

VOLOSHYN GALLERY

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Sergii Radkevych 30 METERS ABOVE THE SEA LEVEL

26.10.17 – 19.11.17

Opening: 26th of October at 7 pm, Voloshyn Gallery, Kyiv, 13 Tereshchenkivska str.



*From the series "30 meters above the sea level"
Canvas, acrylic, spray, pastel, 120x120cm, 2017*

al experience of the author. The main counting point is subjective "self", which spreads all around the environmental world and captures it. According to Radkevych, the works consist of different elements that interject each other. "They form a cluster of their own semantic signs that freeze in vacuum space. It's the set of symbols which are conditional reality. For instance, space gravity and the long jump measurement scale are modern forms of social competitions and dependencies, having been involved in which we have to obey the rules of the specified "game". The image of a donkey as a self portrait is a visual technique borrowed from icon painting where human images appear in zoomorphic depiction delivering diverse messages", says Radkevych.

Concerning the sensual and compositional set we can create a parallel field with the works of Bosch and Siqueiros whose paintings are performed from the dark to the light with complicated individual images occupying the space and constructing organized chaos.

"30 years are covered like 30 meters above the sea level. Over the horizon line that is the absolute and the peace...", states the artist.

A part of the exposition consists of the works from the series "**Letters from Ukraine**" made in 2015 as Radkevych was staying at the residence in Freising, Germany. According to the author's words, these works were realized on the edge of emotional landscape and "archeological research", since "Letters from Ukraine" are actually the texts of news bulletins coming from the Motherland, having been snatched from mass media

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Voloshyn Gallery

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space and layered onto the landscapes of Freising. They were made literally of Bavarian soil and reflects the conflict of two worlds.

During the stay at the residence in Freising a few self-portraits **"0 m above the sea level/Self-portrait"** which can be seen at the exhibition were painted as well. In these works, the author was aimed at discovering his own "self" and self identification beyond the usual for us ground, search for ultimate state of peace, regardless of the circumstances and also, to transform own self portrait into modern iconographic image by means of line, colour, spot, to transfer a portrait to emotionless state similar to the art of Sumer and Ancient Egypt.

The work **"In search of Silence/Homeless"** which was applied on the wall of the gallery is the continuation of the street series project **"Homeless"**. In this case it's artificial intervention to the space of the gallery losing former dissonance idea of painting urban environment. The main idea is visual change of environment, search for peace through the lines of face. It's an attempt to gain the visual image that doesn't have gender certainty and doesn't arouse any odd emotions in such complicated modern times.

Sergii Radkevych was born in 1987 in Lutsk, Ukraine. He graduated from Lviv National Art Academy, Monumental Painting department. In 2011 he was awarded II PinchukArtCentre Special Prize. Nominee of the MUHI 2017 and PinchukArtCentre Prize 2017. The works of Radkevych were chosen by the artist Julian Maland for the presentation of Ukrainian street art environment in the documentary **"The New Explorers"** for CANAL+. Sergii is also one of the co-founders of the street art festival **BLACK CIRCLE FESTIVAL**. His works can be found in private collections of France, Germany, the USA and Poland; collections of International Fine Art Fund (USA) and Street Art Museum (St. Petersburg, Russia). At the moment, the artist lives and works in Lviv, Ukraine.

Voloshyn Gallery was founded in 2006 by spouses Max and Julia Voloshyn called **Mystetska Zbirka Art Gallery**. It is located in the cultural and historical center of Kyiv on the street **Tereschenkivska**. Voloshyn Gallery — gallery of modern and conceptual art, is a platform for artistic experimentation, research and social projects.

The mission of gallery: popularization of Ukrainian art in Ukraine and abroad. Max and Julia Voloshyn actively represent Ukrainian art abroad, facilitating its integration into European cultural processes. In February 2014 Max and Julia presented the project **"Ukraine. The archetype of freedom"** in Vienna in cultural and exhibition center **Novomatic Forum**. In April 2015 at the initiative of the gallery the first Ukrainian art tour to the island of Cyprus called **MAKE ART NOT WAR** was organized. In 2015, Max and Julia organized the project of Ukrainian artists in New York, which took place in the **Ukrainian Institute of America**. During the preceding year, Voloshyn Gallery had been presenting the artists in Miami and New York and twice in Swiss Basel at **SCOPE Art Show** – satellite of the most prestigious world art fairs **Art Basel** and **The Armory Show**.

Max and Julia Voloshyn actively support contemporary young Ukrainian artists and collect their works. In 2015, Max and Julia entered the top 30 Ukrainian collectors according to **Forbes** and became the youngest in this ranking. In the same year, Max and Julia came in a rating of **Ukrainian Forbes: 30 successful Ukrainian, who are younger than 30**.

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