



SOFIA

↪ **Christo and Jeanne-Claude / *Wrapped Reichstag, Berlin, 1971-95* / anniversary exhibition / curated by Gergana Mihova / National Gallery, Kvadrat 500, 1 19th February Str. / November 4 - March 22.** The National Gallery (Sofia, Bulgaria) is opening its first exhibition dedicated to the legacy of Christo and Jeanne-Claude, marking the 90th anniversary of the artists' birth. The museum's first acquisition of Christo's iconic work *Wrapped Reichstag* (Project for Berlin) from 1986, along with other original collages, will be officially presented to the public. With this exhibition, the National Gallery also commemorates three major anniversaries of the artists' visionary projects celebrated in 2025: 20 years since *The Gates* in New York City, 30 years since *Wrapped Reichstag* in Berlin and 40 years since *The Pont Neuf Wrapped in Paris*. These milestones represent not only significant moments in the artistic journey of Christo and Jeanne-Claude but also landmark events that transformed the cultural history of Europe. <https://tinyurl.com/bdeyueh6>

↪ **Aksiniya Peycheva / *When you look at the stars, you see the past* / solo show / curated by Theodossiy Gueorguiev / National Gallery, Kvadrat 500, 1 19th February Str. and other locations / December 3 - January 25.** "When You Look at the Stars You See the Past is the fruit of a profound multidisciplinary research in which Aksiniya Peycheva goes beyond the traditional synthesis of architecture and monumental art. In the course of her long-term and comprehensive scientific interest, she discovers the inevitable interconnectedness between all spheres of human knowledge and perception, draws on fundamental pillars in sciences such as history, microbiology and star cartography, and reveals the original commensurability between micro and macrocosm. The project is a site-specific installation for the architectural space and the multi-faceted history of Hall 19 in Kvadrat 500." - Theodossiy Gueorguiev <https://tinyurl.com/4x8u49xa>

↪ **Zahari Zograph / *immersive exhibition* / National Gallery, Kvadrat 500, 95, Vasil Levski Blvd. / December 10 2025 - January 30 2027.** The National Gallery presents one of the most iconic figures in the history of

Bulgarian art – Zahari Zograph. This first immersive exhibition introduces a new way of experiencing the masterpieces of the the museum's collection. Harnessing new technologies, the 20-minute project, created by Sensor Studio, brings his religious and secular masterpieces to life, revealing essential elements of his creative process. <https://nationalgallery.bg/exhibitions/zahari-zograph-immersive-exhibition/>

↪ **Valentin Startchev / Through Time / retrospective exhibition / curated by Boryana Valchanova, PhD / National Gallery, Kvadrat 500, 1 19th February Str. / October 16 - January 18.** “The exhibition is dedicated to Prof. Valentin Startchev's 90th anniversary and, albeit retrospective, presents only a portion of his impressive and multilayered output. The carefully selected artworks follow the sequence and progress of his formal and conceptual searches over the years: from small sculptures, through sculptural compositions and monuments at key locations in the urban and cultural topography of Bulgaria and beyond, to the latest works specifically conceived and produced for the Kvadrat 500 galleries.” - Boryana Valchanova, PhD <https://tinyurl.com/2m3p8c9m>

↪ **Anton Vidokle / Irradiation / solo show / curated by Martina Yordanova and Vasil Vladimirov / National Gallery, The Palace, 1 Knyaz Alexander I Square / October 23 - January 25.** “The exhibition brings together six of Vidokle's films made over the past decade in dialogue with a special installation of twenty-four Himalayan landscapes by Nicholas Roerich, created between the early and mid-20th century. Filmed across Kazakhstan, Siberia, Japan, Italy, and Mesopotamia, Vidokle's works weave together documentary, performance, and essay, inviting reflection on death and immortality, ecology and spirituality, and the possibility of art as a vehicle for collective transformation.” - Martina Yordanova <https://tinyurl.com/bddu3339>

