



SOFIA

↪ **Kiril Cholakov / *Fra/Between* / solo show / Sofia Arsenal – Museum of Contemporary Art, 2, Cherni Vrah Blvd. / December 15 – January 29.** Kiril Cholakov places the viewer in a position between the artist's personal history, private recollections, the whims of consciousness and the reality we are involved in, our collective memory and common biography; between the anecdotes that sneak into his journal of drawings, to universal truths. The exhibition is the sixth in the Autobiography Project of the Sofia Arsenal – Museum of Contemporary Art programme. https://nationalgallery.bg/exhibitions/kiril_cholakov_frabetween/

↪ **Georges Papazoff – *The Illuminator* / retrospective exhibition / curator Maria Vassileva / National Gallery, The Palace, 1, Knyaz Alexander I Sq. / December 16 – March 19.** The National Gallery presents artist Georges Papazoff, whose creative path led him from Yambol to Paris. This extensive exhibition marks the 50th anniversary of his death and is his first significant retrospective in Bulgaria since the 1988. Maria Vassileva notes: 'Georges Papazoff was a typical example of the universal movements of the first decades of the 20th century, when boundaries were provisional, and art was a powerful unifying instrument. His oeuvre, even today, connects several countries and continues the multilingual dialogue on true values.'
<https://nationalgallery.bg/exhibitions/georges-papazoff-the-illuminatorcurator/>

↪ **Lilyana Rousseva (1932 – 2009) / retrospective exhibition / National Gallery, Kvadrat 500, 1, 19th February St. / October 18 – February 12.** Through landscapes, portraits, self-portraits, still lifes, figural compositions, and nudes, an attempt has been made to encompass the entire genre and thematic variety of Lilyana Rousseva's paintings. Included are paintings and drawings from the inventory of the National Gallery, the Sofia City Art Gallery, the art galleries in Pleven, Gabrovo, Kyustendil, Plovdiv, Ruse, Varna, Lovech, Sliven, and Smolyan, from her heirs and from private collectors. <https://nationalgallery.bg/exhibitions/lilyana-rousseva-1932-2009-retrospective-exhibition/>

↪ ***The child in the art of socialism / group exhibition / Museum of Art from the Socialist Period, 7, Luchezar Stanchev St. / December 8 – March 26.*** The theme of the child in art did not fall outside the ideological instrumentarium and propaganda functions of totalitarian systems, whatever the sign mounted on their facades. The ideologeme was strong enough not to be used. Roles were assigned to the child, which it had to perform. The typology of the image was clearly revealed: ‘the child-hero’ and ‘the child-victim’ of wars and social injustice; the child both as an object and a subject of the new social reality. For a period of almost fifty years, a significant corpus of thematic works was created in painting, sculpture, graphics, and all other spheres of Bulgarian artistic culture. <https://nationalgallery.bg/exhibitions/the-child-in-the-art-of-socialism/>

↪ ***Leda Starcheva / Connected Corpora / solo exhibition / National Gallery, house museum Vera Nedkova, 2, 11 August St. / December 1 – March 31.*** In this exhibition, Starcheva has included clean and expressive industrial shapes and constructions. She analyses and explores the boundaries and integrity of objects, her work being characterised by the structuring of small-scale models in which the individual elements transform into multiple, distinct fragments. The artist searches for the interrelationship between the volumes, parts and individual segments, which she connects and places at different angles and perspectives. <https://bit.ly/3G2Thj2>

↪ ***Pablo Picasso through the eyes of Andre Villers and Edward Quinn / photography exhibition / Sofia City Art Gallery, 1 Gen. Gurko st. / December 13 – February 12.*** From the 1950s, Picasso establishes a genuine working relationship with certain photographers he has personally chosen, such as André Villers, and the last years of his life are eternalized by Edward Quinn. During the years in which they follow him, the two amazing photographers not only enter his everyday life and work, but also reveal the relationships with his family, relatives and friends. <https://bit.ly/3YX8L0t>

↪ ***Rumen Gasharov / retrospective exhibition / Sofia City Art Gallery, 1 Gen. Gurko st. / December 7 – February 12.*** The exhibition presents the work of Rumen Gasharov following the changes in his painting through the years – from the early works in which reality is already questioned to the well-known large-scale canvases. Gasharov’s work often sparks debates and contradictions – the author’s interest in kitsch, his taste for the grotesque, his attitude toward mass culture and “urban folklore”, the meaning of his works. The exhibition includes over 90 works. <https://bit.ly/3VOTQmH>

