



SOFIA

→ **Veneta Androva, Luchezar Boyadjiev, Martina Vacheva, Mariela Gemisheva, Alla Georgieva, Gery Georgieva, Ivo Dimchev, Orlin Dvorianov and the "Kukuvden" Group, Vladimir Ivanov, Pravdoliub Ivanov, Tsvetan Krastev, Ventseslav Kostov, Albena Mihailova - Benji, Ivan Mudov, Stefan Nikolaev, Adelina Popnedeleva, Rassim®, Boryana Rossa and ULTRAFUTURO, Georgi Ruzhev, Vesselin Sariev, Kalin Serapionov, Nedko Solakov, Sasho Stoitsov, Krasimir Terziev, Houben Tcherkelov, Stanka Tsonkova – Usha / A few ways to win the world / group exhibition / curated by Dessislava Dimova and Vera Mlechevska / Doza Gallery, 52 Tsar Samuil str. / March 22 – April 13.** The exhibition looks into the history of contemporary Bulgarian art through its performative self-presentation to the outside world in an attempt at a dialogue - real and imagined. The exhibition takes as pretext the interest expressed by the Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, in including works of contemporary Bulgarian art in the museum's collection. Through the imaginary gaze of an international museum, the exhibition re-enacts the theatre of what we want (or don't want) the world to see of us. <https://fb.me/e/165HvnkNM>

→ **Lote Mihailova / The return of Lote Mihailova. Shy intimacy / retrospective exhibition / Sofia City Art Gallery, ul. "Gurko 1 / 4 April - 14 May / FotoFabrika's team delves into the archive of one of the most significant Bulgarian photographers of the recent past - Lote Mihaylova. The exposition is accompanied by a catalogue, in which over 90 images from the author's personal archive, created between the 1960s and the 1980s, are selected, 60 of which are included in this show. The publication will be presented on 12 April and on 19 April there will be a lecture and discussion with Plamen Petrov.** <https://bit.ly/3KaUF5h>

→ **XXL (Svilen Stefanov, Gennady Gatev, Huben Cherkelov, Georgi Tushev, Kosyo Minchev, Ivan Kyuranov, RASSIM®, Petko Durmana, Rosen Toshev, Dimitar Yaranov, Georgi Ruzhev, Boris Serginov, Krasimir Dobrev) / 18+ / group show / curated by Suzana Nikolova / ONE Gallery, 14 Ivan Vazov str. / April 4 – May 5.** The exhibition presents works that have a sharp social content and are extremely provocative. Art is

one of the most powerful vehicles for social response. In recent years, we are in a situation of epidemics, military conflicts, natural disasters and an increasing devaluation of human values at all levels. The authors of the XXL group cannot remain indifferent to everything that is happening, and their reaction to reality is their provocative works. There is no fear of public opinion in their works, on the contrary – they provoke and brutally ask questions.– Suzana Nikolova. <https://www.onegallery.eu/xxl-2023>

↪ **Tekla Aleksieva, Georgi Bozhilov, Milko Bozhkov, Toma Varbanov, Maya Gorova, Ivan Dimov, Maria Zafirkova, Vasko Ivanov, Petyo Marinov, Teofan Sokerov, Elena Sokerova, Sasho Stoitsov, Dimitar Traychev, Vanko Urumov, Stefan Yanev/ Documents. Painting after Photography in Bulgaria in the 1970s and 1980s / group exhibition / Sofia City Art Gallery, 1 Gen. Gurko st. /March 2 – June 4.** The exhibition presents works created between 1973 and 1989 and explores the tendency towards interpreting photographs and images from printed publications in the space of the painting, characteristic of that period. The project analyses the trend through the lens of late socialism and the specific information environment of the time – between political propaganda and news from abroad. <https://bit.ly/3y2QS3Y>

