

Alexander Valchev /1973/

lives and works in Sofia

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Education:

2013 - 2011 - MFA in Photography, New Bulgarian University, Sofia, Bulgaria

1998 - 1992 - MFA in Sculpture, National Academy of Arts, Sofia, Bulgaria

1992 - High School of Applied Arts, Sofia, Bulgaria

Residences and Scholarships:

2008 - residence at the Cite Internationale des Arts, Paris, France

2004 - scholarship at "Cultural City Network" Graz, Austria.

Alexander Valchev works in the field of contemporary art, mainly using the mean of expressions of sculpture, drawing and photography. His interests range widely, from pure abstract to socially engaged works in which the artist makes a metaphorical commentary on what is happening around us. He combines individual works and series into installations with overall concept and site-specific character.

Solo Exhibitions and Installations:

2026

The Past Within Us – CUB Gallery, CCA Toplocentrala, Sofia, BG

2025

Deeply Ordered Chaos – DOZA Gallery, Sofia, BG

2025

CULT – AR sculptural installation, Gallery Gallery, Sofia, Varna, Gabrovo, Berlin

2024

Neocubism and other games, drawings, paintings and sculptures – DOM conceptual art space, Sofia, BG

2024

The Ruins of an Unbuilt Bridge – site-specific installation as part of Rivers of the City Festival, Gabrovo, BG

2023

New Facade for an Old Building – site-specific installation as part of Buna Art Festival, - Varna, BG

2022

Miracle - Arosita Gallery, Sofia, BG

2020

2020: A Studio Odyssey - Arosita Gallery, Sofia, BG

2019

Constructive Fluctuations - site-specific installation at Institute for Contemporary Art - Sofia, Sofia, BG

How to Deal with the Object – curator Iara Boubnova, Credo Bonum Gallery, Sofia, BG

2018

Brick by Brick - Arosita Gallery, Sofia, BG

New Life – as part of *Danube Dialogues festival – The Use of Man*, Novi Sad, RS

2015

New Life - Goethe-Institut, Sofia, BG

2014

The Sculpture as a Hobby – curator Vera Mlechevska, Arosita Gallery, Sofia, BG

2013

Stars /Objects & Spaces series- part I/ – solo exhibition in European Month of Photography in Sofia

2nd experimental edition - Sofia Arsenal – Museum for Contemporary Art, Sofia, BG

Pin-up Girls – Arosita Gallery, Sofia, BG

2012

For a Few Dollars More or Nine Portraits – Sofia Arsenal – Museum for Contemporary Art, Sofia BG

2011

We Love the Dogs and the Dogs Love Us - Goethe-Institut Bulgarien, Sofia, BG

2009

Reminiscences - Photon Gallery, Ljubljana, SL

2008

Me and My Friends & A Piece of Nature / Piece – Nature - Centrum Galerie, Graz, AT

Me and My Friends & A Piece of Nature / Piece- Nature - solo exhibition in National Autumn Exhibitions, curators PhD Galina Lardeva, Krassimir Linkov, Plovdiv, BG

Tribute - ElBank Art Gallery; Sofia, BG

2007

Reminiscences & Un/Usual Suspects - Month of Photography, Bratislava, SK

Reminiscences - Gallery of Contemporary Arts /Salon 77/, Nish, RS

2005

Reminiscences - curator Stefania Yanakieva - Sofia City Art Gallery, BG

Popporn - Irida Art Gallery - Sofia, BG

2003

Interior - TEA Art Gallery Sofia, BG

2001

Selection I – Static & Selection II - Dynamic- TEA Art Gallery Sofia, BG

Construction – Deconstruction - Krida Art Gallery - Sofia, BG

Curatorial Projects & Others:

2025

Member of the Jury of “BUNA” festival Vol.3 “Discovery and Otherness in the Era of 5.0”

2024

The Presence of the Absent Ones or Let`s Wake Up Our Minds - curatorial project for outside interventions as part of “BUNA” festival Vol.2 – “The Nature of Relationships”

