



SOFIA

↪ **Andres Serrano / Torture / Masters of photography, Edition XIV / solo show / National Gallery, The Palace, 1, Knyaz Alexander I Sq. / September 16 – October 27.** Presented in his largest scaled photographs, akin to Renaissance masterpieces, the exhibition comprises twenty works from a monumental body of work that elucidates the decay at the heart of society. Torture captures the empty spaces of interrogation rooms, immigration detention centres and concentration camps, alongside historical torture devices from prominent museum collections and replica devices used as tourist attractions. Serrano photographed preeminent Whistleblowers on torture and the victims, who generously offered their testimonies. <https://bit.ly/3Cizv2n>

↪ **Yona Tukuser / Hunger / solo show / National Gallery, Kvadrat 500, 1, 19th February St. / September 27 – November 27.** In an interdisciplinary project, the artist Yona Tukuser, who works in the style of Metamodernism, interprets in her paintings the tragic consequences of hunger in the 20th century, while casting a troubled look at the present in the context of Russia's war against Ukraine. "Philosopher George Santayana's aphorism that those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it, should sound like an alarm, the power of which will be amplified by the historical paintings that are part of the project" commented Yona Tukuser. <https://bit.ly/3SH49I4>

↪ **The last first / group exhibition / Museum of Art from the Socialist Period, 7, Luchezar Stanchev St. / June 17 – October 23.** Through the image of Todor Zhivkov in the works of Bulgarian and foreign artists, the exhibition aims to shed light on a complex aspect of the art of the totalitarian epoch, namely the relationship between art and power. Some 60 works of painting, sculpture, graphic and decorative arts, documents and original manuscripts, visualise the interdependence of the creative intelligentsia of Bulgaria and the personality of the longest-serving Communist leader among the nations of Eastern Europe. The names of Dechko Uzunov, Ivan

Nenov, Vasil Barakov, Vasil Stoilov, Vera Nedkova, Nikolay Shmiregela, Alexander Popilov, and Svetlin Rusev stand out among the artists. <https://nationalgallery.bg/exhibitions/the-last-first/>

▸ **Women artists. New horizons between the two world wars / group exhibition / Sofia City Art Gallery, 1 Gen. Gurko st. / September 14 – November 27.** In the early 1920's, an impressively large group of women artists having rejected traditional gender role beliefs became active in the art scene. Self-confident, determined and devoted to her talent, the woman artist of the time between the two world wars managed, from today's perspective, to establish herself in the art scene. The exhibition features more than 200 fine art and craft works. Most of them were created in the period 1919–1939 representing a wide variety of genres and themes. <https://sqhg.bg/en/exhibitions/women-artists-new-horizons-between-the-two-world-wars/>

▸ **Lilyana Karadzova and Dimitar Stoyanovich / Invisible streets / joint project / Sofia City Art Gallery, 1 Gen. Gurko st. / September 20 – October 23.** Invisible Streets presents an imaginary cultural topography of Sofia as a cross-section of the cultural achievements in the city. Six thematic streets are organized according to the vocations of notable people from the Third Bulgarian State (1878–1946). Their homes have been detached from their topographic context, urban plan, and architectural style and have been photographed as personal abodes. The connection between civic awareness and historical memory is a constantly renewing living object of subjective perception. The coordinates indicated on the topographic maps in the first part of the exhibition are replaced by associations following the personal appearance of the buildings. Thus the labyrinth transforms into a reflection of the personal experience of the artists and their emotional connection with the urban trail of the notable figures of the capital. <https://bit.ly/3CfO3hn>

▸ **Ceramics. Substance/Form/Field / group exhibition / Vaska Emanouilova Gallery, 15, Qnko Sakyzov bul. / September 9 – October 16.** The exhibition presents an introspective-retrospective examination of ceramics, which is still referred to as an Art Academy "speciality". It challenges its characterization and positioning as the middle ground between two technological optimist extremes that both promise and threaten to completely eradicate the biologically determined. The authors explore the substances, the relationships between them, their attributes, the necessary causes for the creation of relations, and the effects of their interaction. The laboratory is housed in Bojidar Bonchev's ceramics workshop at the National Academy of Art. <https://bit.ly/3reDIDb>