↪ **Stanislav Pamukchiev / Passage - Trajectories in Time / solo exhibition / curated by Petar Tsanev / Union of Bulgarian Artists, 6 Shipka Str. and Arte Gallery, 31 Buzludja Str. / 3 - 28 April.** The exhibition is on the occasion of the artist's 70th anniversary and presents new works and a selection of milestone works from the artist's 45-year creative practice. The project unfolds in two parallel expositions in two separate locations - the gallery of the Union of Bulgarian Artists - Shipka 6 and Arte Gallery, Sofia. The leading idea of the exhibition is to present in unison the parallel trajectories of the artist's creative searches and realizations, the inner unity of the artistic position, regardless of the change of plastic and conceptual approaches - figurative painting, the painting as an object, informal sign-abstract idiom, installations, video and multimedia. <https://bit.ly/3nq3ZKD>

↪ **3CODESIGN – 3R: Reduce, Recycle, Reuse / group show / Kvadrat 500, 19th February St. / March 17 – April 30.** The Embassy of Italy in Sofia, the Italian Cultural Institute and the Italian Trade Agency jointly present, with the National Gallery, the travelling exhibition of sustainable Italian design focused on the recycling and reuse of resources. The initiative is part of the 2023 Italian Design Day—a series of events organised by Italy's diplomatic corps around the world. The exposition provides a synthetic but fully representative overview of the new paradigm of Italian design with its growing focus on environmental sustainability. The objects, products and accessories on display are either recycled materials or the result of the application of sustainable technologies. <https://bit.ly/3JVtU4j>

↪ **Tekla Aleksieva / A woman is sitting and drawing... / solo exhibition / curated by Lyuben Domozetski / Gallery Little Bird Place, 7 "11-ti Avgust" Str. / March 30 – April 20.** The current exhibition shows a new, almost unknown side of Tekla's work. A series of not shown until now abstract works are united with several biblical compositions, created with the characteristic objective style of Tekla. What unites all these works is the artist's interest in the theme of the Cosmos, the beginning of the world. – Lyuben Domozetski. <https://bit.ly/40IL56r>

↪ **Sandro Miller / Malkovich, Malkovich, Malkovich: Homage to Photographic Masters/ solo exhibition / Kvadrat 500, 4th floor, new wing of the building, 19th February St. / February 17 – April 30.** The American photographer Sandro Miller and the Hollywood star actor John Malkovich recreated the most iconic photographic images from the 20th and 21st centuries in Malkovich, Malkovich, Malkovich: Homage to Photographic Masters cycle. The exhibition comprised 61 colored and black and white photographs, which John Malkovich compounded in the images of famous people. <https://bit.ly/3kLRFDx>

↪ **Georgi Chapkanov / Chapkanov. The Alchemist. / retrospective exhibition / curator Maria Vassileva / National Gallery, The Palace, 1, Knyaz Alexander I Sq. / February 14 – May 14.** The National Gallery announces the opening of an exhibition on the Bulgarian sculptor Georgi Chapkanov, dedicated to his 80th birthday. More than 70 works are included – owned by the artist; the inventory of many galleries and private

collectors. Through the medium of virtual reality, the artist's most iconic project is presented in one of the halls – the monument dedicated to the city of Sofia. The exhibition, retrospective in character, places Chapkanov's at first glance earthly works within the context of an unearthly, metaphysical world, one in which the celestial has its own clearly demarcated structure. <https://bit.ly/3J05SpM>

↪ **Youlian Tabakov / GENESIS / solo show / Rayko Aleksiev Gallery, 125 Georgi S. Rakovski Str. / 30 March - 17 April.** The artist Yulian Tabakov creates GENESIS with his works from the last 7 years, which he will present in a fluid combination between different exhibition spaces in Ruse, Plovdiv and Varna. In Sofia, the exhibition will feature new, previously unseen works. This is the first exhibition series with the artist's own format, which will be re-arranged in terms of meaning in relation to the venue, taking place in 4 galleries in 4 Bulgarian cities. <https://fb.me/e/1br5Z7PML>