Selected Group Exhibitions:

2026

Structures in Transition /a group exhibition by School for Curators 2.0/ - Museum of Humour and Satire in Art, Gabrovo, BG

Communities and Spaces – exhibition presenting works from previous editions of BUNA Forum for Contemporary Art, Varna, BG

Lost Forest – group exhibition, curator Hristina Bobokova, DOZA Gallery, Sofia, BG

2025

Time for Money - curator Iara Boubnova, ICA-Sofia, The Institute of Contemporary Art - Sofia, Sofia, BG

Communities and Spaces – presenting the BUNA Forum for Contemporary Art, Varna, BG at Mobius Gallery as part of SNAC 2025, Bucharest, RO

2024

The Last Christmas - ICA-Sofia, The Institute of Contemporary Art - Sofia, Sofia, BG

From the Vault – group exhibition Little Bird Place Gallery, Sofia, BG

Valchev, Bistrichki, Nedev, Simeonov, Stoilov, Doykov – U PARK Gallery, Plovdiv, BG

Sofia Art Fair – first edition, Sofia, BG

Sofia Calling! A modern way to collect contemporary art – Doza Gallery, Sofia, BG

The Brick 2023 - exhibition organized by “Process - Space” Art Foundation, Rayko Alexiev Gallery, Sofia

LOOK – Ecology and Technology - exhibition curated by R. Getsova, part of Buna Art Festival, Varna, BG

2023

Crying Game - ICA-Sofia, The Institute of Contemporary Art - Sofia, Sofia, BG

Budapest Art Market - Courtesy Arosita Gallery, Budapest, HU

LOOK – Ecology and Technology / 2023 - series of group exhibitions part of LOOK Festival, SF, BG

Colors – group exhibition curated by Rositsa Getsova, part of Buna Art Festival, - Varna, BG

The Brick 2023 - group exhibition organized by “Process - Space” Art Foundation, ReBonkers, Varna, BG

2022

Everything You Need – curator Rositsa Getsova, Bulgarian Cultural Institute – Praha, CZ

7 Outside the Traffic – organized by Union of Bulgarian Artist, Shipka 6 Gallery of UBA, Sofia, BG

Self-splaining (a Triumph of Empathy) - group exhibition organized by Institute of Contemporary Art – Sofia as a partner in the Western Balkans Project of Manifesta 14, Gallery of the Faculty of Arts, Rruga Agim Ramadani, Prishtina, Kosovo

Economy of Means - 25th Gabrobo Biennial of Humor and Satire in Art, Gabrovo, BG

SPARKS OF IMAGINATION: on the Frequencies of Beuys – curated by Vera Mlechevska, Kvadrat 500 / National Art Gallery, Sofia, BG

2021

Frames of Reference – curated by Antoaneta Quick, Little Bird Place Gallery, Sofia, BG

Landscape Obsession – group exhibition, Arosita Gallery, Sofia, BG

2020

Souvenirs from the Future - ICA-Sofia, The Institute of Contemporary Art - Sofia, Sofia, BG

Where the Sculpture Is? – curated by Kiril Vassilev, Credo Bonum Gallery, Sofia, BG

Dualism - ONE Gallery, Sofia, BG

2019

Thank you Mr. Ruf – curated by Vessela Nozharova, Credo Bonum Gallery, Sofia, BG

Look at the Depot – curator PhD Maria Vassileva, SKLAD, Plovdiv, BG

Notes and Footnotes – curator Vera Mlechevska, Kapana Gallery, Plovdiv, BG

Portrait of a Friend - curator Iglica Trifonova, Sofia City Art Gallery, BG

2018

On a Clear Day You Can See Forever – curator Carolina Lio, Goethe-Institut Bulgarien, Sofia, BG