▸ **Youlian Tabakov / Real/Apparantlyreal / solo show / Toplotsentrala Regional Centre for Contemporary Art, 5 Emil Berzinski str / September 28 – October 23.** Part of the FotoFabrika festival, the exhibition features photographs and objects in a three-dimensional installation. An artistic commentary by visual artist Youlian Tabakov made up of questions and shared thoughts about how we perceive existence and the line between subjective reality and objective truth. <https://www.fotofabrika.org/event/real-apparantlyreal>

▸ **Dimitar Grozdanov / From coal to fire / memorial exhibition / UBA, Rayko Alexiev Hall, 125 Rakovski str. / October 4 – 22.** The exhibition is dedicated to artist and art historian Dimitar Grozdanov's 70th anniversary. It presents Dimitar Grozdanov's work, paintings and sculptures, and also short texts and publications which communicate his reflections on the development of Bulgarian art in the 1990's. As a long-term editor of the „Изкуство – Art in Bulgaria“ magazine and founder of the Process/Space festival, Dimitar Grozdanov left an archive and collection of artistic wealth bearing witness to his tireless enthusiasm and complete commitment to art. <https://bit.ly/3e5CGkC>

▸ **7 – Out of traffic / curatorial project / UBA, 6 Shipka str / October 7 – November 3.** The exhibition presents a new experimental development of the three previous editions „10 x 5 x 3“ (2003, 2006, 2010) and „7 x 5 x 3“ (2021). Site-specific, text and conceptual object (Pravdoliub Ivanov), social activism and new media (Genadi Gatev), paradox situations reflecting sensitive and psychological experiences (Peter Tsanev), total digitalization (Venelin Shurelov), image deconstruction (Ivo Bistrichki, Krasimir Roussev, Simeon Stoilov). The project doesn't impose any limitations of ideas, media, or forms. <https://bit.ly/3C9vRX2>

↪ ***Lyudmila Milanova / How to disappear / solo exhibition / Goethe-Institut Bulgarien, 1 Budapesta St. / September 8 – October 7.*** The theme of the exhibition is the cloud as a natural phenomenon and as a metaphor of our digital world and complex technological systems. The word cloud is a thing in the commercial world, but most people doesn't truly know what it is, how it works or what it really does. Milanova's installation explores the double nature of the cloud today by making a conditional link between the two sides. The moment the artist take an action on her phone, a cloud of water steam forms at the gallery space. The cloud has been transformed into a *cloud*, then again to cloud made of water drops. <https://bit.ly/3ACmUES>

↪ ***Ruins and empires / Sofia Art Projects II / group exhibition / Largoto, Nezavisimost Sq. / October 22 – 30.*** The international exhibition Sofia Art Projects returns to the historic site of Largoto in Sofia with a second edition, transforming once again the spaces and long forgotten empty shops in the underpass under the presidency. The theme is inspired by the Largo as a place of memory for Sofia and its many thousands of years of history through the eras of different empires - Roman, Byzantine, Ottoman, and in the 20th century - between state socialism and post-communist capitalism. The exhibition includes different artistic positions by artists from Bulgaria, Germany, Spain, the Netherlands, Poland, and the Congo who are engaged in exploring the past and imperial heritage, be it material or immaterial. <https://bit.ly/3ENtP1G>

↪ ***How soon is now? / group show / curators Walter Seidl and Maria Vassileva / Structura Gallery, 9 Kuzman Shapkarev str. / September 27 – October 29.*** The exhibition "How Soon is Now?" deals with the question of how future living scenarios influence our present-day reality and how reality is dedicated to a machine-driven, virtual universe. Artificial intelligence and robotic machines determine our ways of thinking and (re-)acting while the physical subject becomes less important than its virtual, web-based component or sometimes even avatar. The title of the exhibition is borrowed from a song by The Smiths from 1984, a song about human beings and the necessity for interpersonal relations. "I am human, and I need to be loved, just like everybody else does." With works of Antoni Rayzhekov, Birgit Graschopf, Borjana Ventsislavova, Dimitar Solakov, Jakob Lena Knebl, Kay Walkowiak, Natalia Jordanova, Oliver Laric. <https://bit.ly/3dUY385>

