



SOFIA

→ ***Jump. Artworks from the Darik Collection / group exhibition / Sofia Arsenal – Museum of contemporary art, 2, Cherni Vrah Blvd. / April 4 - May 26.*** The exhibition presents 25 young but already well-established artists, with defined positions in art and individuality of expression, whose works are a reflection of contemporaneity. They are of a generation that makes frequent appearances in the artistic calendar, but whose compositions are rarely included in public or private collections. They are united by the occasion of their joint meeting: 25 years of the Darik Collection. <https://nationalgallery.bg/exhibitions/jump-artworks-from-the-darik-collection/>

→ ***Krasimir Karabadjakov / Troubled surfaces / solo show / curated by Yana Bratanova / National Gallery, The Palace, 1, Knyaz Alexander I Sq. / February 7 – April 28.*** “The paintings featured in the exhibition outline the territory of the ‘imagerial compulsions’ that have haunted Krasimir Karabadjakov over the years; a reign in which his view of painting is—iconographically, thematically, and creatively—elevated above banality. Karabadjakov’s painting indubitably belongs to the domain of the conceptual. His markedly personal expressive gesture makes it difficult to draw a direct parallel with the oeuvre of any other artist working in a similar area. The dynamism of form, the subtle irony and sensitivity of vision, the shifting of dimension and the skill in transforming the space; all are major characteristics of his art.” – Yana Bratanova <http://tinyurl.com/4nf9ap3u>

→ ***Kalina Taseva (1927 - 2022) / retrospective exhibition / curated by Boryana Valchanova, PhD / National Gallery, Kvadrat 500, 1, 19th February St. / April 5 - June 23.*** “Kalina Taseva ranks as one of the illustrious figures in the panorama of Bulgarian visual art. She embarked on her artistic career in the 1950s in an extremely difficult sociocultural environment — a time highly charged with ideological dogma regarding Bulgarian art. Her works were not affected by contemporary artistic trends; instead, they were multilayered, revealing a breadth and complexity of thought, and executed with extreme professionalism. Through her powerful expression, and in a

challenge to the time in which she lived, Taseva bolstered her prestige, thereby establishing her vivid presence in the annals of Bulgarian painting.” - Boryana Valchanova <https://nationalgallery.bg/exhibitions/kalina-taseva-1927-2022/>

↪ **Nadezhda Oleg Lyahova / Preservation / solo show / The Vera Nedkova House Museum, 2, 11 August St. / February 15 - September 13.** ‘In the Home of Vera Nedkova’, the programme launched in 2019, continues to present contemporary artists in an atmosphere filled with a myriad of memories and marked by the artist’s intellectual and creative presence. Nadezhda Oleg Lyahova’s exhibition re-evaluates the significance and meaning of time and memory, events and facts and opens a personal perusal of, and extensive research into, the issue of preserving the museum as an institution and, simultaneously, transferring memory. <https://nationalgallery.bg/exhibitions/nadezhda-oleg-lyahova-preservation/>

↪ **Sounds Like a Whisper (Poetically Political) / group exhibition / curated by Galina Dimitrova and Ariel Reichman / Sofia City Art Gallery, 1 Gurko Str / March 12 - May 26.** The exhibition presents a selection of 11 artists from 8 countries, whose artistic practice can be described as “poetically political.” The guiding principle of this practice is that it seeks the poetic (often in distressing realities) and is interested in the state of mind of the political sphere. The exhibition presents works by pioneers in the approach of poetic political art, such as Bas Jan Ader (NL) and Etel Adnan (LB), as well as by contemporary artists who are actively working in this direction: Ella Littwitz (IL), Petrit Halilaj (XK), Sejla Kameric (BH), David Horovitz (USA), Ariel Reichman (SA), Natalie Czech (DE), and Driton Selmani (XK), together with the Bulgarian artists Pravdoluib Ivanov and Borjana Ventzislavova. <https://sqhg.bg/en/exhibitions/sounds-like-a-whisper-poetically-politicalcontemporary-art-exhibition/>