↪ **Denitsa Todorova / Metaphor for memory / solo show / curated by Diana Draganova - Stier / The Vera Nedkova House Museum, 2, 11 August St. / June 17 - December 23.** “Denitsa Todorova was born in Plovdiv but has lived and worked in Antwerp for many years. Impressed by the museum in the centre of Sofia, she has prepared an exhibition titled ‘Metaphor for Memory’, an emotional return to and reflectiveness on memories and the past. The works offer a nuanced and symbolic exploration of the imaginary space where the sensitivity of women and their fragility and transformation are mirrored. The project fills the Vera Nedkova House Museum with a fine, delicate energy that blends into the artist's creative imagery. Her interpretive vision propounds the issue of underrepresented ‘stories’ of women in the history of art.” - Diana Draganova - Stier <https://tinyurl.com/z2mwr2nd>

↪ **More than one photo. The history of Bulgarian photography in the 20th century / retrospective exhibition / Sofia City Art Gallery, 1 Gurko St. / December 9 - March 9.** The goal of the exhibition is not only to present the development of Bulgarian photography from 1900 to 2000, but also to take us from the early studio portraits and chronicles of modernity to artistic photography of the end of the century. Included in it are over 300 photographs by more than 100 Bulgarian photographers, which construct the living history of photography as art, testimony, and personal narrative. It is structured chronologically in three sections that trace the development of Bulgarian photography—from the first studios and studio portraits at the beginning of the century, through socialist Bulgaria and photography as a document and testimony, to the last decades of the 20th century, marked by the freedom of the artist's gaze and the saturation of the world with images. <https://tinyurl.com/4p3rpyyu>

↪ **Sofia - Istanbul: a bridge of art. Works with stories by Bulgarian-Turkish artists / group exhibition / curated by Yulia Varbanova and Rositsa Gicheva-Meimari / Union of Bulgarian Artists, 6 Shipka Str. / December 4 - January 3.** The project is an artistic initiative that unites Sofia and Istanbul through a series of exhibitions presenting contemporary art and personal stories of artists of Bulgarian-Turkish origin. Some of them - painters, sculptors, graphic artists and designers, today work in Bulgaria, others - in Turkey, or between the two countries. <https://tinyurl.com/yc6exwuw>

↪ **Memories of the future / group show / curated by Iara Bubnova / ICA-Sofia Gallery, 134 Vasil Levski Blvd. / November 19 - December 19.** “The works in the exhibition, some of which already have their own history, are a kind of reaction to disturbing milestones. While the political present canonizes the past in a spiral, leaving the future somehow beyond view, unclear, unpredictable, and unexpected, artists naturally fill the pause. They

take responsibility and create ironic, metaphorical, allegorical testimonies of our present, when it becomes the past.” - Iara Bubnova. With works by Dimitar Solakov, Kiril Prashkov, Maria Nalbantova, Stefan Nikolaev.

<https://tinyurl.com/bdceyud5>

↪ **Ilian Lyubenov / Topological deformations / solo exhibition / curated by Galina Dekova / Goethe-Institut, 1 Budapest Str. / December 10 - January 27.** Ilian Lyubenov is a mechanical engineer, a specialist in mining mechanization. He graduated from the University of Mining and Geology in Sofia, and his professional path is connected with work in the largest enterprises in Pernik and the region. For Lyubenov, artistic practice is an autonomous zone of personal reflection, parallel to his professional activity. The exhibition presents a series of large-scale ink drawings created with a rapidograph – a technique that requires precision and time. In them, Lyubenov examines the tension between the biological and the mechanical, between the natural element and technological power. <https://tinyurl.com/ytn3ytd7>