↪ ***Natalia Jordanova / Present Myths or: Sixteen posters of nonexistent people and donkeys, watching a film trailer / solo show / curator Vasil Vladimirov / Structura Gallery, 9 Kuzman Shapkarev str. / September 27 – October 29.*** The current exhibition is the third part of the curatorial project 'Process Anatomy'. Within it, Natalia inverts the typical paradigm of creating and presenting art, in which the steps in developing the work often fade into the background. Here, the process becomes the concept and the work, and the exhibition is the medium through which we access it. She achieves this by employing formats that are part of the semantics of cinema, that being the film trailer and poster. <https://bit.ly/3dUY385>

↪ ***Nevena Ekimova / Pyjama Party in the Belly of the Whale / solo show / curator Chiara Cartuccia / ICA-Sofia Gallery, 134, Vasil Levski Blvd. / October 13 – November 8.*** "This exhibition attempts to produce a different space/time within the gallery walls, for other, new people to come play, lie down, sit, affect and pollute the former white cube. However, alongside a whimsical representation of visceral animal abysses, still stand lopsided versions of an art space's peripheral infrastructures, as the gift shop, or the omnipresent private-view-time makeshift bar. Far from radical otherness in its formalisation, as well as in its acceptance of digestion as a functional method, the exhibition rather wishes to create a moment of quiet disruption of the ordinary.", says about the show the curator Chiara Cartuccia. <https://bit.ly/3Ef1e5f>

↪ ***Stella Geppert / Tower breath body membrane / solo show / +359 Gallery, 13A Galichitza str. / October 4 – 24.*** In her first solo exhibition for the +359 Gallery, Stella Geppert considers architecture, the body and its surroundings as a single interdependent organic system that is both in resonance and constantly in communication. Using various organ-related breathing techniques, the artist initiates communication of the inner organs with the architecture of the water tower and multiplies her body tension into space. The basis for this is her physical movements and drawings, all of which become traces of energy fields in the exhibition. <https://bit.ly/3y4QkuU>

↪ **Stanislav Belovski / Nostalgic Dystopia / solo show / Credo Bonum Gallery, 2 Slavyanska str. / September 13 – October 8.** This is an exhibition about urbanism, in which there are deliberately no human figures. The exhibition works with places and spaces that remained unchanged by the impetuous construction activity of the “new time”. Discrete markers rather of individual memory, which arouse guesses in representatives of different generations about which is what and where, drawing the trajectories of personal routes in time. Like most of Stanislav Belovski’s projects, Nostalgic Dystopia starts from the individual to explore the general, and poses critical questions to our coexistence, to our functioning as a society. <https://bit.ly/3UTVNOU>

↪ **Peter Chinovsky / No Territory / solo show / curator Radoslav Mehadzhiyski / Gallery “Little Bird Place”, 7 “11-ti Avgust” Str. / October 12 – November 1.** “With his exhibition, Petar Chinovski directs our attention precisely to the distance between the absolute reality and our methods of communicating this reality. It does so with a surprising variety of means of expression, without any hint of tedious social criticism or contrived moralizing tone. On the contrary, the author interprets the theme openly, with careful judgment about the place and meaning of each element in the artistic syntax of the project. With the clear awareness that the perimeter of the issues addressed is “no man’s territory”, and any such territory is a perfect space for the meaningful exchange of ideas and perceptions.” - Radoslav Mehandzhiyski <https://bit.ly/3yQ6dFZ>

↪ **Vladimir Vasilev / T(h)rases / solo exhibition / Synthesis Gallery, 55 Vasil Levski bul. / September 19 – October 25.** T(h)rases is a long-term project on which Vladimir has worked for over a decade. In it, he takes a simultaneously personal and documentary look at Bulgaria with a brave voice and subtle irony, in vivid colour and with hope. It’s no accident that the title is a play on words with the French ‘thrases’ (a geographical and historical term for Thracians) and ‘traces’ (as in English, traces). In these spontaneous and sometimes absurd portraits and situations, one can find traces of past and present, of dreams and reality, of pride and despair, of love and hate... <https://bit.ly/3LQsXQv>

