



SOFIA

▫ **Andrey Molodkin and Santiago Sierra / East/West / joint exhibition / National Gallery, Kvadrat 500, 1, 19th February St. / November 26 - February 16.** In the exhibition "East / West," Andrey Molodkin and Santiago Sierra are brought together by their strong political stances and the pressing questions they raise about contemporary democracy. Both artists are renowned for their provocative responses to the current social and political climate, often facing personal risks. <https://tinyurl.com/5n7cjspb>

▫ **How I like you / group exhibition / curated by Nadezhda Dzhakova / Sofia Arsenal – Museum of contemporary art, 2, Cherni Vrah Blvd. / November 7 - January 5.** 'How I Like You' presents the poetically ironic view of their surroundings by six contemporary artists. They reveal the way they perceive themselves, how others perceive them, and in what times they are living. Using the autobiographical approach as a means of self-expression and the search for a personal identity, the artists examine cultural, religious, political and social themes, focusing on self-reflection and criticising the notion of private and public space. The exhibition is part of the long-term Autobiography Project of curator Nadezhda Dzhakova. Works by Bojidar Bonchev, Georgi Ruzhev, Iva Yaranova, Mariana Vassileva, Momchil Georgiev, Yuliy Takov. <https://nationalgallery.bg/exhibitions/how-i-like-you/>

▫ **Kalin Serapionov / In front of the eyes / solo exhibition / curated by Iaroslava Boubnova / National Gallery, The Palace, 1, Knyaz Alexander I Sq. / October 16 - January 12.** The current exhibition has a retrospective character and presents some of the emblematic works of Kalin Serapionov, whose work is closely associated with unleashing the potential and development of the vast possibilities of video in the context of art.. The artist focuses on the ability of the medium to hold attention, form an image and generate suspense with no narrative techniques and literariness of the subject. In his oeuvre, the artist explores different patterns of

communication and human relations, communities, characters, behavior and interaction.

<https://tinyurl.com/ysb9s5ty>

↪ **Europe in Bulgaria. Reflections of European artistic trends in Bulgarian art from the Liberation to the mid-20th century / retrospective exhibition / curated by Lyuben Domozetski / Sofia City Art Gallery, 1 Gurko St. / October 17 - February 16.** This exhibition traces the reflections of European artistic movements on Bulgarian post-liberation art. The dialogue between Bulgaria and Europe in the period under review is extremely dynamic, multifaceted, continuous. A complex and highly intertwined network of connections between personalities, events, art centers, trends, works, and phenomena is revealed. An indisputable fact is the aspiration to include Bulgarian artists in European art, with the clear awareness and self-confidence that Bulgaria is part of Europe, that the European path is the path of young Bulgarian art. <https://fb.me/e/5v4tycCxK>

↪ **Tekla Aleksieva / Encyclopedia of Boundlessness / retrospective exhibition / curated by Lyuben Domozetski and Daniela Radeva / Sofia City Art Gallery, 1 Gurko St. / December 3 - February 2.** The exhibition seeks to draw a map of the artist's work, outlining the many directions it took in her easily recognizable signature style and visual language. Tekla Alexieva is one of the few artists whose work spans multiple visual arts and the requisite techniques, mediums and means of expression. Throughout her career, she has worked in the genres of painting, mural painting, book illustration and book design, printmaking, animation, stained glass painting, embroidery. Perhaps the most interesting question raised in researching Tekla Alexieva's work is how have the impact and authoritativeness of her images affected the sensitivity of different generations, mostly 1980's youth, but also the young people of today. <https://tinyurl.com/5n8mtz97>

↪ **Maria Stolarova / Defended aesthetics / retrospective exhibition / Dechko Uzunov Gallery, 24 Dragan Tsankov Blvd. / November 28 - February 16.** 2025 marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of Maria Stolarova (1925 – 2016) – one of Dechko Uzunov's students. On this occasion, the Sofia City Art Gallery and the Dechko Uzunov Gallery present an exhibition of paintings, encompassing both her early works and emblematic works from later periods. Maria Stolarova is from the generation of authors who entered the art scene in the 1960s. This was a decade characterized by an upsurge in Bulgarian art, associated with a number of socio-cultural factors that affected the establishment of new themes, genres and techniques. <https://fb.me/e/boAJsYTAG>