↪ **Screens and schemes / group show / curated by Vessela Nozharova and Alexandra Karpuchina / Credo Bonum Gallery, 2 Slavyanska str. / November 18 - January 4.** The exhibition explores pressing issues of media disinformation, fake news, and political propaganda. Although the main instrument of disinformation is often the image itself, the visual arts rarely address this issue directly. Screens and schemes is a joint project by two galleries – Credo Bonum (Sofia) and Karpuchina Gallery (Prague) – presenting the perspectives of six contemporary Bulgarian and Czech artists on these complex themes. Created specifically for this project, the works span a range of media – from painting and sculpture to video – reflecting on the mechanisms that distort reality and the human perspective within these processes. <https://tinyurl.com/4afy2s29>

↪ **Vlado Mitrev / Picture of a Man / solo show / curated by Martina Baleva / CCA Toplocentrala Gallery - Cube, 5 Emil Bersinski Str. / December 5 - 13.** The exhibition is Vlado Mitrev's first solo presentation in Bulgaria. Since the mid-1990s he has lived in Berlin, and later in Basel. Cube Gallery — Toplocentrala presents works from the last decade. Created especially for the exhibition is the video interview How to Talk About Art — an ironic commentary on the works on view, which simultaneously functions as a lesson for visiting art exhibitions and institutions. Video, photography, performance and painting are the media through which Vlado Mitrev gathers the visual traces of time — fleeting moments, monotonous days, and the small and large epochs.

<https://toplocentrala.bg/en/program/visual/picture-of-a-man>

↪ **Stéphen Loye / Au fond, on ne parle que d'amour. C'est pour ça qu'on n'y comprend rien / solo show / Posta Space, 34 Dondukov Bld. / November 27 - February 28.** Stéphen Loye's travels between Sofia and Digne-les-Bains, France, began in 2007, when Sofia was very, very different. In 2024 and 2025, he made several visits to our capital, where he worked in the studio of Vikenti Komitski. The layers of his collage-vitrage weave the fabric of his impressions during those years, of the connection between Sofia and his hometown. The exhibition closes the circle of his experience here, which began 18 years ago through the prism of a love story - this time, introducing the city as a character. <https://fb.me/e/5yKGEerFY>

↪ **Anton Roland Laub / A Bucharest Trilogy / solo exhibition / curated by Sonia Voss / Synthesis Gallery, 55 "Vasil Levski" Blvd / December 4 - February 14.** "Drawing on historical artefacts – city maps, engineering drawings, archival photographs – as well as family documents and photographs taken during regular visits to Romania, Laub travels back in time to unfold three series that blend personal memories, traces gathered from the urban space, and critical inventories. "Mobile Churches", "Last Christmas (of Ceaușescu)", and "Mineriada" thus form a trilogy at the crossroads of satire, analysis, and melancholic introspection, driven as much by sarcasm as by the hope for a reconciled society that would finally face its past head-on." - Sonia Voss

<https://tinyurl.com/mtkrxn68>

↪ **Andris Eglītis / Circulation / solo show / curated by Snejana Krasteva / +359 Gallery, 13A "Galichitza" Str. / October 16 - December 16.** A conceptual artist exploring the various liminal ways of being in the world, Andris Eglītis works with painting as a medium in an expanded field. "Circulation"—an immersive installation

created specifically for the century-old water tower in Sofia—is inspired, on one hand, by his expedition earlier this year across Eastern Europe and by the clashing feelings of familiarity and exoticism he experienced.

<https://fb.me/e/3Gnn5mt91>

↪ ***New Lines / group show / Little Bird Place Gallery, 7 "11th August" str. / December 11 - January 3.*** As 2025 draws to a close, "New Lines" focuses on drawing as a point of departure – a place where ideas first appear, gestures are tested, and images begin to form. The exhibition brings together, for the first time at Little Bird Place, four artists with distinct visual languages: Martina Vacheva, Svetlana Mircheva, Kyril Buhowski, and Martian Tabakov. <https://tinyurl.com/ep93tvk4>