Works of Art from Bulgaria - Council of the European Union, Brussels, BE

Join the Dots / Unire le distanze - Salone Degli Incanti - Ex Pescheria Centrale, Trieste, IT

BIG SEE Photography 2018 - Zavod Big Centre for creative economy of Southeast Europe, Ljubljana, SL

2017

A Show Without A Title But In The Holiday Spirit - ICA-Sofia, The Institute of Contemporary Art - Sofia, BG

Dispute on Reality - curators K. Vassilev, S. Pamukchiev, P. Tsanev, Shipka 6 Gallery of UBA, Sofia, BG

Valchev, Bistrichki, Nedev, Simeonov - group exhibition, Pleven Art Center, Pleven, BG

Valchev, Bistrichki, Nedev - group exhibition, Stubel Gallery, Sofia, BG

2016

The painting technology in the contemporary art – symposium on painting and group exhibition, curator Sasho Stoitzov, Blagoevgrad City Gallery, Blagoevgrad, BG

Topos - Topographies - ...topias - curator Slav Nedev, Raiko Alexiev Gallery, Sofia, BG

The Fortress - curator Nadezda Dzhakova, Blagoevgrad City Gallery, Blagoevgrad, BG

UAMO Festival - Fortress - group exhibition, Munich, DE

In the Labelling Gap – curator Daniela Radeva, Sofia City Art Gallery, Sofia, BG

Situation Sofia – organized by Goethe-Institut, Art Gallery ACADEMY, Sofia, BG

2015

Focus Bulgaria @ viennacontemporary - curated by Iara Boubnova and Vessela Nozharova, viennacontemporary, Vienna, AT

Save the Dreams – contemporary Artists from Bulgaria - Imago Mundi, Luciano Benetton Collection, Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Venice, IT

The Fortress - curator N. Dzhakova, UAMO Festival & Sofia Arsenal - Museum for Contemporary Art, BG

Section 13 – Shipka 6 Gallery of UBA, Sofia, BG

Art for Change 1985- 2015 – curator PhD Maria Vassileva, Sofia City Art Gallery, BG

2014

The radio and the communications of 21-st century – competition of Bulgarian National Radio

New Shades in Contemporary Art – curator Sasho Stoitsov, City Gallery, Blagoevgrad, BG

What happened? – Shipka 6 Gallery of UBA, Sofia, BG

Conceptual Photography Weeks 2014 – Gallery Synthesis, Sofia, BG

Unusual Evidences - Sofia Underground Performance Art Festival 2014 - curator Yovo Panchev

Optical Confusion - curator Elena Panajotova, Basement Wien Gallery, Vienna, AT

2013

ESSL Art Award CEE 2013 – Nominee Exhibition – Art Gallery ACADEMY, Sofia, BG

Sofia Underground Performance Art Festival 1997 - 2003 Files – Sofia arsenal – Museum for Contemporary Art, Sofia, BG

2012

Communications – curator Yovo Panchev, Vivacom Art Hall, Sofia, BG

CCP /Contemporary Conceptual Photography/ - curators: S. Ivanova and I. Stoyanov, The Red House – Center for Culture and Debate, Sofia, BG

MOST Nominations – Modern Art Gallery, Sofia, BG

Justified Actions - Sofia Underground Performance Art Festival 2012 – curator Yovo Panchev, Sofia Arsenal - Museum for contemporary art, Sofia, BG

Dachshund in Bulgarian Contemporary Art – curator Elena Panajotova, Shipka 6 Gallery of UBA, Sofia, BG

2011

Digital Print - curator Ivo Bistrichki , Industrialna 11 Gallery, Sofia, BG

Re - Production - curators Alla Georgieva, Nadezda Dzhakova, Sofia Arsenal - Museum for contemporary art, Sofia, BG

THE CHOICE /43 art historians - 43 works/ - the project curator PhD Maria Vassileva – Sofia City Art Gallery, BG