↪ **Harita Asumani, Martin Atanasov, DAMO, Anna Haifisch, Alina Papazova, Ariane Toussaint / A TYPO IN THE BOOK OF THE SELF / group exhibition / KO-OP, 17 Yanko Sakazov Blvd. / March 24 – April 11.** The third edition of FIG. – The Festival for Illustration and Graphics was traditionally opened with a group exhibition at KO-OP Art Space. In line with the main theme There Must Be Some Mistake, the exhibition titled A Typo in the Book of the Self seeks to explore various notions of the self and the body in relation to their representation and their care in contemporary society. Some of the works stand in contrast to the predominant individualistic and capitalist perspective of self-care, while others offer speculative scenarios which break this pattern and create new unexpected worlds and ways of thinking. <https://fb.me/e/Z3VGCQHM>

↪ **Ivaylo Avramov / Capacity / artistic project / Vaska Emanuilova Gallery, 15 Yanko Sakazov Blvd. / March 9 – April 16.** This sculpture exhibition featuring works by Ivaylo Avramov is the first of a series of interventions designed for the spaces of public art galleries throughout the country launched by the artist in 2017. The project focuses on an architectural element, namely the wall between two exhibition halls of the Vaska Emanuilova Gallery, which was also subject to previous interventions. The artist tasks himself with studying architectural volume from the vantage point of its gravitational and material transformation. <https://bit.ly/3TNMqZP>

↪ **Maria Nalbantova / Landscapes per meter / solo exhibition / curated by Luhezhar Boyadjiev / ICA, 134 Vasil Levski Blvd. / February 23 – April 7.** Landscapes per Meter is inspired by the artist's residency Maria Nalbantova did in 2022 with the Residency Unlimited in New York City. As the winner of the BAZA Award for 2020, she spent two months in New York while experiencing the city in its various details as both a world of art and a place to live in. Landscapes per Meter is a space/time composition of memory fragments. These might be perceived as communication means, as traces, as evidences but above all as measurement units. <https://bit.ly/3kyBOIB>

↪ **The Apostle's Confession / multimedia exhibition / Kvadrat 500, 4th floor, new wing of the building, 19th February St. / February 20 – December 31.** Multimedia exposition dedicated to 150 years since the death of Vasil Levski. Using holographic technology on a large-scale video wall, a re-enactment of the trial of the Apostle of Freedom is displayed, and significant moments of his life are brought back to life. <https://bit.ly/3ZyLIZu>

↪ **Andrei Barbu / The crying beam / solo exhibition / Gallery Gallery, Sculpture park Ploshtadka / April 4 – September 4.** The Crying Beam is a series of works that result from a research project in which Andrei Barbu examines these notions. The series centres around a metal beam, much like H-channels that are used in construction works. The metal beam is bent to resemble a human figure. For his exhibition at gallery Gallery, Andrei turned The Crying Beam into a gigantic sculpture in Augmented Reality (AR). The effort and technology needed to see the work make this figure disappear when we stop trying. <https://www.gallerygallery.space/en/andrei-barbu-crying-beam>

↪ **Kaliya Kalacheva, Kaloyan Nikolov / Bodies / Antibodies / joint exhibition / Arosita Gallery, 12B "Vrabcha" str. / April 4 - 28.** "Bodies" in the concept of the exhibition presents the nude photographs of Kaloyan Nikolov, who explores the human body as an object, a part of nature, an extension of the lines of the world

around us. On the other hand, "Anti" is a prefix that defines the subsequent word as opposition, but in medicine the appearance of antibodies is proof of the immune system doing its job. "Antibodies" trigger an immune response that protects the body. Painting and photography meet in a new field of intrusiveness and experimentation. <https://fb.me/e/4rPYbxX6Q>