↪ **Nikolay Shmirgela / The Nude – Exploring the Form / retrospective exhibition / Vaska Emanuilova Gallery, 15 Yanko Sakazov Blvd. / November 19 - February 11.** The exhibition traces the plastic searches of the author in the late 1960s and early 1970s of the XX century. Bathing, dressing, reflection and timidity - the naked sculptural bodies in various states directly correspond to his drawings from this period. It also includes several earlier works that give a more complete picture of the work of the artist, who studied decorative arts and sculpture at the Art Academy in the 1930s. The basis of the exhibition is the donation of sculptures and drawings made by the heirs and family of Nikolay Vladov - Shmirgela. <https://fb.me/e/CJgee7B2p>

↪ **Pauline Boudry and Renate Lorenz / Silent Speeches / joint show / Structura Gallery, 9 Kuzman Shapkarev St. / November 21 - December 28.** Pauline Boudry and Renate Lorenz have been working together since 2007. In their films and installations, they challenge traditional norms of behaviour through unusual actions, compositions and bodily postures. The choreography of their works is unexpected and magical. The artists refer to the French sociologist and historian Édouard Glissant, who developed the idea of the right to opacity as a resistance against excessive exposure, leading to uniformity and facilitating easy manipulation. In effect, they argue for the return of phantasm as a category of life, of the inviolability of the private, threatened by excessive pressure for transparency. This is why their works often leave us with the unsettling feeling that not all is fully revealed. <https://structura.gallery/en/exhibitions/silent-speeches/>

↪ **Martin Atanasov, Krasimira Butseva and Marina Lyakova / When you left, did you think if you would come back / joint exhibition / Goethe-Institut, 1 Budapest Str. / November 12 - December 19.** In June 2024, the artists Martin Atanasov, Krasimira Butseva and the sociologist Marina Lyakova spent a week in Frankfurt on

field research. There they collected oral histories and documented public and private spaces. The collected fragments tell about the life of Bulgarians in Germany - Bulgarians, Bulgarian Turks and Bulgarian Roma. The people whose voices are heard in the Goethe-Institut gallery space emigrated to Germany after Bulgaria's accession to the European Union in 2007. Parts of their stories, as well as broader and encompassing ones of migration, are visually told in the film part of the exhibition. <https://tinyurl.com/3bvjdjw5>

↪ **Kaloyan Ivanov / Triaditsa / solo show / curated by Diana Draganova - Styr / Credo Bonum Gallery, 2 Slavyanska str. / December 12 - January 12.** The exhibition presents 30 works that reveal the author's perception of the world through the power and beauty in the contrast of two colors - black and white. Kaloyan Ivanov explores symbols and develops an original interpretative vision that leads us to many diverse etymological meanings. Triaditsa is one of the names of the city of Sofia, which existed in parallel with Ulpia Serdica. It is no coincidence that the author focuses on it, inspired by the idea of developing and bringing his visual interpretation to abstract coded forms, using entirely the expressive means of painting. <https://tinyurl.com/2b843jry>

↪ **Todor Rabadzhiski / Raw Perspectives / solo show / +359 Gallery, 13A Galitchitsa Str. / November 28 - February 28.** The exhibition poses the question of the essence of art in an era in which the line between creation and consumption is blurred. Is art a mirror that reflects our fears and longings? Or is it an escape – a sweet treat to distract us from the weight of existence? The artist's works invite us to grapple with these questions through materials that shine and rust, arouse trust and suspicion, and challenge us to see poetry in contradictions. <https://fb.me/e/8KOZThwvn>