↪ ***Charlotte Schmitz / La Puente / solo exhibition / Curator Nadezhda Pavlova / Goethe-Institut Bulgarien, 1 Budapesta St. / November 24 – January 13.*** La Puente is the largest brothel in southern Ecuador. It is located in Machala and employs over 150 women. The photographs are created in partnership with them - they choose how to pose and then paint on their Polaroids with nail polish. In the beginning, the function of the polish is to disguise their identity, but it quickly becomes a creative tool. In addition to Polaroid photographs and video documentation, the exhibition will also include the book of the same name, as well as the models' personal sheets, which they gave to Charlotte Schmitz. These personal items are the only possessions the women have in the rooms of La Puente. <https://fb.me/e/5EDewfp29>

↪ ***Put your finger in the soil and smell where you are / group exhibition / Toplocentrala art center, 5 Emil Bersinski St. / December 15 – February 15.*** The exhibition contains individual works based on the starting point of a scaffolding installation. Artists Radostin Sedevchev, Beatrice Aleksanian, Audar Kantun and Ion Benjamin Taleros are invited by Lars Nordby, artist and curator to respond to what constitutes the scaffolding of tissue reality and incorporate photography and digital imagery as an extended look at the defects of humanity's anatomical features. What experiences unite us? And what separates us? How does our sense of self develop, both individually and as a society? What role do narrative, skill and manipulation play in photographic discourse? <https://bit.ly/3jleuHo>

↪ ***Krassimir Terziev / I come very briefly to this place. I watch it move. I watch it shake / solo exhibition / curator Boyana Dzhikova / Punta Gallery, 13 Dunav St. / December 15 – January 14.*** “One of the characteristics of modern man is the accelerated pace of his existence; in this sense, Terziev’s installation exposes the incongruous nature of the senses of the person of the present, distorted by the intensity of being, to

comprehend the absolute. The artist reverses the positions of the primary and the secondary. We usually perceive quotidian life devoted to the vitally necessary and practically useful as enveloped by the dome of the universal—the cosmos, the time before birth and after death. On entering the exhibition space, however, we step from the momentum of the street into the pace of the universe: the world encapsulated by reality.” - Boyana Dzhikova <https://fb.me/e/2xO3mhvil>

↪ **Peter Tsanev / Ectoplasticones / solo exhibition / curator Stanislav Pamukchiev / Charta Gallery, 12 Vrabcha St. / December 15 – January 15.** Peter Tsanev's exhibition is part of his twenty-year journey into the world of "ectoplastic imagination", dedicated to the transformation of internal states of mind into a new kind of artistic medium. Every invention of a new medium gives art a new body. Ectoplasticones represent a paradoxical attempt to invent a new medium with absolutely redeeming characteristics. <https://bit.ly/3Q9zDGq>

↪ **Nora Ampova / Tachyon / solo show / Arosita Gallery, 12B Vrabcha St. / December 15 – January 13.** “Since the beginning of this year, I have been creating small collages that I construct by cutting pieces of perspectives and superimposing spatial dimensions. I have developed some of the narratives of "Tachyon" by creating new paintings on canvas, some of which are monumental in size. Through these works, I reveal different segments of time, of past and of future, of memories and fiction. Often, in the compositions, I place a figure or an object through which this multi-layer journey can take place.” - Nora Ampova <https://fb.me/e/2qsY6kYGu>

↪ **Borislav Stoyanov / Stars are compasses for dreaming / solo show / Arosita Gallery, 12B Vrabcha St. / January 10 – 24.** Arosita Gallery opens a new space for presenting contemporary art - Arosita Basement located in the lowest part of the gallery. In the first exhibition for the space, Borislav Stoyanov presents works created in recent years, which he places in a new visual context determined by the relationship between image and text. "Stars are compasses for dreaming" is the motto that unites and at the same time directs the focus to the spiritual essence of the author. After devoting a large part of his time to poetry, Borislav Stoyanov turned again to ceramics to create his most intimate works. <https://bit.ly/3X5ebEV>

↪ **Antoaneta Quick, Ralitsa Golemanova and Nikolay Stefanov / No Cessation / group show / Gallery "Little Bird Place", 7 "11-ti Avgust" Str. / December 15 – January 15.** Conceived and executed as a site-specific exhibition, No Cessation contains seven points of the life's cycle and offers a circular experience symbolizing the infinity of the cycle in which the beginning is the end and the end is the beginning. Viewers are free to begin their journey from any point they choose; the beginning and the end merge in an endless cycle. <https://fb.me/e/3dZ1Q96Kf>

↪ **Kalin Serapionov / Used / Loosen / solo show / Posta Space, 34 Dondukov Bd. / December 15 – January 14.** Kalin Serapionov's work accentuates on the body of the medium of the technological age - we often think of concepts like digital and online as relatively disembodied and situated somewhere else, in a cloudy space or mystical fog. In the context of resource overexploitation, however, we should not ignore the materiality of technology - its body, like organic matter, is worn out and transformed into waste. The video traces the rates of consumption, depreciation, and replacement beyond what is normally foreseeable. <https://fb.me/e/fcSRpAbXJ>