↪ **Gredi Assa / Travels / retrospective exhibition / Sofia City Art Gallery, 1 Gen. Gurko st. / February 27 - May 2.** Through the travel metaphor, the exhibition presents the artist’s development, paying special attention to his contribution to the development of contemporary Bulgarian art and the latter’s place on the European and world art scene. The exhibition features more than 140 artworks, including oil and watercolor paintings and drawings, created between the late 1970’s and the present day, some of which are exhibited for the first time. Artworks included in the exhibition were provided by Gredi Assa himself (from his studio and personal collection), as well as by galleries and museums throughout the country and private collectors. <https://sqhg.bg/en/exhibitions/gredi-assa-travels/>

↪ **Images of Women. Drawings Collection of Prof. Chavdar Slavov / group show / Vaska Emanuilova Gallery, 15 Yanko Sakazov Blvd. / March 28 - April 21.** The drawings collection of Prof. Chavdar Slavov, includes over 200 works. They represent a large spectrum of artists, from ones who have become classics, to contemporary artists. His collection is also one of the largest private collections of contemporary Bulgarian drawings. The current exhibition presents part of this collection through the figure of the woman. We find her between nature and imagination as muse, model, guardian, mother, totem. Her face is also present in the portrait genre. She is an exotic princess or a maiden, a Bulgarian woman or a typified character. The exhibition includes about 40 works executed in various techniques of graphic art – print, lithography, etching, aquatint, mezzotint, drypoint, serigraphy. <https://fb.me/e/4bEF7r3zl>

↪ **49 National caricature exhibition / group show / UBA, 6 Shipka Str. / April 4 - 23.** Political editorial cartoons, satirical drawings, graphic and pictorial works in the caricature genre will be presented at the annual meeting of Bulgarian cartoonists. <https://tinyurl.com/2se6425j>

↪ **Krasimir Rusev / Time after time / solo exhibition / UBA, Rayko Alexiev Hall, 125 Rakovski Str / April 2 - 20.** In the last century and a half, a new trend has been noticed in the approach to the creation, presentation and distribution of the cultural product, which is also reflected in the image system. In this process, iconic classics were incorporated, assimilated and branded by the business in the form of a subcultural product. This changed the way of perceiving the authentic essence of the messages, which reflects directly in the sensibilities of the modern generations. The Time After Time project presents artifacts and events taken out of the context of the

time in which they were created and treated in light of our new reality. With this message, it pleads for an authentic attitude towards everything that we have inherited and preserved as a millennial cultural product." - Krasimir Rusev <https://tinyurl.com/mr4djnck>

↪ **Dimitar Genchev / Sepia / solo show / Sarieva @ DOT, Sofia, 46, Bratya Miladinovi str., Women's Market / April 4 - May 12.** Dimitar Genchev's new solo exhibition presents previously unseen canvases and focuses on a yet little-known direction of the author's visual investigations and experiments. In the works created in the last year, Dimitar Genchev combines abstract and figurative elements, exploring how far the decay and overflow of forms can go. <https://tinyurl.com/56zvpd6c>

↪ **Marta Djourina / Flashbacks / solo show / curated by Marina Slavova / ICA - Sofia, 134 Vasil Levski Blvd. / April 5 - May 12.** Flashbacks is a trip back in time to the two months in early 2023 which Marta Djourina spent on an artist residency in New York City as the 2021 BAZA Award winner. The exhibition has an abstract-documentary characteristic and invites visitors to relive the memory of the journey, told through the artist's signature techniques. <https://tinyurl.com/rukeyb9p>

↪ **Klaas Kloosterboer / Sunscapes / solo show / Structura Gallery, 9 Kuzman Shapkarev St. / April 11 - May 30.** Klaas Kloosterboer belongs to a leading generation of Dutch artists, whose creation developed in the wake of the Fluxus and Zero movements, widely known for his interdisciplinary practice and site-specific projects that combine conceptual and action painting, sculpture, video and performance art. Featuring an immersive installation consisting of abstract paintings and objects from different creative periods, as well as previously unseen videos, this exhibition draws around a subject that is equally familiar and mysterious: the sun. <https://tinyurl.com/3nmew6f9>

↪ **Marta Djourina, Pia vom Ende and Dennis Rudolph / Homo Deus / joint show / curated by Boris Kostadinov / Goethe-Institut, 1 Budapest Str. / April 12 – May 12.** The exhibition Homo Deus asks profound questions about the nature of existence and the search for meaning in a world governed by algorithms and artificial intelligence. It debates the existential imperative to navigate the contemporary ethics of technological evolution, within the context of inherent notions of value, dignity and morality - a reminder of the ethical categories and existential dilemmas that accompany the pursuit of god-like powers. <https://tinyurl.com/4tksdbvx>

