

Ksenia Yurkova

b. 1984

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Statement:

Ksenia Yurkova (1984) is an artist, curator, and researcher, living in Austria. She considers her leading artistic media to be text, photography, video, and installation. Yurkova started her practice as a researcher in the field of political theory and communication theory. The main focus of her interest for a long time was communication and language: the varieties of its substance, the possibility of conversion, its mythological aspect, stereotyping (the question of personal and political self-identification and identification by others), problems of memory, attitudes, and reliance. Lately, the artist is researching the phenomenon of affect in its autonomous bodily emanation; in its personal and political registers. She focuses upon how a stage of individual perception, to which one can relate memory, traumatic recollection, and problems of identity construction, transforms itself into affects of the political body.

Coming a long way from political and cultural journalism, through organising and curating cultural and art events, Ksenia settled in individual artistic and research practice, which allows the vital critical distance for observation and work with contemporary issues. Her approach is based on methods of language appropriation, over-affirmation, self-reflection, and self-criticism through ironic component inevitably added to the most pressing matters. Nonetheless, Ksenia didn't give up socially engaged practice and launched a festival-laboratory Suoja/ Shelter in Finland, and an artist-in-residence research program InSilo in Austria. Ksenia Yurkova has taken part in numerous shows and festivals worldwide, has released several artist books. Her works are in private collections worldwide, mostly in Russia, Germany, France, Finland, and Austria.

(c) Ksenia Yurkova

Selected shows (solo):

2022 *Degrees*, Foto Wien, Improper Walls Gallery (Vienna, At)
2018 *Spinebone Soup and Stuffed Rabbits*. Fotoforum Gallery (Innsbruck, At)
2018 *Habitat vol.1*. Museum of Impossible Forms (Helsinki, Vantaa, Fi)
2017 *Empty Expectations*. The Exhibition Laboratory (Helsinki, Fi)
2016 *One or Two Approaches to a Landscape* (Ólafsfjörður, ISL)

Selected shows (group):

2023 (Nicht) Unser Krieg, Weltkunstzimmer (Dusseldorf, Ge)
2023 *Immerse!* Tallinn Art Hall (Tallinn, Ee)
2022 *The Trespass is Inhabitat*, FLUC (Vienna, At)
2022 *@DOCUMENTA 15: Non-Human Agents During the War*, documenta-Halle (Kassel, De)
2022 *Fallen wie kirschblüten*, Hidden Museum (Fraxern, At)
2022 *Resolution*, Schloss Wolkersdorf (Wolkersdorf, At)
2022 *Identity*, Pavelhaus (Graz, At)
2021 *Photobook Week Aarhus*, Godsbanen (Aarhus, DK)
2021 *Photoireland Festival*, Rathfarnham Castle (Dublin, IE)
2021 *Q&A*. Aa-collections (Vienna, At)
2021 *FOR SURE!* (Hjalteyri, ISL)
2020 *Kuryohin Prize Exhibition*. Kuryohin Centre (St. Petersburg, RU)
2020 *Backlight Festival* (Tampere, Fi)
2020 *Shelter Festival-Laboratory*. online (Helsinki, Fi)
2020 *Hold Off: the Time of Fun*. Digital Spring Festival (Salzburg, At) - cancelled
2019 *Athens Photo Festival*. Benaki Museum (Athens, Gr)
2019 *Shelter Festival-Laboratory*. Free Arts Space (Helsinki, Fi)
2019 Kuryohin Prize Exhibition. Kuryohin Centre (St. Petersburg, RU)
2019 *You are What you Eat*. Krakow Photo Month. Bunkier Sztuki Gallery (Krakow, Pl)
2019 Transeurope Project (transeurope.eu)
2019 Riga Photomonth (Riga, Lv)
2018 *Barbarians*. Mamuta Art and Media Center (Jerusalem, ISR)
2018 *In-side Out*. Center for Book Arts (New-York, USA)
2018 *Shelter Festival*. Free Arts Space (Helsinki, Fi)
2018 *Kuvan Kevat*. Project Room Gallery (Helsinki, Fi)
2018 *Red May*. Alkovi Gallery (Helsinki, Fi)
2018 *Open Museum*. Electromuseum (Moscow, Ru)
2017 *Presence Festival*. Berthold Center (St. Petersburg, Ru)
2017 *Athens Photo Festival*. Benaki Museum (Athens, Gr)
2017 *Animal Logic*. The Exhibition Laboratory (Helsinki, Fi)
2017 *Photobookfest*. Br. Lumier Center

of Photography (Moscow, Ru)
2016 *Listhus* (Akureyri, ISL)
2015 *Kolga Tbilisi Photo* (Tbilisi, Ga)
2015 *Grandprix Fotofestival* (Lodz, Pl)
2015 *Athens Photo Festival*. Benaki Museum (Athens, Gr)
2015 *PhotoEspaña* books (Madrid, Es)
2015 *The Brownian Motion Experience*. Br. Lumier Center of Photography (Moscow, Ru)
2014 *Kolga Tbilisi Photo* (Tbilisi, Ga)
2014 *Openborder Festival* (Amsterdam, NI)
2014. *Impressed*. Loft Taiga (St. Petersburg, Ru)
2014 *Institute.Production* (Kazan, Ru)
2013 *Young Russian Photographers* (Ru)
2013 *Fotofilmic festival* (Vancouver, Ca)
2013 *Age of Consent*. Etagi (St. Petersburg, Ru)

