

# DOORMATS OR “THE BEATEN CARRIES THE UNBEATEN”

OPENING RECEPTION:  
Thursday, September 18, 2025,  
6 to 9 PM

DATES:  
September 18 – November 2, 2025

GALLERY HOURS:  
Wednesday–Sunday,  
11:00 AM to 6:00 PM

ADDRESS:  
13 Tereshchenkivska St, Kyiv, 01004

Voloshyn Gallery is pleased to present Doormats or “The Beaten Carries the Unbeaten”, Danylo Halkin’s solo exhibition at the gallery’s Kyiv location. Intertwining the past and the present, the artist reveals connections between the brutal police violence during the Revolution of Dignity and the current genocidal crimes committed by the russians.

IMAGE:

The Land of Sunflowers, 2014  
Danylo Halkin

Acrylic on canvas

560 x 230 cm.



KYIV, UKRAINE  
18.09 - 02.11 2025

In constructing the images for the doormats, the artist drew on illustrations from manuals on transporting and evacuating the injured. During the revolution and Russia’s consequent annexation of Crimea and the invasion of Ukraine’s eastern region, the knowledge of how to correctly evacuate an injured person became highly significant for saving lives. It is just as crucial today, when medics have to evacuate wounded soldiers from the frontlines of the Russo-Ukrainian war, and rescuers rush to save those buried under the rubble after yet another missile strike on Ukrainian cities.

The project’s second title borrows a well-known saying from a Ukrainian fairy tale, "The Fox and the Wolf"—a story in which a fox sends some hunters after the wolf, and the latter becomes severely wounded in the altercation. The fox, however, forces the wounded wolf to then carry her back home into the woods. Thus, the beaten wolf carries the unbeaten fox. The victim becomes a tool for the oppressor, one from whom they can extract resources. This accurately illustrates the war crimes committed by the Russians against Ukraine, such as the abduction of Ukrainian children, the mass looting of our homes, hospitals, factories, and museums.

The second part of the exhibition presents the polyptych The Land of Sunflowers, dedicated to the 2014 presidential elections that took place after the Revolution of Dignity. Within the context of the exhibition, the sunflower, a symbol of fertility, unity, sunlight, and prosperity, functions as a metaphor for the sowing of false promises during election campaigns—just as sunflower crops deplete the soil for the following four years, so too does a new government exhaust Ukraine’s landscape for years to come.

Thus, Ukraine’s continuous suffering and struggle against its eastern neighbour is captured in two major events occurring nearly ten years apart. The same methods of evacuating the injured used by the protesters on Maidan Square are now performed by combat medics, while the memory of the false promises in past elections serves as a reminder to stay cautious and critical.

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## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Danylo Halkin

Danylo Halkin (b. 1985 in Dnipro, Ukraine) is a contemporary Ukrainian artist and curator who works with public space, using spatial installations and subject-oriented art. He graduated from Dnipropetrovsk Theater and Art College and the Academy of Civil Engineering and Architecture.

Recent group exhibitions include: “Optical Prostheses” at Maison de la Culture Amiens, Amiens (FR); "Kaleidoscope of (Hi)stories. Ukrainian Art 1912–2023" at Albertinum, Dresden (DE); "Out Loud" at Galeria Labirynt, Lublin (PL); "When Faith Moves Mountains" at PinchukArtCentre, Kyiv (UA); "Transition Dialogue Talks" at LWL Museum kunst und Kultur, Münster (DE); "Europe Endless" at Kunsthall Charlottenborg, Copenhagen (DEN); National Art Museum of Ukraine, Kyiv (UA), and others.

He has been a nominee (2011, 2015) and recipient of the Special Prize (2013) from PinchukArtCentre. Danylo Halkin was a finalist for the Malevich Prize (2014) and the M17 Sculpture Prize (2020), he also received the Special Prize at the Art Future Prize in 2020.

## ABOUT VOLOSHYN GALLERY

In 2016, Max and Julia Voloshyn established Voloshyn Gallery in the heart of Kyiv, Ukraine. Situated in a historic 1913 building, Voloshyn Gallery's space provides an unconventional setting for contemporary art. It exhibits a broad range of works in a variety of media, representing both emerging and established artists. Voloshyn Gallery hosts solo and group exhibitions, works with accomplished curators and museums, and takes part in leading contemporary art fairs.

In 2022, Voloshyn Gallery made the difficult decision to close temporarily due to the full-scale invasion of Ukraine. In 2023 the gallery reopened its doors in Kyiv, Ukraine and also expanded with a space in Miami, Florida.

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