↪ **Edward Weston, Robert Frank, Elliott Erwitt, Ralph Gibson, and Antanas Sutkus, Garo Keshishian, 'Yuri', Stanka 'Usha' Tsonkova and others / MIRRORS AND WINDOWS:SELECTED PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE COLLECTION OF RAFAELO KAZAKOV / retrospective exhibition / curated by Nadezhda Pavlova and Nikola Mihov / Synthesis Gallery, 55 Vasil Levski Blvd / March 22 -April 28.** The title "Mirrors and Windows" is a reference to the exhibition of the same name that influenced generations of photographers. Organized by John Sharkowski at the Museum of Modern Art in New York in 1978, it is a look at American photography from the 1960s and includes photographs divided into two sections. In this way, the curator argues that there is a fundamental dichotomy in photography between those who use it as a means of self-expression (mirrors) and those who see it as a method of exploration (windows). Synthesis Gallery brings together under one roof "mirrors and windows" from the rich collection of Raffaello Kazakov. <https://fb.me/e/7JIFWSgFo>

↪ **Raw Lab / The Fabricated Truth and Other Myths of Human Annotations / solo exhibition / Depoo Gallery, 12b Vrabcha str / 4 April - 15 April.** The visual vocabulary of an image allows for multiple perspectives and interpretations, and context is determinant for the meaning of the visual material. We are always looking for additional information to enrich and complicate the narrative. The exhibition frames the processes implicit in the development of machine vision and questions the meaning and importance of context in "reading" images. The artists recover context that has been deliberately omitted, exposing techniques typical in the development of artificial intelligence. <https://fb.me/e/2Awn9HSVm>

↪ **Antoni Raizhekov / To the Last Drop / sound installation / curated by Ralitsa Gerasimova / +359 Gallery, 13-A Gallicitsa Street / March 20 - April 22.** Antoni Raizhekov is an artist who seeks the non-obvious path to otherwise clear and simple concepts. The exhibition deals with the theme of exhaustion. The title itself directs us to a familiar metaphor, which the artist develops into a whole philosophical thesis, but instead of words he uses objects, and the internal logic of the exhibition is the unusually generated sound. <https://fb.me/e/16dPsBpjl>

↪ **FROM THE STORAGE. Sculpture XX and XXI century / retrospective exhibition / Charta Gallery, 12 Vrabcha Str. / March 28 - April 21.** In this exhibition, the team of the Charta Gallery brings out of the storage works by major Bulgarian artists who have created art over the last 130 years. The exposition presents the rich history of Bulgarian sculpture. <https://fb.me/e/4iygMeYPb>

↪ **Ruth Koleva / Dis/harmonies / solo exhibition / Credo Bonum Gallery, 2 Slavyanska Street / April 5 - April 23.** With the photographic exhibition "Dis/harmonies" the famous singer Ruth Koleva demonstrates an unknown side of her creative interests. The pictures were taken with digital and analogue camera during travels. The author captures the faces of ordinary people in seemingly everyday situations. Behind them is hidden a penetrating psychological insight. It is as if she herself managed to see beyond the photo, the meaning of the life situation, to understand it and by and by reach what is most important - the person. <https://bit.ly/3TRARrP>

↪ **Stylian Dichev / Facts-Illusion-Truth / solo exhibition / Nuance Gallery, 42 Ivan Denkoglou Str. / March 23 - April 9.** "This is a true story about fictional objects and characters. One of the main goals I have set for myself in my work in recent years is to present the abstract, the fictional, the non-existent as a convincing fact. To make the viewer not ask the question, "What do you mean?" but to contemplate and feel what is depicted as undeniable truth. A difficult task, but worthy of attention. Art is a beautiful illusion and is an expression of the subjective gaze of the artist, who lives in another dimension of his own, where contemplation creates images." - Stilyan Dichev <https://www.nuancegallery.bg/stilijan-dichev-exhibition/>

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↪ **Stoyan Kutsev / Zone of Grey / solo exhibition / [a]cube contemporary gallery, 9 Lyuben Karavelov Str. / March 31 - April 28.** In this exhibition Stoyan Kutsev stays true to his style by presenting conceptual works. The show is an exploration of "Fear" as a behavioural driver, as a press that even manages to suppress the individual's instinct for preservation. <https://fb.me/e/14nIEFrOH>