↪ ***Samuil Velev / Between two / solo show / curated by Boyana Raycheva / Intro Gallery, 28 Tsar Samuil Str. / December 9 - January 5.*** "Between Two" presents figurative scenes in which two people inhabit a shared space — sometimes shown in full figure, other times as fragments of closeness. The series explores how we construct narratives about relationships based solely on gestures, proximity, posture, and perceived gender identity. It highlights the fine line between observation and intrusion, and our tendency to categorize when interpreting intimacy we actually know nothing about. <https://tinyurl.com/23xe3vw8>

↪ ***Vitto Valentinov / Density of presence / solo show / Charta Gallery, 12 Vrabcha Str. / November 21 - December 21.*** The exhibition thematizes transformation, the process of reorganization, metamorphosis, merger, refinement, and transition. It explores changes of form, state, matter, energy, and force, the process of turning one thing into another. The object of this transformation that could be interpreted both creatively and destructively is the snake's body. Space, matter, and energy are expressed in the drawings through a specific language. Gridded fields host a geometric mise-en-scène of colorful or monochrome actions. Matter is sometimes dense, but often alternates with empty space, thus charging the drawings with vibrating energy.

<https://tinyurl.com/mrsrkwwv>

↪ ***Out of Format / group show / curated by Vasko Slavkov / Depoo Gallery, 12 Vrabcha Str. / November 21 - December 22.*** After four editions of Limited Prints Only, the project expands its scope: it leaves the boundaries of printing techniques and presents works in various media - painting, photography, print, object, video and digital forms. Depoo Gallery presents its traditional annual selection - an event that unites artists from different generations and with different artistic experience. <https://tinyurl.com/43st25xm>

↪ ***Nadya Teknedjieva / Time segments / solo show / Arosita Gallery, 12B Vrabcha Str. / December 12 - 27.*** The artist presents over ten of her latest ceramic works, part of the "Summer Distance" series. The works were created specifically for the gallery space and represent an attempt to make sense of past moments of time through various decorative techniques. <https://tinyurl.com/ybamyn8u>

↪ ***Gergana Tabakova and Radoil Serafimov / Uncertain Spaces / joint show / curated by Stanimir Stoyanov / Doza Gallery, 52 Tsar Samuil Str. / December 2 - 17.*** "In Gergana Tabakova's work, the image is never complete. Her canvases are memories that resist order, fragments of vegetation dissolving into mist, traces of life suspended in a state of transition. Radoil Serafimov, on the other hand, constructs spaces of apparent clarity and order, where geometry and color act as barriers. His fences, lines, and diagonals create an illusion of stability — yet it is precisely within that stability that unease begins to emerge. Uncertain Spaces is an exhibition about the tension between clarity and fog, about the boundaries we ourselves construct, about our need to see and our fear of what might be revealed." <https://fb.me/e/7Eq9LIEhc>

↪ ***Anna Tsolovska / Dream of Colchis – The Other or the Substituted Reality / solo exhibition / Alma Mater Gallery, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", 15 Tsar Osvoboditel Blvd. / December 2 - 20.*** "The exhibition offers a look at the mechanisms through which the archetypal structures of the human psyche continue to shape our experience of the world. The concept is based on the ideas of the collective unconscious and

archetypes as universal psychic matrices that do not belong to a specific culture or historical era, but represent inherited, structural forms of perception and behavior.” - Anna Tsolevska. <https://tinyurl.com/yeckz5dz>

↪ **Zhao Jianfei / Re-Depart from Abstract-Cubism Toward Abstract Figuration in Painting / solo exhibition / UniArt Gallery, New Bulgarian University, 21 Montevideo Str. / November 20 - January 12.** The exhibition marks thirty years of the artist's life and creative work in Bulgaria – three decades of consistent exploration of form, colour, and space as carriers of inner rhythm and thought. The philosophy and painterly practice of Zhao Jianfei over these years converge in his concept “A Personal Meditation on Abstract Painting” – a reflection on painting as a process of thinking through form. <https://fb.me/e/8c4GwYLMZ>