↪ **Forgetting to Remember / screening show / curated by Simina Neagu / CCA Toplocentrala Gallery - Cube, 5 Emil Bersinski Str. / December 6 - 15.** The screening brings together four moving image works dealing with questions of preserving histories and uncovering the latent traces of the past: "23 August" (2023) by Simina Neagu, "The City That Has Peace" (2023) by Petra Matic, "The Ghost of Culture" (2023) by Voin de Voin, and "Citrus Tristeza" (2018) by Anca Benera and Arnold Estefan. The title, "Forgetting to Remember", alludes to the dangers of forgetting one's history, erasing one's archive and as a result, potentially repeating old errors, which all four works echo in some way. <https://tinyurl.com/4rfcwk2p>

↪ **Martina Vacheva / Olympics in local and world disciplines / solo show / Octopus Gallery, in the underpass between the Presidency and the Council of Ministers / December 5 - January 11.** "Ceramic vessels from antiquity recount tales of heroic perils, hard-won trophies, fearsome beasts, and glorious kings. But what if we immortalized our era on amphorae and vases? What epic battles would they depict? Martina is sensitive to cultural traditions and a critical observer of today's mainstream trends. Through her ceramics, she captures the essence of a new era, grappling with the realities that evoke an unsettling, irrational sense of anxiety." - Vera Mlechevska, curator <https://tinyurl.com/2m5hf6y3>

↪ **Winter showroom 2024 - 2025 / group show / Sarieva Gallery @ DOT, Sofia, 46, Bratya Miladinovi str., Women's Market / December 9 - March 1.** This exhibition brings together three Bulgarian born contemporary artists with international career — Denitsa Todorova, Dimitar Genchev, and Stefan Nikolaev — whose works explore themes of transformation, materiality, and the dynamic interplay of light, texture, and meaning. The showroom features a compelling range of works, including large-scale canvases, intricate drawings, and sculptures. <https://tinyurl.com/5eft9y25>

↪ **Limited Prints only #4 / group show / Depoo Gallery, 12 Vrabcha Str. / November 21 - December 21.** The Limited Prints Only #4 exhibition presents an annual selection of limited edition graphic, photographic and digital prints by artists the gallery works with. These works are affordable and a great way to own works by established and emerging artists. This is an opportunity to create a new collection of contemporary art or add to a collection that encompasses the work of a particular artist. <https://tinyurl.com/76vj7ezy>

↪ **Yioula Hadjigeorgiou / Meta-comfort : active and reactive forces / curated by Stratis Pantasis PhD / Arosita Gallery, 12B Vrabcha Str. / December 10 - January 10.** In her works, Cypriot artist Yioula Hadjigeorgiou refers to or incorporates images, ideas and elements related to events that have shaped human experience and history in order to examine or raise questions about today's socio-political issues. By "digging" into history and the present, and bringing together active and reactive forces, Hadjigeorgiou manages to extract essential fragments of existing ways of viewing society and ways of thinking in an attempt to return us to critical thinking and reasoning. <https://fb.me/e/4YNNsMj45>

↪ **From the vault. 50 Contemporary Artists from the Little Bird Place Gallery depot / group show / Little Bird Place Gallery, 7 "11th August" str. / November 21 - December 31.** This showcase brings together 50 contemporary artists whose works form the foundation of the gallery's depot. The exhibition marks the launch of the gallery's Art Shop, a permanent space where visitors can explore and acquire artworks from Bulgarian and international contemporary artists. During the exhibition period, the entire gallery will transform into a "vault," offering an extraordinary selection of painting, drawing, sculpture, collage, and video art. <https://fb.me/e/b2lb7qaE7>

