In Elva Hreiðarsdóttir’s work the spectator is positioned right in the middle of nature. Her point of view is limited to what is close at hand; the microscopic rather than the wide open spaces and vast distances.

I have always been inspired by nature and with the years I see how it is constantly reforming and reshaping itself. For a moment it presents us with an image of stability but may easily turn on us, undergoing another transformation. Unknown forces that are uncontrolled.

The texture of lava and rocks becomes close and intimate, evoking memories of rough lava or cold stones in our palms and fingertips. It reminds me of how nature is constantly creating itself in multiplying diversity like life itself. I try to capture that moment in my work and reform with my methods in printmaking that I do in a way that has unexpected results and cannot be repeated. Nature for me involves a feeling, a memory, and gives tranquility that I seek to keep in my work.

Artists are able to draw up visions of the world that are beyond the imagination of the scientist.

Elva Hreiðarsdóttir was born on the 8th of June 1964 in Ólafsvik, a small fishing village on the west coast of Iceland under the great glacier Snaefellsjökull. She works mainly in printmaking where she has specialized in painterly methods of printmaking, doing Collography, Mono Prints and Solar Prints. She has had numerous solo shows in Museums and Galleries in Iceland and abroad and has participated in group shows around the world. She lives in Reykjavik, the Capital of Iceland where she has a studio but she also runs “Hvítahús,” an artist residency throughout the year with her husband in Hellisandur in Snæfellsnes.

"My most profound memory of my childhood was the feeling of being free outside in nature by the seashore, climbing mountains or just being out in the nature and feeling it’s power. But the nature was not always tender. The sea also took lives of fishermen and sorrow took place in the small village. One learned soon that no human can control the forces of nature.”

For more information visit www.elva.is or email elvahre@vortex.is.