

# Kjell Nupen (1955–2014)

Home, Nature Morte 2013

Intaglio, etching 99 by 133 cm

Andrea Arntzens house (P32)

'Nature Morte' is the title Kjell Nupen has given this large etching from the series 'Hjemsted'. The image in the black frame is dark and can appear abstract at first glance. A deep darkness is interrupted by three brighter vertical stripes that create a division between us as the beholders and the depth in the image. The attention is drawn towards a horizontal red area to the left where the title 'HJEMSTED' (home) has been reproduced. This is also the brightest part of the image. In the empty dark landscape, a dark car wreck is hidden.

Nature Morte, dead nature, is a common designation for images that show arrangements of e.g. fruit and cut flowers. The title of this etching gains an extra dimension through the image of the car wreck in the endless nature.

'Nupen Blue' – a colour that the artist created by superimposing 10–12 different shades – is described as something between cold and warm, the life-giving vital and the incomprehensible and infinite.

Kjell Nupen is one of the most renowned Norwegian artists, nationally and internationally. He worked with paintings, graphics, sculptures and large pots made from glazed ceramic. A particular intense blue hue became his signature colour. He remained an active exhibiting artist throughout his career, and his artworks were purchased by numerous collectors and public institutions.