Awards and Grants:

2023 Culture Prize of Lower Austria for Art Photography (At)
2023 Salzburg Summer Academy Grant (At)
2020 Bundeskanzleramt Startstipendium (At)
2020 Niederösterreich Stipendium (At)
2020 Kone Residency (Fi)
2020 Kuryohin Prize shortlist (Ru)
2019 Helsinki City Project Grant (Fi)
2019 Kuryohin Prize shortlist (Ru)
2019 TAIKE Project Grant (Fi)
2019 Finnish Cultural Foundation Grant (Fi)
2018 TAIKE Mobility (Fi)
2018 AIR- Artist in Residence Krems (At)
2018 Kuno Express (EU)
2017 STEP Grant (NI)
2017 The Russian Photounion Prize (Ru)
2017 Photobookfest shortlist (Moscow, Ru)
2017 UNIARTS Grant (Fi)
2016 The Russian Photounion Prize (Ru)
2016 Dummy Awards Kassel shortlist (Ge)
2015 Skammdegi Artist-in-Residence Prize (ISL)
2014 Gomma Photography Grant (UK)
2013 The Russian Photounion Prize (Ru)
2013 Kuryohin Prize shortlist (Ru)

Books:

2018 - *In Der Ecke*, private publishing, 88 Pages
2018 - *Spinebone Soup and Stuffed Rabbits*, private publishing, 94 Pages
2016 - *Roads Closed*, private publishing, 70 Pages
2015 - *Empty Expectations*, private publishing, 140 Pages
2014 - *Letters for Two, and No-One Else*, Dostoevsky Publishing, 162 Pages

Monograph:

2018- *Food as structural unit of politics*, transmitter of

memory, and matter of art, Print Book, 60 Pages

Lectures and Talks:

2022 *Bodies in Resonance*, an artist talk, Improper Walls Gallery (Vienna, At)

2021 *Anti-conference PoleTelo: the Field of Corporeality* (St. Petersburg, RU)

2021 Reading Group with Corina Apostol, in the frames of the Photoireland Festival, Rathfarnham Castle (Dublin, IE)

2020 *Taboo-Transgression-Transcendence*

in *Art & Science Conference* 2020, The University of Applied Arts (Vienna, At)

2020 Hidden Affects, lecture-performance for Fotodepartment and Tochka.Art Magazine (St. Petersburg, RU)

2017 Public talk during Suomi Art Fair (Helsinki, Fi)

2016 Invited portfolio-reviewer and a lecturer for the photo parade in Uglich (Ugliche, RU)

Screenings

2023 Nicht Unser Krieg, Weltkunstzimmer (Dusseldorf, Ge)

2022 @DOCUMENTA 15: Non-Human Agents During the War, documenta-Halle

(Kassel, Ge)

2022 Degrees, Improper Walls Gallery (Vienna, At)

2022 Identity, Pavelhaus (Graz, At)

2021 Q&A. Aa-collections (Vienna, At)

2021 FOR SURE! (Hjalteyri, ISL)

2020 Backlight Festival (Tampere, Fi)

2019 Athens Photo Festival, Benaki Museum

(Athens, Gr)

2019 Kuryohin Prize Exhibition, Kuryohin Centre (St. Petersburg, RU)

2019 You are What you Eat, Krakow Photo Month. Bunkier Sztuki Gallery (Krakow, Pl)

2018 Kuvan Kevat, Project Room

Gallery (Helsinki, Fi)

2018 Spinebone Soup and Stuffed Rabbits, Fotoforum Gallery (Innsbruck, At)

2018 Red May, Alkovi Gallery (Helsinki, Fi)

2018 Open Museum, Electromuseum

(Moscow, Ru)

2018 Habitat vol.1, Museum of Impossible Forms and HOAS Campus (Helsinki, Vantaa, Fi)

2017 Empty Expectations, The Exhibition Laboratory (Helsinki, Fi)

2017 Athens Photo Festival, Benaki Museum

(Athens, Gr)

2016 One or Two Approaches to a Landscape, Listhus Gallery (Ólafsfjörður, ISL)

Education

2016/2018 University of the Arts, Academy of Fine Art, MA in Time and Space Art (Helsinki, Fi)

