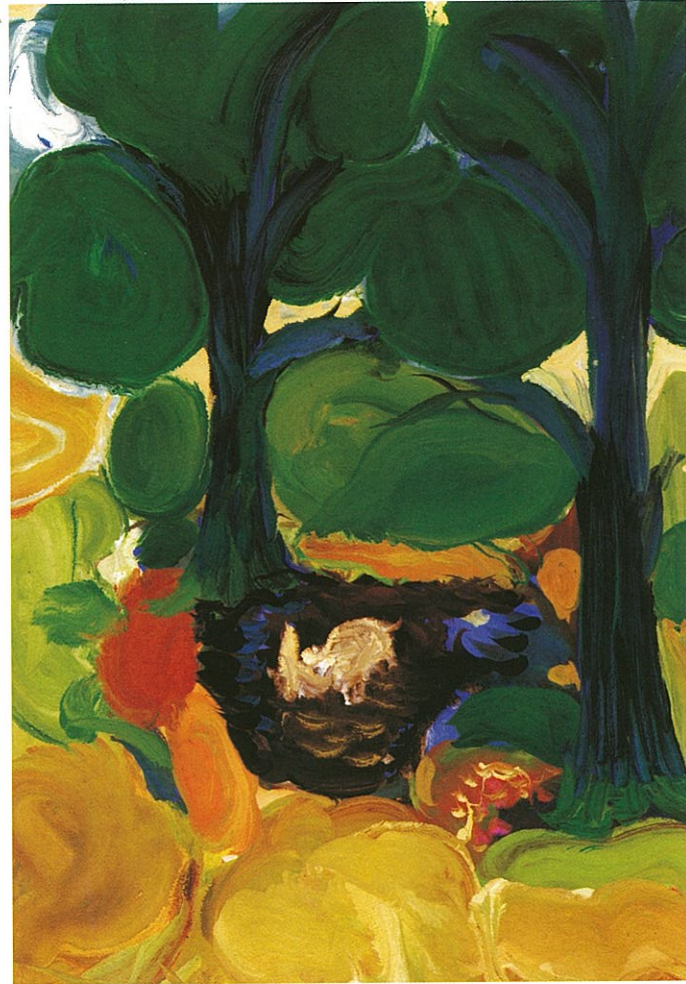
however strong impression
Johnny Weismuller made
as Tarzan
in disabling a very militant rhino
endangering his own skin
of course

that was pure cinematic trick
I later realized

in James and the giant peach
by Roald Dahl
James' parents were eaten by a rhino
on the street in bright daylight

whether it was by a black rhino
or not
nobody would believe it





DREAM

.
our backyard
measures about
fifty square meters

there he walked peacefully around
a gentle little animal
a dwarfy subspecies
of the Sumatran rhino

you could caress him
or pamper him otherwise
he obviously felt at home
near the rhino-lover

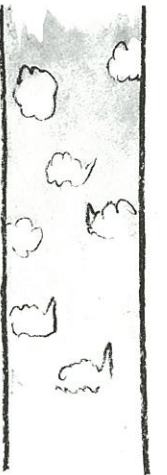
no problem there

enough to eat and drink
shadowy places
and in the middle of the garden
a muddy pool
small, but quite suitable
to roll over, well-pleased,
without worries

coming home from work
my first steps were always directed
to little rhino
he greeted me
with suitable, happy noises

over the years
he stayed small

.





NIKY THE COLOURFUL RHINO

he was living as a thought
for a long time already

nobody saw him
but some were aware of his promising existence

slowly he grew
in the sculptress' mind

he was meant to be beautiful
joyful
and useful
at the same time

she shaped him out of strong materials
he became concrete and robust
firm on his feet and still modest
in spite of his size

the finishing touch made him shine
colourful mosaic, reflecting the light
on one side black, white and grey
exciting shades
the other side filled with spots of colour
little mirrors, grouped together to a singular skin

in his back-legs he had a small flight of stairs,
leading to a hole inside and to a little cave
perfect for children to play in

when he was put on the spot
the children celebrated his birth with light and music

the next day, very early in the morning
one of them, a small boy, returned
he climbed inside and outside, he walked around
he tenderly touched the shiny rhino
wherever he could reach

he took possession
of his own public rhino
who was moved by so much affection
the drops of dew on his mosaic-skin
started to twinkle





DISPLACED

the white rhino lived in a dangerous area
many of his fellow-animals
were already shot by poachers
so he was only one of a few
that survived

the government decided
to bring the remaining ones
to a protected nature reserve
and they went to catch the beasts

the rhino felt disturbed
a noisy big bird in the sky
seemed to follow him
so he ran and tried to hide
but the bushes did not help very much

then another thing moved fast towards him
striped like his friends the zebras
but different
bigger, louder and with people in it

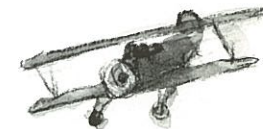
he got more and more frightened
and tried to escape
it didn't work
he felt a sharp object in his skin
that made him dizzier and dizzier

just before he lost consciousness
he saw some men around him

he woke up in a wooden cage
and was allowed to go

luckily he found a nice pool
and even some fellow-rhino's

even after he had set his demarcation-lines
to feel himself master of his domain
it took him months
to get adjusted



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**A RHINOCEROS
IN MY
GARDEN**



Illustrations by Victor Sachivko
Prepress by Arnika, Vologda, Russia
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VICTOR SACHIVKO

Was born on March 27, 1959 in the city of Abakan (Russia). He studied in Krasnoyarsk at the academy for architecture. He worked as an architect, was engaged in book design and illustrations, he was a teacher at the academy for architecture. He is professionally engaged in art design, exhibition design, painting, drawing, video, he is author of artistic projects, conducted workshops. He participated in art exhibitions since 1987, in Russia and in international projects.

Personal exhibitions in Krasnoyarsk: 1993, 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006. Exhibitions in France, in Holland, in Berlin: in the years 2002 till 2006.

He took part in the European competition of painting LEXMARK EUROPEAN ART PRIZE 2004. Ten European artists became finalists of prestigious competition, an unique all-European prize in the field of painting.

His painting "Wooden water" was exhibited at an exposition in Triennale di Milano.