Annual Exhibition of Section 13 of UBA - Shipka 6 Gallery of UBA, Sofia, BG

2010

Renaissance Nostra / Private View art platform / - curator Maja Skerbot, guest by Gallery Jarmuscheck + Partner, Berlin, DE

Annual Exhibition of Section 13 of UBA - Industrialna 11 Gallery, Sofia, BG

A Border Situation - Drawing in the Contemporary Art - curator Yovo Panchev, Industrialna 11 Gallery, Sofia, BG

2009

Dvaja Bratia /Two brothers/ - BCC Bratislava, Slovakia / Sofia, BG

Reality - Fiction - section Painting of UBA, Shipka 6 Gallery of UBA, Sofia, BG

PHODAR Photographic Biennial, 6th edition; Pleven, BG

Wenn Werte Form Werden – curator Stefan Bohnenberger, supported by Goethe-Institute Bulgaria

- Skopje, MK
- Art today – Center for Contemporary Art, Plovdiv, BG
- Goethe Institute – Sofia, BG

Born Independent – 100 Years Independent Bulgaria, organized by Ministry of Culture and Union of Bulgarian Artists, Sofia, BG

Annual Exhibition of Section 13 of UBA – Shipka 6 Gallery of UBA, Sofia, BG

2008

Contemporary Bulgarian Scene - curator PhD Beate Reifenscheid - Ludwig Museum im Deutschherrenhaus, Koblenz, DE

M-tel Awards for Contemporary Bulgarian Art - "SHORTLIST 2007"

Close Distance - section Painting of UBA - Shipka 6 Gallery of UBA, Sofia, BG

A-A-H! All About Him! - Curator V. Zankov, supported by Goethe Institute Bulgaria, Sofia, BG

Viennafair - Courtesy Photon Gallery, Vienna, AT

2007

Photonic Moments III - Month of Photography, Ljubljana, SL

- Vienna, AT - Month of Photography - 2008
- Graz, AT - 2008
- Sarajevo, BA - 2007
- Ljubljana, SL - 2007

Gaudenz B. Ruf Award for new Bulgarian art - "SHORTLIST 2007"

25 Years Anniversary Exhibition of "St.St. Cyril and Methodius" International Foundation

Annual Exhibition - *Section 13* of UBA - Shipka 6 Gallery of UBA, Sofia, BG

Group Exhibition - Sozopol City Art Gallery - Apolonia festival, BG

24 - Group Exhibition, curator Simeon Shivachev, Burgas, BG

Traffic - section Painting of UBA - Shipka 6 Gallery of UBA, Sofia, BG

One Day and Night on Shipka 6. Remember Sofia Underground! - curators Rouen Rouenov, Yovo Panchev, Shipka 6 Gallery of UBA, Sofia, BG

PHODAR Photographic Biennial, 5th edition; Pleven, BG

2006

AWOL - Biennial of Contemporary Young artists - 2nd edition Bucharest, RO

Visual Immortality - Biennial of Contemporary art, 2nd edition - curators Elena Panayotova, Peter Tsanev, Shumen, BG

The Body - section Painting of UBA - Shipka 6 Gallery of UBA, Sofia, BG

2005

Portrait - section Painting of UBA - Shipka 6 Gallery of UBA, Sofia, BG

2004

National Sculpture Exhibition - section Sculpture of UBA - Shipka 6 Gallery of UBA, Sofia, BG

Level - 1 - Group Exhibition "Boris Hristov" Museum, Sofia, BG

Group Exhibition *Cite Internationale Des Arts* Paris, FR

Annual Exhibition of *Arh & Art* newspaper - Sezoni Gallery, Sofia, BG

2003

National Sculpture Exhibition - section Sculpture of UBA - Shipka 6 Gallery of UBA, Sofia, BG

Competition for Young Artists and Art Critics organized by *St.St. Cyril and Methodius* International Foundation