↪ **Viktor Petrov / Global readiness / solo show / curated by Boyana Dzhikova / Punta Gallery, 13 Dunav St. and Posta Space, 34 Knyaz Dondukov Bul. / December 6 - January 4 .** "The PUNTA gallery location at 13 Danube Street opened just after the pandemic, when the shops in the Dondukov and Rakovska area had largely bankrupted and rents had fallen accordingly. The address of the gallery was an indirect result of the global health crisis the world was in. When searching for the term 'global readiness' on the Internet, we came across an article regarding the World Health Organisation's treaty, an international agreement that contains a strategy for an adequate response should such a situation arise again. The closure of the gallery in the former jewellery shop with the exhibition Global Readiness coincides with the completion of a cycle, the result of which reflects the new, permanent state of the world and all the challenges it presents us with." - Boyana Dzhikova <https://tinyurl.com/47j64c4z>

↪ **Market of Desire: Women's Market / group show / curated by Boyana Djikova and Aaron Roth / Punta Gallery and Cable Depot , 37 Stefan Stambolov Bld / November 15 - December 15.** With the exhibition "Market of Desire: Women's Market", PUNTA (Sofia) and Cable Depot (London) galleries open their new locations at 37 Stefan Stambolov Blvd at the Women's Market in Sofia. This is also the beginning of a partnership between the two galleries to present art production within 2025. The exhibition features a selection of artists from PUNTA and Cable Depot galleries who present works inspired by the context of the Women's Market in Sofia. The exhibition deals with a wide range of topics - capitalist realism and its impact on traditional culture and communities, shops as a mirror of the times and the longings of the people who inhabit it, but also the market as part of the ecology of the city. Happening in a former fish shop, second-hand clothes shop and now gallery, the exhibition will consider shops and their windows as mechanisms for creating imagination linked to the collective dreaming of a city. <https://fb.me/e/1VJcolS0c>

↪ **Ivelina Ivanova / Low Poly Fever Dream / solo show / KO-OP, 5 Triaditsa Str. / November 22 - December 15.** The exhibition merges digital nostalgia with social critique in a multimedia project. At its heart is Bot Brother, an interactive video installation inspired by The Sims and early MMOGs. Bulgarian internet forums and social media comments are fed into an algorithm that generates dialogues for the characters, transforming the familiar virtual world into a stage for uncensored public discourse. <https://tinyurl.com/muee636a>

↪ **Garó Keshishian / Labour Troops / solo exhibition / curated by Nadzhezda Pavlova / Synthesis Gallery, 55 "Vasil Levski" Blvd / December 5 – February 15.** Produced in collaboration with the artist specifically for Synthesis Gallery, the exhibition comprises 92 photographs made between 1983 and 1995. It represents one of the most significant documentary series in Bulgarian photography. The subject is forced labor in Bulgaria, a government policy rarely discussed publicly even today. The project creates a figurative space of empathy and

personal connection between the artist and the conscripted laborers with ever-present attention to the human side of their daily ups and downs. <https://tinyurl.com/3vc4h8ce>

↪ **Jesús Azogue / #WeTheArtists / solo show / Cervantes Institut of Sofia, UniCredit Studio, 7 Sveta Nedelya Square / December 10 - January 10.** Through print and digital works, transmedia artist Jesús Azogue offers a profound reflection on the place of the artist in contemporary society. He explores the creative process and the life of the artist, questioning the new boundaries of art and issues such as authorship, the art market and the relationship with the audience through different languages and materials. In the words of Jesús Azogue himself: «This project does not speak about the concept of art, but about these other “artists” who also make a living from art. Art workers of today». <https://fb.me/e/723rtgPPv>

↪ **Double that - 5 artistic couples in Bulgarian art / group show / curated by Ivaylo Hristov and Yordanka Hristova / HOSTGALLERY, 102 “Akad. Ivan Geshov” Bld. / December 5 - January 30.** A key to understanding this unusual double exhibition is the title of a previously unshown work by the art duo NINAVALE, which opens the door to a surprising art walk and immersion in unexpected artistic stories of 5 artistic couples. The most important condition for the artists' participation in the two-month exhibition, in the transition between two years, is their creative message and feeling towards the upcoming 2025. Artists: Albena Baeva & Rene Beekman, Marta Djourina & Nick Coccozza, Ninavale – Nina Kovacheva & Valentin Stefanoff, Rositsa Getsova & Sasho Stoitzov, Svetlana Mircheva & Stoyan Yorgov Tekata. <https://fb.me/e/8VhIKkrGY>

