



„Water Reflection“ by Otto Ubbelohde – My interest in landscape as a theme for my artistic work arose from this painting. In 2022, my two brothers and I inherited three landscape paintings by the Hessian regional painter and illustrator Otto Ubbelohde. My grandfather had bought these paintings in the early 1970s.

We sold the paintings to the Otto Ubbelohde Foundation in Marburg, whose chairman, upon collection, recounted the anecdote that one of the paintings, the most beautiful of the three, depicting a blue-green water reflection, had hung upside down in my grandfather's home, who wasn't particularly knowledgeable about art. The paintings – reframed and restored – became part of the major landscape exhibition "Ubbelohde – Landscape Here and Now." "Water Reflection" (painted in 1910) was the central cover image on all promotional flyers and the exhibition catalog, and was prominently featured in the exhibition itself.

Even before I saw this, I had realized that this painting was missing from my life. My offer to buy it back from the foundation was rejected. The plan came up to paint my own version of this picture and return it to its original place in my grandparents' house. My version became more colorful and meticulously planned than the original. I immersed myself in the painting and studied every brushstroke. Thus, my artistic copy wasn't very spontaneous, but it was as close to the original as I managed to achieve.