↪ **Pepa Ivanova / sunearth / solo show / Hostgallery, 102 Academician I.E. Geshov Blvd. / December 3 - January 24.** The project traces the artist's trajectory, where light functions simultaneously as a cosmic principle, mediating Earth's evolution, and as artistic substance. It examines the physical interdependencies between the Sun and Earth, merging the epistemological values of scientific data into artistic translations. This solo project aims to present modes of interconnection between art and science, methodologies of collaborative work between them as tangible and shared experience, and how scientific information today can also be considered as a societal artifact. <https://fb.me/e/8rbE18Krq>

↪ **Kosyo Minchev / A Love Story / solo exhibition / One Gallery, 1A “Dyakon Ignatij” Str. / December 9 - January 3.** The project unites sculptural compositions, installations, video art and graphics in a broad authorial narrative that places love at the center of our existence – as an eternal, suprahistorical constant through which our personal, social and global conflicts are refracted. In this exhibition, Minchev develops his characteristic aesthetics, associated with rethinking and shifting artistic canons. Through bold provocations and visual paradoxes, he explores the metaphysical dimensions of love – not as a romantic cliché, but as a fundamental connecting principle that underlies our identity, our choices and our survival. <https://www.onegallery.eu/>

PLOVDIV

↪ **The Monumental. Five Plovdiv Artists and Their Trace in the City / anniversary exhibition / curated by Svetlana Kuyumdzhieva / Ivan Vazov National Library – Plovdiv, Plovdiv Art Gallery, Kapana Gallery, 29 Rayko Daskalov Str. / November 13 – January 11.** The exhibition is organized in honor of the 90th anniversaries of the birth of Georgi Bozhilov – The Elephant and Dimitar Kirov and in memory of Encho Pironkov. Known as the “Plovdiv Five” and as the “magnificent ones”, the names of Georgi Bozhilov – The Elephant, Dimitar Kirov, Yoan Leviev, Hristo Stefanov and Encho Pironkov are the brightest heroes of the period of the 60s and 70s and the processes of “thawing” of the art scene in Bulgaria that were taking place at that time. The five Plovdiv artists have been described as “bohemians,” as “revolutionaries,” and even as a “school” that stands out against the general backdrop of government-directed art and thematic general exhibitions. The exhibition presents these authors in a less familiar light, as monumentalists. <https://tinyurl.com/57surnhx>

↪ **snowball / group show / Sarieva/Gallery, 40 Otets Paisiy Str. / December 13 - March 5.** “snowball” is more a snowball fight than a traditional exhibition – each artwork aims at another, sometimes hitting, sometimes missing, with the rules of the game never fully clear. Sarieva / Gallery invites visitors to step into the center of this skirmish and observe as if they themselves are taking part in it. Connections between the works are visual, conceptual or associative, sometimes seemingly absent, leaving empty spaces for the viewer to fill with allegories alternative to any grand narrative. These may be fleeting or disintegrating, and precisely through that they stimulate over-interpretation and reflection. With works by Tekla Aleksieva, Luchezar Boyadjiev, Artan Hajrullahu, Pravdoliub Ivanov, Mina Minov, Viktor Petrov, Dimitar Solakov, Samuil Stoyanov, Valio Tchenkov, Jelko Terziev, Krassimir Terziev, Sasho Violetov. <https://sarieva.org/>