PLOVDIV

↪ **Music to the Eyes / group show / Sarieva/Gallery, 40 Otets Paisiy Str. / December 13 - March 1.** "Music to the Eyes" presents works inspired by songs, musicians or objects related to sound, none of them being audio-visual works. The exhibition expands the visual experience, stimulating personal interpretations and exploring how our associations are formed. It includes mostly previously unseen works by artists from the 1990s to the present. Diverse in nature, these works are key to stereotypes or behaviours. With works by Luchezar Boyadjiev, Tsvetomira Borisova, Sophia Grancharova, Pravdoliub Ivanov, Stefan Nikolaev. <https://tinyurl.com/45nyhrwr>

↪ **Acqua alta. History of Bulgarian national participation in the Venice Biennale 1910 – 2024 / retrospective exhibition / curated by Svetlana Kuyumdzhieva and Plamen Petrov / Kapana Gallery, 29 "Raiko Daskalov" Str. / December 13 - February 20.** The exhibition presents works, archives and documentary material from all eleven participations with which Bulgaria has appeared in the oldest and most prestigious international art forum in the world since its founding at the end of the 19th century. The exhibition includes nearly 60 works from various public and private collections. Among the exhibits are some of the most iconic works of the classics of Bulgarian art, as well as representative works of the most famous contemporary Bulgarian artists. <https://tinyurl.com/44cd2e9x>

VARNA

↪ **Faculty of Fine Arts at 50. In the new time with a new face / group show / Varna City Art Gallery, 1 "Lyuben Karavelov" Str. / December 6 - January 4.** Representative exhibition of the Faculty of Fine Arts at the St. Cyril and Methodius University of Veliko Tarnovo. The exhibition is a selection of diploma theses by graduates of the faculty, accompanied by works by current teachers. It is designed as a representative (but also current)

exhibition dedicated to the anniversary, revealing the diverse artistic profile of the students studying at the Faculty of Fine Arts from the various specialties: Painting, Sculpture, Graphics, Graphic Design and Visual Communications, Drawing and Intermedia, Mural Painting, Pedagogy of Fine Arts Education, Visual Studies.

<https://tinyurl.com/y3ebdetb>

KAZANLAK

↪ **Hunger / group show / Art Gallery Kazanlak, 9 Sv. Sv. Kiril i Metodii Str. and many other locations / October 19 - March 31.** The exhibition takes us through a long narrative in which 23 contemporary artists, together with art critics and museum specialists, confront us with their reflections on the subject, revealing to us unexpected, sometimes sad, sometimes smiling, other times frightening aspects of it. "...One could too easily replace the word *hunger* with the word *terror* or with the word *slavery*, or *lawlessness*, or *dictatorship*" - Georgi Markov. <https://www.artgallerykazanlak.com/exhibitions/glad/>

↪ **Levent More / Let's color / solo show / Art Gallery Kazanlak, 9 Sv. Sv. Kiril i Metodii Str. / October 26 - March 23.** Levent More is one of those artists whose art can hardly be framed - not only figuratively, but also literally. This is, as the art critic Aksinia Dzurova defines it, "A wild sense of color. A world of layered sensations, enticing worlds from the natural cycle to apocalyptic insights, obsessive parallelism – expressive, approaching Fauvist ecstasy". But Levent Sea painting is always something more. <https://tinyurl.com/2h8r2xyd>

ART CAREER

↪ **National Scholarship "With efforts to the Stars" / Cultural perspectives Foundation / Application deadline December 25.** For the sixth consecutive year, the National Scholarship "With Efforts to the Stars" will support young talents in five fields of art: visual arts, literature, music, dance, theater/performance. Candidates will be able to submit their applications online on the platform <https://culturama.art/>

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