2013/2015 Fotodepartment.Institute (St. Petersburg, Ru)

2008/ 2010 Postgraduate, St. Petersburg State University Faculty of Journalism, Theory of Communications Department

2002/ 2008 St. Petersburg State University Faculty of Journalism, Visual Journalism Department, graduated with honours

Residencies, study visits and traineeships

2023 Salzburg Summer Academy, Maria Bussmann course (Salzburg, At)

2022 - Workshop "Resolution" with Gerald Nestler (Wolkersdorf, At)

2020 - 2021 - Mentorship Program with Anne Faucheret, Academy of Fine Art (Vienna, At)

2018 - AIR-Artist in Residence Niederösterreich (Krems, At)

2018 - Transeurope Project Selected Artist (EU)

2017-2019 Mentorship Program UNIARTS with Angela Rosenberg and Pilvi Takala (Helsinki, Fi)

2018 - Cassis AIR (Cassis, Fr)

2017 - Somos Arts Residency (Berlin, Ge)

2017 - UNIARTS Residency (Berlin, Ge)

2015-2016 Artist-in-Residence (Scammdegi Awards) (Listhus, ISL)

2015 - Portfolio-Review during the FotoFesival (Lodz, Pl)

- Portfolio-Review during the IPPR run by Fotodepartment (St. Petersburg, Ru)

- Portfolio-Review during the Kaunas PhotoFesival

(Kaunas, Lt)

- Portfolio-Review in The Finnish Museum of Photography (Helsinki, Fi)

2013-2015 studying in Fotodepartment.Institute (Overcoming the Photography - the master course by Nadezhda Sheremetova; Postgraduate Photography - the master

course by Nadezhda Sheremetova) (St. Petersburg, RU)

2013 - The workshop with Jaap Scheeren

(St. Petersburg, Ru)

2012 - Photography residence (Zarechny, Ru)

2012 - Portfolio-Review in frames of Nordic Photography experience (St. Petersburg, Ru)

2011 - 2012 Handprinting study at St. Petersburg Workshops, (St. Petersburg, Ru)

Work experience

2020 - present - Founder, curator at AIR InSilo (Hollabrunn, At)

2022 - 2023 - Coordinator at Artists at Risk (AR) (Helsinki, Fi)

2020 - Curator at CulturaFest (Helsinki, Fi)

2018-2020 - Founder, curator, organizer of the Suoja/ Shelter Festival-Laboratory (Helsinki, Fi)

2018 - Internship at FLUSS- Society for the promotion of photo- and media-art (Wolkersdorf, At)

2017 - Internship at the Aalto Pavilion of the Venice Bien-

nale (Venice, It)

2014-2016 - Freelance organiser of cultural events (together with Fotodepartment) (St. Petersburg, Ru)

2014-2016 - Art critic and journalist at Photographer.ru and Aroundart.com (Moscow, Ru)

2014-2016 - Educator at St. Petersburg State University, Department of the Arts (St. Petersburg, Ru)

2011-2020 - Documentary/ reportage photographer (St. Petersburg, Ru/ Helsinki, Fi/ Vienna, At)

2012-2013 - Exhibition director and curator at Tkachi Exhibition Space (St. Petersburg, Ru)

Publications (selected)

VAI (Visual Artists Ireland) (November 2021);

Der Grief (July 2021);

metalmagazine.eu (May, 2021);

Improper Dose #10, Interview with Ksenia Yurkova by Justina Špeirokaitė (February, 2021);

Die Presse (2020);

Idea. Arta + Societate. #54 (2019);

Landscape Stories Magazine #30 (2019);

Transeuropephoto Magazine (2019);

YLE.fi (May, 2018);

The Moscow Times (March 8, 2018);

Colta.ru (Sep 20, 2017);

The Village (Oct 6, 2017);

Calvert Journal (Jan 11, 2017);

GUP Magazine #48 (Feb 2016);

Calvert Journal (Oct 14, 2016);

Calvert Journal (March 2, 2015);

Colta.ru (Jan 21, 2015);

Gup Magazine (Jan 28, 2015);

DOC! PhotoMagazine #31 (Jan 2015), p. 58- 63;

PhosMag (Nov 5, 2015);

Witty Magazine #5 (2015);

Kommersant.Weekend (March 5, 2015), p. 56;

Discovery (Nov 14, 2015);

Prism Magazine #22 (Nov 26, 2015), cover+ p. 46-59;

Musee Mag #13 (Nov 20, 2015), p. 368;

Photographer.ru (2014-2015);

Aroundart.org (2015 - 2015);

Calvert Journal (June 13, 2014);

The Guardian (Jun 16, 2014);

LensCulture (2014);

Archivo Zine (2013);

Resource Magazine (Oct 16, 2013);

OSE (2013).