↪ **Milen Radev / Connections / solo show / curated by Nikola Mihov / Little Bird Place Gallery, 7 "11th August" str. / April 3 - 21.** In the current exhibition, curator Nikola Mihov writes, "Milen Radev presents his sculptural objects made of 'tiklas'*, which he calls 'gabritsi'. In the spirit of land art, the artist creates sculptures from raw materials and places them in a natural environment, where they are being altered or destroyed by natural forces. Apart from the forests of the Rhodope Mountains near the village of Gabritsa, where their name comes from, we can also find them in his black and white silver gelatin prints. They are presented in the exhibition together with site-specific sculptural stone objects."

↪ **Aleksandra Chaushova / The vigilant writers / solo show / curated by Dessislava Dimova / Swimming Pool, 10 Tsar Osvoboditel Str. / April 4 – May 9.** "History is a narrative, and storytellers are often unreliable. Writers can be creators, agents of secret services, recruited citizens – agents. They all write stories and history. In the exhibition "The Vigilant Writers," Aleksandra Chaushova blends works from several of her series, each with its own stories and protagonists, into a generalized image – that of the vigilant but unreliable writer. He is middle-aged, from different eras, simultaneously executioner and victim, and writes history as it is created, or creates it as he writes it, infecting reality with fiction." - Dessislava Dimova <https://tinyurl.com/d59bhjwr>

↪ **Tresor / joint show / One Gallery, 1 Diakon Ignatij Str. / April 4 - May 5.** "The exhibition presents the dialogue between two authors who, through their art, examine the themes of materialistic desire, aesthetics and the construction of value. "Tresor" is an area where objects and trends are symbolically stored, raising questions about the fetishization of objects and symbols from our everyday life. Deyan Valkov works with oils and organic

materials to create paintings that invite emotional and spiritual contemplation. Ina Vasileva-INA is an author who works in the post-feminist artistic sphere. The range of her work includes sculpture, performance, installation and painting, and she often uses materials and processes associated with early conceptualism, pop art and minimalism." - Desislava Zafirova, curator <https://tinyurl.com/y8n572j9>

↪ **Aaron Roth and Nikola Stoyanov / Postcards and contraband / joint show / curated by Hristo Kaloyanov / Charta Gallery, 12 "Vrabcha" Str. and Posta Space, 34 Knyaz Dondukov Bul. / April 11 - May 12.** "Postcards and contraband" has its inception in an incidentally found archive from the Bulgarian Customs Agency, Directorate "Struggle Against Narcotics Trafficking" from the period 1975-1985. The contraband, which is intended to remain hidden, as well as the organisation behind it, remain only partially caught to this day. Can the found archive and subsequent tracing of the negative image of the past reveal what has become of state memory? From here, "Postcards and Contraband" traces various markers of both borders, their customs and the transiting goods, as well as the memory that the archival images transit into the present. <https://tinyurl.com/2hb86bcw>

↪ **Tsvetan Radenkov / Expressive realities / solo exhibition / Depoo Gallery, 12 Vrabcha Str. / April 2 - 17.** "The exhibition is a kind of metaphor for my return to Bulgaria, after 21 years of living abroad. I had to adapt and come to terms with a long-forgotten world, but at the same time new and incomprehensible to me. Everything I did to negotiate and navigate 'reality' evoked emotions that expressed, creating a circular relationship between 'vibrant display of feelings and experiences' and 'concreteness'. We live in an "expectation-based reality" and update whatever is "in our mind." I explain my paintings as an intuitive, expressive experience created on the principle of accident." - Tsvetan Radenkov <https://tinyurl.com/5bxwcezw>

↪ **Kaloyan Iliev - Kokimoto / Übermensch by Kokimoto / solo show / KO-OP, 5 Triaditsa Str. / April 1 - 27.** "If all the prejudices, sincere misunderstandings, and deliberate falsifications, all the political and ideological layers (as far as possible) accumulated over the decades are removed from man, and an attempt is made to extract Nietzsche's idea of the Übermensch unadulterated (also as far as possible), then the superman will present itself thus: man is something to be overcome. Man is a bridge, not a goal. Man is a rope stretched between the beast and the Übermensch —a rope over a precipice. All beings create something above themselves, after themselves - will man be an exception to this law valid for all life?" - Kaloyan Iliev - Kokimoto <https://tinyurl.com/y22cv9d2>