OLE - Summer Group Exhibition - Irida Gallery Sofia, BG

10 Years Anniversary Exhibition of *Art in Bulgaria* magazine - Sofia City Art Gallery, BG

Sculptures and Drawings - group exhibition Sofia City Art Gallery, BG

2002

Sculptor and Drawing - section Sculpture of UBA - Shipka 6 Gallery of UBA, Sofia, BG

Biennial *Pleven 2002* - first edition, Pleven, BG

Competition for Young Artists and Art Critics organized by *St.St. Cyril and Methodius* International Foundation

Interior - section Painting of UBA - Shipka 6 Gallery of UBA, Sofia, BG

2000

National Sculpture Exhibition - section Sculpture of UBA - Shipka 6 Gallery of UBA, Sofia, BG

National Youth Exhibition of Union of Bulgarian Artists - Shipka 6 Gallery of UBA, Sofia, BG

Grants, Awards & Residences:

2024 - Special Award of "*BUNA*" festival Vol.2 – "*The Nature of Relationships*"

2014 - *Grant, The radio and the communications of 21-st century* – competition of National BG Radio

2013 - *ESSL Art Award CEE 2013 – Nominee*

2012 - *Grant, Gaudenz B. Ruf Award for new Bulgarian art*

2009 - *First Prize Born Independent* – 100 Years Independent Bulgaria

2008 - *Shortlist 2007* - M-tel Awards for Contemporary Bulgarian Art

2008 - *Residence CCN*, Graz, Austria
2007 - *Shortlist 2007* - Gaudenz B. Ruf Award for new Bulgarian art
2007 - *Honor, PHODAR* Photographic Biennial, 5th edition; Pleven, Bulgaria
2006 - *Honor*, Competition for Young Artists and Art Critics organized by "St. St. Cyril and Methodius International Foundation"
2005 - *Grant*, "St. St. Cyril and Methodius" International Foundation
2004 - *Residence Cite Internationale Des Arts*, Paris, France
2002 - *Second Prize* from Competition for Young Artists and Art Critics organized by "St. St. Cyril and Methodius International Foundation"
2002 - *Honor*, Biennial Pleven 2002 - first edition;
2000 - *UBA's Award for Young Artist* in National Sculpture Exhibition
1995 – *First Prize for students*, symposium "Fare Arte in Sardegna", Cagliari, Italy

Selected Bibliography (References):

Catalogue of *Manifesta 14* – curator Catherine Nichols, Prishtina, Kosovo, 2022
 Catalogue of *Notes and Footnotes* – curator Vera Mlechevska, Kapana Gallery, Plovdiv, BG, 2019
 Catalogue of *Portrait of a Friend* - curator Iglica Trifonova, Sofia City Art Gallery, BG, 2019
 Catalogue of *Danube Dialogues festival*, Novi Sad, RS, 2018
 Catalogue of *Dispute on Reality* - curators K. Vassilev, S. Pamukchiev, P. Tsanev, Shipka 6 Gallery of UBA, Sofia, BG, 2017
Culture newspaper, LIX, 44 /2832/ 18.12.2015
 Catalogue of *Save the Dreams – contemporary Artists from Bulgaria* - Imago Mundi, Luciano Benetton Collection, 2015
 Catalogue of *Art for Change 1985 - 2015* - Sofia City Art Gallery, 2015
Culture newspaper, LVIII, 41 /2786/ 05.12.2014
 Catalogue of *THE CHOICE /43 art historians - 43 works/* - Sofia City Art Gallery, 2011
 Catalogue of *Contemporary Bulgarian Scene* - Ludwig Museum im Deutschherrenhaus, Koblenz, Germany 2008
 Catalogue of *PHODAR* Photographic Biennial, 2007 and 2009
 Catalogue of *Gaudenz B. Ruf Award for new Bulgarian art* - SHORTLIST 2007
 Catalogue of *AWOL* - Biennial of Contemporary Young artists, Bucharest, Romania, 2nd edition, 2006
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Art in Bulgaria magazine, VII, /75 - 77/, 2000