↪ **Rawlab.xyz / Decoding Ambiguity / solo exhibition / Punta Gallery, 13 Danube Str./ March 28 - April 11.** The artists use natural language processing algorithms and artificial intelligence to create a dreamlike universe. The result is a series of generated poems that were used to instruct a machine learning algorithm for creating images. The installation invites visitors to enter an immersive space where a series of visual experiments reveal hidden patterns and complex relations emerging from language and image interplay. <https://fig.bg/>

PLOVDIV

↪ **Aaron Roth / Beige / solo exhibition / Sarieva Gallery, Otets Paisiy str. 40 / February 10 – April 24.** The exhibition continues the artist's quest to capture and expose in his work the contemporary domestic and political reality in Bulgaria and the Balkans in general. A reality marked by the national psychology, the thugs and the nouveau riche of the 90's and the Transition, the integration policies of the European Union, the corruption encoded in politics and the everyday life of the people. Beige is presented as the colour of the mature "thug elite" and its passage into the political. It is the colour of neutrality and muted tension, the "background colour". <https://gallery.sarieva.org/beige/>

↪ **Velina Hristova, Gergana Tabakova, Dorian Bolca, Du Xiaokun, Evgeni Mladenov, Evelina Nova, Emil Mirazchiev, Iva Vacheva, Ivan Ivanov, Nadia Genova, Osman Yuseinov, Raicho Stanev, Sarkis Nersesyan, Sevdalina Kochevska, Sonya Mitova, Harita Assumani, Tsvetanka Bornosuzova, Tsvetelina Angelova, Yavor Kostadinov / Art positive: Eco / group exhibition / Kapana Gallery, 29 Rayko Daskalov str. / March 17 - April 20.** This year, Art Positive, in addition to raising the theme of eco-sustainability, connection with the environment and conscious consumption, will carry out an exhibition that strives to be zero-waste, so all works will either be from organic or recycled materials (or up-cycle). In this way, besides reflecting the very need of humanity at the moment to "return" and integrate the natural way of thinking, it gives the opportunity to explore the different practices in art related to a more ecological way of creation. <https://fb.me/e/6cB0a0DnD>

↪ **Minko Mihaylov / Morocco - Inspiration in Colours / solo exhibition / City Gallery of Fine Arts Plovdiv, Knyaz Alexander I str. 15 / March 30 – April 23.** Plovdiv-based photographer and traveler Minko Mihaylov presents a selection of images taken over a period of 10 years - from 2013 to 2023 - including landscapes, portraits, architecture and street scenes. The featured photographs will introduce visitors to the colourful people and impressive sights of Morocco. <https://fb.me/e/TmkFSaja>

↪ **Lyuben Hranov / Lucid Dreams / solo exhibition / Labirint Gallery, 1 Angel Bukoreschliev Str. / March 24 - April 14.** "Lucid Dreams" is a provocation to the viewer. To what extent a dream can be lucid depends on the dreamer or the observer in it. The artist reveals that while painting his abstract compositions he is both dreamer and observer, and his art contains a saturation of color, depth and form of composition. He does not break the rules at any cost - he uses the techniques of classical painting, achieving an independent reality. <https://fb.me/e/KNfMzvVk>

VARNA

▸ **Petya Taneva / Raspberry Blue / solo exhibition / Le Papillon Gallery, 12 Dragoman Str. / 6 - 26 April.** The exhibition brings together eighteen watercolours with Petya Taneva's recognisable aesthetic. Her narratives are laconic, but with a subtle draughtsmanship, revealing elegant photorealistic works with a strong feminine energy. Her observation of small details, searching for material structure in symbiosis with her precise drawing skills, proves her undeniable talent. <https://bit.ly/40V3YNj>

▸ **Exhibition of Ivan Kirkov / retrospective exhibition / curator Boris Statelov / Boris Georgiev Art Gallery, 1 Lyuben Karavelov Str. / March 29 - 18 April.** An artist of great creative activity, with a taste for experiment and change, a thoughtful artist and an alert citizen, prof. Kirkov left a bright mark in the visual culture of our time - not only with his works, but also by educating a generation of Bulgarian artists in the spirit of free expression and creative independence. The exhibition includes paintings, drawings and graphics from all the artist's creative periods - 110 works since 1965. - Boris Statelov. <https://fb.me/e/7ir23bYwk>