↪ **Alina Kostrichenko / Dreamscapes / solo exhibition / Toplocentrala, 5 Emil Bersinski Str. / April 3 - 28.** The exhibition includes eight canvases painted in the last 4 years by the young painter Alina Kostrichenko, which create direct parallels to the different phases of Kostrichenko's life. Leaving Ukraine from an early age prior to the war, she never loses her ties to her home and is directly affected and shaped by the events surrounding it; Kostrichenko spends a few years in Italy, where she finds inspiration for a lot of her work, and later continues her journey to Bulgaria, where she currently lives and works. The artworks exhibited in 'Dreamscapes' are not just a mind map of the changes in her life but also an intentional clash of reality with dream-like states of mind and surrealism. The painter seeks the fantastical in her life, and creates dreamy worlds that are inherently close and far from reality and not limited by it. Good, bad, peaceful, unruly. <https://tinyurl.com/5n9yrbzh>

↪ **Paolo Woods and Gabriele Galimberti / The Heavens / joint exhibition / Synthesis Gallery, 55 "Vasil Levski" Blvd / April 18 - June 15.** The exhibition, first shown at Les Rencontres d'Arles festival in 2015 has since traveled to numerous museums and festivals around the world. For over two years Paolo Woods and Gabriele Galimberti have travelled to 13 offshore centers that embody tax avoidance, secrecy, offshore banking, and extreme wealth, driven by a constant obsession with translating this rather immaterial subject into images. Tax havens* have quietly taken the world by storm. More than half of world trade now passes through them. The growing flow of articles and reports on this poorly understood subject are usually illustrated with images of palm-fringed tropical beaches. Is that what tax havens really look like? <https://tinyurl.com/bd85k2ea>

↪ **Vasilena Gankovska / Visual Transformations / solo show / HOSTGALLERY, 102 Geshov Bld. / March 25 - April 25.** Vasilena Gankovska is known as an artist using different media like painting, drawing, ceramic object and text. In this exhibition, the artist turns to a new means of expression for her audience, namely the digital drawing. An important question that interests her is how a single image can be used to create at least several works of art. <https://fb.me/e/1P819k2t5>

↪ **Elena Kaludova / I love you very much / augmented reality solo show / Gallery Gallery, Sculpture park Ploshadka, children's playground across the Registry Agency, 20 Elisaveta Bagryana Str. / March 8 - September 1.** The sentence "I love you very much" is among the most used by perpetrators of domestic violence against women to excuse their behavior. It is the magic spell that is supposed to make everything alright and make all problems go away. Except it doesn't. Bulgaria is one of the last countries in the EU, and the very last country on the Balkans, to ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence, while local law enforcement continues to fail to address cases of domestic violence adequately, and, on average, two women die a violent death every month in the country. The figure in I Love You Very Much dances a celebratory wedding dance in augmented reality, yet in the midst of us, pointing to this other reality that we keep out of our thoughts as we go about our daily lives. I Love You Very Much is an indictment of societal failure. <https://www.gallerygallery.space/en/elena-kaludova-i-love-you-very-much>

ART TALKS SOFIA

↪ **Artist talk with Paolo Woods (in English) / Aula, NATFA "Krstyo Sarafov", 108A Rakovski Str. / April 19, 6.30 pm.** Paolo Woods ran a photography gallery and a laboratory before dedicating himself to documentary photography. He is devoted to long-term projects that blend photography with research. He has published eight books, including Un Monde De Brut, tackling the subject of the oil industry, and Chinafrica, which deals with the spectacular rise of the Chinese in Africa, both co-written with the journalist Serge Michel, reporter at large at Le Monde. <https://tinyurl.com/bd85k2ea>

↪ **#Hubavoe | Lecture 3. Make Architecture Great Again! Monuments, parks, parliaments and the new architectural populism / public lecture with Aneta Vasileva / Goethe-Institut, 1 "Budapest" Str. / April 23, 7:00 p.m.** In a series of lectures "New Architectural Heritage" Foundation and Goethe Institute - Bulgaria comment on the main themes and conflicts of modernity through architecture - the so-called the "crisis of criticism", the deficits of trust in expertise, phenomena such as architectural populism, new architectural conservatism, traditionalism and the divided society we live in today. <https://tinyurl.com/muzbbmnu>

