

# HANNE THISTED

VITALITY – VENUS – ARIES – WORLD TREE  
STAR DUST



Thøger Larsen's (TL) text ... *"an eternal moment, which does not perish and yet has perished"* ... has been the driving force behind these works.

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## VITALITY

Vitality, in my interpretation, symbolizes the ability to adapt, utilize, and survive. To create life, to foster growth. It is fragile, strong, and beautiful.

TL's notion of how inextricably life and death are interwoven, along with reflections on the transience of all things, makes it all the more important to seize the fleeting *"Now"* and give it substance. Life is life, regardless of its form or kind. The cuckoo chick can fend for itself — and that is a beauty in itself.

**Works:** 1. Vitality-Prey

2. Vitality-Nest

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## VENUS

I have interpreted the work *Venus* in its earthly manifestation — VENUS young and seductive. Although TL observed the planet Venus with enthusiasm, woman was for him the grand symbol of the *"Now"* in all its splendor and glory — where the girl, who daringly sheds her garments, becomes the very embodiment of *"Now,"* her lush body's vitality identical with growth — the inherent, procreative drive toward the future, helping to shape humanity and give the *"Now"* its fullness. A higher revelation the *"Now"* could not attain, for him (TL).

**Work:** 1. Venus

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## ARIES

Aries, despite its brave, energetic, and powerful nature and appearance, is (as a zodiac sign) also an incurable romantic.

Aries was TL's own zodiac sign. What is essential to TL, and makes him such a complex person, is a tension between a romantic mind and a thoroughly naturalistic intellect. He is sensual and erotically inclined. He holds a belief in life's deep creative forces.

**Work:** 1. Aries

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## WORLD TREE

This work is interpreted through the concept of *Fertility and Fruitfulness*, while also being inspired by TL's meditations and relationship to Norse mythology.

TL's poetry collection *THE TREE OF GENERATIONS* (1914), *By the Tree of Life*, *The Morning Rooster*, *Songs of the Edda*.

**Work:** 1. World Tree

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## STAR DUST

TL was fascinated by the grand carousel of the solar system. The Milky Way is the galaxy of the solar system.

Between 1892–96, TL worked as a tutor in Sparkjær near Viborg, in Vendsyssel and Eskebæk. Drawing inspiration from this, along with the concluding words in TL's essay in *Religion and Atheism* — “*Man is a function in the life of the planets*” — I have created 12 small works of children painted on old book covers to symbolize:

1. The 12 zodiac signs
2. TL's literary works.