VARNA

↪ **Radko Murzov / Inventions and realities / retrospective exhibition / Varna City Art Gallery, 1 "Lyuben Karavelov" Str. / December 17 - January 25.** The anniversary retrospective exhibition presents paintings, graphics and drawings of the Varna artist. Radko Murzov was born in 1939 in the village of Kozare, Karnobat Municipality. He grew up and studied in Karnobat. He graduated in Russian Philology at the Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski". He taught Russian in the village of Kozichino and in the town of Pomorie. In 1964 he was admitted to the Academy of Arts in Sofia. He graduated in Painting in the studio of Prof. Iliya Petrov and Prof. Petar Mihaylov. In 1970 he worked as an artist at the Kremikovtzi Metallurgical Plant. A year later he settled in Varna. In 1976 he was accepted as a member of the Union of Bulgarian Artists. In 1977 he was appointed Chief Specialist in Fine Arts at the District Council of Culture - Varna. In 1978 he left his position and worked as a freelance artist. Since 1971 he has been leading the "Children's School of Painting" in Varna.

<https://tinyurl.com/a5nxc8d>

KAZANLAK

↪ **Iskra Blagoeva. Valentina Sciarra / 77 ½ / joint show / Art Gallery Kazanlak, 9 Sv. Sv. Kiril i Metodii Str. / November 15 - March 29.** The project 77 ½ began as a study of women's rites & rituals in Bulgaria, affirming the dignity and power of the female world and energy beyond the conservatism of patriarchal society through a series of photographs, sound and video works, and performance documentation. 77 ½ are the herbs that must be gathered for winter, with the last half remaining nameless – a cure for a mysterious, unknown illness. For the artists, this illness is the sadness born from the anxiety and stress of living in today's world. Whether there is a cure for sadness becomes a question whose answer Iskra Blagoeva and Valentina Sciarra seek in the bodily and spiritual restoration of broken ties with nature and community. <https://tinyurl.com/yr488num>

↪ **Resurfacing / group exhibition / curated by Maria Vassileva / Art Gallery - Kazanlak, 9 Sv. Sv. Kiril i Metodii Str. and other locations / October 18 - March 29.** Resurfacing is the third edition of the Art Everywhere project by Art Gallery Kazanlak. In an era marked by upheaval, *Resurfacing* becomes an urgent conversation about what we must leave behind us in order to move ahead. The exhibition reflects the conflicts, pain and injustices of our present. <https://www.artgallerykazanlak.com/en/exhibitions/resurfacing/>

↪ **The End of a Year. Munich 1923 / archive exhibition / curated by Anton Staykov and Svoboda Tsekova / Art Gallery - Kazanlak, Dechko Uzunov House Museum, 24 Knyaz Mirski Str. / October 14 - May 14.** Exhibition curators immerse themselves in the challenge of creating an installation that inhabits the borderland between an intimate exhibition and a library reading room. The narrative is concentrated in one of the rooms of the Dechko Uzunov House Museum; not just in a room, in fact, but in and around a single chest of drawers. That's where the exhibition begins: with the rescued, unknown, and previously unstudied drawing by Rayko Alexiev from 1923. Through text and images—photographs, archival documents, reproductions of paintings—visitors are enveloped in the atmosphere and context of that "crazy" year, when disaster for some became an opportunity for others. <https://tinyurl.com/ycy2eww>

VELIKO TARNOVO

↪ **Nikola Tsvetanov / Fragments from analog memory.pdf / solo show / Heerz Tooya Gallery, 18 "Ivan Vazov" Str. / November 29 - December 15.** In his latest series of paintings, Nikola Tsvetanov returns to the raw

materiality of paint as a refuge and an arena — a place where matter resists the digital smoothing of the world. His canvases do not simply bear traces; they accumulate them like geological layers: gestures, erasures, scratches, punctures, traces of physical time that shape their own analog topography. These traces refuse to be translated into the language of the pixel — an analog memory that resists digital transparency.

<https://heerztooya.com/exhibitions/nikola-tsvetanov>

Monthly edition by Open Art Foundation

▸ news selection : Desislava Mileva

▸ logo : Nedko Solakov

▸ cover: Martjan Tabakov, Unnamed, 2025, detail, in the group show "New Lines", Little Bird Place Gallery, 7 "11th August" str., Sofia, December 11 - January 3.