PLOVDIV

↪ **Denitsa Todorova / Image on the Edge of Matter / solo show / Sarieva/Gallery, 40 Otets Paisiy Str. / March 15 - May 19.** In her first solo show at Sarieva/Gallery, Denitsa Todorova presents her specific works on paper which attracted the attention of the professional community and won the author numerous awards. Born in Plovdiv, she received her education and pursued her creative path in Belgium. The author draws inspiration from everyday phenomena, textures, forms and models like water surfaces, reflections, marble structures and firework blasts. These are frivolous effects rather than static scenes. Random, seemingly meaningless details that nonetheless constitute the fabric of reality. <https://tinyurl.com/28ndb59a>

↪ **Art Positive. Pink / group exhibition / Art Today Association, Kapana Gallery, 29 "Raiko Daskalov" Street / March 15 - April 13.** In March 2024, the Art Positive project comes with a theme - "Pink". This is a kind of closure of a series of 17 editions, as the first one in 2004, presenting authors working in Plovdiv, began as "ART POSITIVE", which is a theme, but also remains as the title of the project - positivism, without naivety against the background of a not a "rosy" reality. "Pink" is posed as a conceptual and plastic problem for authors to create their works bound by one initial step, namely the presence of pink or the idea of pink. This allows the artists to predictably make unexpected combinations and connections between pink and objects and materials. <https://fb.me/e/4lZ7NoLsB>

↪ **Vasil Tenev / Inspirations / solo exhibition / City Art Gallery Plovdiv, Temporary Exhibition Hall, 15 "Knyaz Alexander I" Street / April 12 - May 2.** The current exhibition presents new works by the artist created especially for the project. Vasil Tenev works in the field of painting, graphic design and ceramics. In his abstract canvases, the author often weaves decorative figurativeness. <https://tinyurl.com/5c7nnrnk>

VARNA

↪ **Natural space / group exhibition / Varna City Art Gallery, 1 "Lyuben Karavelov" St / March 29 - April 18.** "Natural space" is a project of the association "kunstraumarcade" ("Arcade") from Austria with the participation of 16 Austrian and Bulgarian artists. "Artistic depictions of nature have always occupied a central place in art - tell the initiators of their approach to the subject. - Its charm lies in its contradictory duality: nature as a place of longing for a biblically pristine, paradisiacal state and at the same time a place of dangers and extreme challenges. The works offer food for thought and invite us to rethink our own relationship to precious natural spaces. To pause, to restore nature as a source of strength and inspiration, to realize it as the foundation of our own existence, is the order of the day." <https://tinyurl.com/ybhdc4y8>

↪ **Anna Borisova / Shores / solo show / Art Museum "Georgi Velchev", 8 Radko Dimitriev Str. / April 5 - May 11.** Anna Borisova's first solo exhibition presents twenty works painted in 2021-2022 mostly in oil paints or acrylic on canvas, and includes two acrylic on canvas drawings in the nude genre. Anna Borisova was born in 1985 in the city of Varna in the family of artists Lora Marinova and Dimitar Borisov. In 2003, she graduated from the "Dobri Hristov" National School of Arts in Varna, majoring in "Painting", and in 2007 from "Art Textiles" at Chernorizets Hrabar University. She lives and works in Germany since 2015. <https://tinyurl.com/yc8ftuk3>

KAZANLAK

↪ **The big lie. The exhibition of Dechko Uzunov from 1969 and the archeology of a scandal / documentary exhibition / Art Gallery, central building, 9 Sv. Sv. Kiril i Metodii Str. / February 22 - May 8.** The project examines Dechko Uzunov's landmark exhibition from 1969 and a series of publications that followed the opening aimed to discredit the artist. The exhibition is part of the calendar of events dedicated to the 125th anniversary of Dechko Uzunov's birth. The project is organized in partnership with the Sofia City Art Gallery, the State Archives and the Bulgarian Telegraph Agency. The exhibition includes works that were part of the artist's retrospective exhibition from 1969. <https://www.artgallerykazanlak.com/exhibitions/golyamoto-nadlagvane/>

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