↪ **Object / group exhibition / Gallery Gallery, container “Vox Populi”, Knyazeska gradina / September 25 – October 26.** Container Vox Populi is a shipping container that was converted into an open-air stage. The Object programme transforms this stage into a contemporary art object presenting five video and augmented reality (AR) artworks by Diana Boneva, Marina Genova, Krassimir Terziev, Petya Boyukova and Albena Baeva and thus provides new meaning to its presence at this specific place in the city. <https://www.gallerygallery.space/en/albena-baeva-object>

↪ **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>

ART EVENTS SOFIA

↪ **Brad Downey Artist Talk / Goethe-Institut Bulgarien, 1 Budapesta St. / October 10, 18.30.** The American artist Brad Downey will be a guest of the Goethe-Institut Bulgaria for an artist-talk with curator Vera Mlechevska. Downey works mostly with materials found on the street, urban furniture such as pegs and benches, bottles and other random objects, while in a spontaneous way manages to change their functions and meanings. His actions are often temporary, sometimes causing real scandals. <https://bit.ly/3V4N8JB>

PLOVDIV

↪ **Melania Toma / exhibition in progress / Sarieva – Residency, 40 Otets Paisiy str. / October 4 – 29.** Melania Toma (b. 1996) grew up in Italy and is currently living and working in London. She is the third resident of Sarieva - Residency. Melania is a multidisciplinary artist whose work focuses on textiles and weaving. During her

residency in Bulgaria, Melania Toma will transform the Sarieva / Gallery into her studio, open to visitors and passers - by, presenting an exhibition in progress that will culminate on October 28 with the presentation of a final exhibition project and video documentation. The artist will explore traditional Bulgarian and Balkan practices and their distinctive visual language. <https://sarieva.org/>

↪ **Jeanne-Claude for beginners (or Power Girls in Public Space) / group exhibition / curator Luchezar Boyadjiev / artnewscafe, 38 Otets Paisiy str. / September 9 – October 9.** “Jeanne-Claude for beginners” is a continuation of the projet “Christo for beginners” started by Luchezar Boyadjiev in search of what’s private and shared in both the physical space and the imagination. The artist engages with the public space and that involves the urban, the media, and the virtual environment. In the second part of the project take part several women artists - Maria Nalbantova, Sophia Grancharova, Iskra Blagoeva, Natalia Todorova-Lenz, Aksiniya Peicheva, Boryana Rossa, Selma Selman, Kalina Dimitrova, Dessislava Terzieva, Mariela Gemisheva, Ina Valentinova, Šejla Kamerić, Ana Prvački. <https://bit.ly/3EdKtaH>

↪ **Petko Tanchev / 2019 Synergy of the Future / audio-visual project / Gallery of Fine Arts Plovdiv, 2019 Hall, 32 Gladstone str. / October 7 – 9.** 2019 Synergy of the Future is a series of audio-visual sequences that interpret the archival materials from the program of Plovdiv - European Capital of Culture 2019. Artificial Intelligence, Computer Vision, and Machine Learning classify and transform the archives by extracting metadata, dynamic parameters, textures, and shapes from them. The new models become a cognitive mapping of the cultural heritage created by the machine's functions as a "thinking tool". The authors will hold an open lecture on October 8th at 19:00 in which they will tell more about the technologies of the exhibition. <https://bit.ly/3ymwUSm>

VARNA

↪ **Art as opposition / group exhibition / Varna City Gallery, 1 Liuben Karavelov St. / September 13 – October 11.** Inspired from the theories of the famous philosopher and cultural critic Walter Benjamin that art serves as an active opposition against establishing conservative relations and aesthetic norms in every cultural system, the exhibition invites 32 Bulgarian artists. They represent various media and techniques – painting, sculpture, object, installation, video art, conceptual art and other. <https://bit.ly/3EhiAOR>

VELIKO TARNOVO

↪ **Tzvetelina Maximova / Message in a Box / solo show / Curator Martina Yordanova / TAM, 16 Velcho Dzamdzhiyata St. / September 23 – October 27.** In the space of 1m² Art, Tzvetelina Maximova shows the work "Message in a box", a molded object in the form of a parcel with no address or a clear content. The box hangs in space fixed to the ceiling, but still is shaking, rotating, travelling. Tzvetelina is a freelance artist who works in the field of painting and graphics, creates land art objects and installations. In her works, she uses both classical and experimental techniques. <https://bit.ly/3M6eLhm>

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