▸ **Zheko Donchev, Yavor Penev, Zheko Spiridonov, Lyubomir Dalchev, Andrey Nikolov, Kiril Shivarov, Kiril Todorov / Fragments from Varna / retrospective exhibition / Asparuhovo Art Gallery, 1 Narodni Buditeli Blvd / April 26 - May 10.** The exhibition brings together significant works by a pleiad of artists from Bulgaria's past. Their sculptures, located in the Sea Garden and other spaces in Varna, are scanned and printed in the form of 3D models. The miniature copies of the works, including monuments to Hristo Botev, Petko Voyvoda, Nicolaus Copernicus and others, are being brought together for the first time. <https://bit.ly/3JNhAF>

▸ **Boyan Lyubenov / Look Up / solo exhibition / Asparuhovo Art Gallery, 1 Narodni Buditeli Blvd / April 26 - May 10.** This exhibition offers a new perspective on the remarkable architecture of Varna from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The photographic exhibition includes 20 buildings - monuments of culture, presented both from a bird's eye view with a drone and with close-up highlights on individual curious details of the facades that often go unnoticed. The photographs on each of the exhibition panels are accompanied by a short text talking about the history and purpose of the respective building. The historical data has been synthesized by Christian Oblakov. <https://bit.ly/3JNhAF>

VELIKO TURNOVO

▸ **Lyuben Zidarov / The World of Lyuben Zidarov / retrospective exhibition / Boris Denev Gallery, Alexander Stamboliiski Str. / March 22 - mid-April.** In the hometown of Lyuben Zidarov will be presented a retrospective exhibition of the work of one of the brightest Bulgarian illustrators. The organizers describe the event as a tribute to the artist's contribution to the celebration of Veliko Tarnovo. <https://fb.me/e/444kSe4Sn>

IN EUROPE

▸ **Rudi Ninov / Writing Paintings / самостоятелна изложба/ Galleria Continua, San Gimignano, Italy/ January 21 – May 7.** The exhibition showcases both sculpture and painting as a manifestation of the young Bulgarian artist's current preoccupation with sound and shape, how they relate to one another and how sound can be translated into shape and colour in his works. Ninov , explores the formal and the personal, the abstract and the figurative. In preparation for this exhibition, the artist spoke out loud letters from the Latin and Cyrillic alphabets in an attempt to bring this basic monophonic concept into a shapes and colours. <https://bit.ly/3XTq7KR>

ART CAREER

▸ **eXperience by eMAG. Dream, create and inspire: Create a static artwork for the facade of the National Palace of Culture / Submission deadline April 30.** eMAG continues its partnership with the LUNAR light art festival and gives three Bulgarian artists the chance to show their works on the facade of the National Palace of Culture. The winners will be part of a static 3D mapping and part of the festival program. The three themes of the competition are: eMotions, eXplore and eFuture. <https://www.emag.bg/lps/lunar-contest-2023>

▸ **FiKVA Awards 2023 : Open call / Submission deadline May 18.** The International FiKVA Award for painters 2023 is a global competition with a € 5000 cash prize. The open call accepts all genres: modern, classical and imaginative realism, hyper-, photo- and surrealism. No comics, airbrush, digital or mechanical works are accepted. <https://bit.ly/41FA9BC>

Monthly edition by artnewscafe and Sarieva/Hub

▸ news selection : Gergana Minkova

▸ logo : Nedko Solakov

▸ cover : Youlian Tabakov, SYNCERUS CAFFER, 2021, 96 x 76 x 34 cm, African buffalo skull, wood, metal, packaging materials, in the exhibition "GENESIS", Rayko Aleksiev Gallery, 125 Georgi S. Rakovski Str., 30 March - 17 April.