↪ **Gábor Máté / Inner sky / solo exhibition / Synthesis Gallery, 55 Vasil Levski bul., Liszt Institute - Hungarian Cultural Center, 16 Aksakov St. / November 3 – January 14.** The exhibition is presented in the two spaces of Synthesis Gallery and Liszt Institute - Hungarian Cultural Center. It traces the complex link between the personalities of parents and the characters of their children. If we accept that the future does indeed belong to the children, then it sits at stake in the hands of their parents. Does it matter whether a child has grown up with divorced parents, or in a family which has stayed together against all odds? What trace does the relationship between the parents leave on the child's soul? Gábor Máté uses the language of photography to seek answers to these questions, giving the children a voice. <https://fb.me/e/35sQqLSVH>

↪ **Petya Boyukova / Influence / solo exhibition / Gallery Gallery, Ploshtadka, "Elisaveta Bagriyana" str. / October 13 – February 28.** Influence is an AR sculpture of a cat made of body parts of Barbie dolls that can now be seen at Ploshtadka, and Container VOX POPULI as part of the Object programme. Petya Boyukova is best

known for her extraordinarily daring stage and costume designs in independent and alternative theatre.
<https://www.gallerygallery.space/en/petya-boyukova-influence>

VARNA

↪ **María Zafirkova and Dimitar Traychev / ZAFTRA / joint exhibition / Varna City Gallery, 1 Lyuben Karavelov St. / December 16 – February 28.** With this exhibition, the Varna artistic couple María Zafirkova and Dimitar Traychev, who are significant for the Bulgarian visual arts, are attempting a retrospective. Under the title ZAFTRA - a combination of the surnames of the two, they collect remarkable works from galleries and collectors - from the earliest canvases, through memorable festival appearances to sharply contemporary works from the last decade. <https://bit.ly/3ZgqgAz>

↪ **Svetlin Savov / solo show / Varna City Gallery, 1 Lyuben Karavelov St. / December 20 – January 31.** In his first solo exhibition and guest appearance in Varna, graphic artist Svetlin Savov, working in the field of abstract art, presents a series of digital works. Having gone through many metamorphoses and searches as an author, he finds himself in the geometric structure of cubism and the immensity of abstraction. He works in the field of digital graphics and photography. <https://bit.ly/3X8QSu4>

↪ **Group show / Varna City Gallery, Georgi Velchev Studio, 8 Radko Dimitriev St. / December 14 – February 28. 15** Varna artists of different generations, united by their participation in the museum's annual poster, present works in a collective exhibition. Albena Koeva, Boryana Simeonova, Boyan Boev, Vasil Nikolaev Vasilev, Veselin Nachev, Dean Darakchiev, Donika Kirova, Ivan Minchev, Maria Chakarova, Sasho Anastasov, Stefan Kulev and Tsvetan Krastev participated in painting and graphics. And Venelin Ivanov, Plamen Avramov and Hristo Hristov are involved with sculptures. <https://bit.ly/3CrXSit>

IN EUROPE

↪ **The Body / group exhibition / curator Konstantin Kostov / Bulharsky Kulturni Institut, Prague / January 5 – 27.** For the first time, the exhibition "The Body" was shown in the gallery-bookstore "Sofia Press" in early 2022., and then in the Bulgarian Cultural Institute in Berlin in October. On the exhibition, curator Konstantin Kostov explains: "The body is an exciting and provocative record of the artist's fascination with the human figure. The exhibition brings to the attention of the public paintings by the students of "Atelier 51", as a result of their one-year research on the subject and the genre. Along with the exhibition, the works of the artists - their teachers, who during their creative journey have approached the subject more than once, will also be presented.
<http://www.bki.cz/>

ART CAREER

↪ **Open call for coproduction visual arts / Toplocentrala, regional center for contemporary art, Sofia / Submission deadline January 13.** Leading point in approving the projects is the high artistic value, the knowledge of modern processes in the arts and the professional standards of presentation of the projects, as well

as their innovation, relevance, originality and communication with the public. The projects should be in line with the mission and goals of RCCA "Toplocentrala". <https://bit.ly/3Cn7yWv>

↪ **PETOFI200 MURAL ART : Open call / Submission deadline February 20.** "Liszt Institute - Hungarian Cultural Institute Sofia" and the team of "Sofia Graffiti Tour" invites professional and young artists (or artistic collectives) from Bulgaria, working in the field of the visual art, street art and graffiti to create a mural on an exterior wall with an area of 97 sq.m., of the "Shandor Petofi" Elementary School in Haskovo. <https://bit.ly/3GlvM0e>

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↪ news selection : Desislava Mileva

↪ logo : Nedko Solakov

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