

BORJANA VENTZISLAVOVA
ARTISTIC BIOGRAPHY

BORJANA VENTZISLAVOVA Sofia born, Vienna based artist. (borjana.net)

She graduated visual media art/digital art at the University of Applied Arts in Vienna (prof. Peter Weibel, prof. Karl Dudesek)

She works in the fields of film/ video, photography, installation, performative and new media. Her works have been exhibited internationally in solo and group shows as well at film and media art festivals all over Europe, America and Asia.

Her works are part of private and public collections.

She has been granted honorable Austrian citizenship for her achievements in visual arts.

AWARDS, GRANTS (SELECTION):

Artist in Residence in NYC 2019, BKA, A
Art Award of the City of Vienna 2017, A
Artists in Residence Banff Center, 2017 CAN
Artists in Residence, Snehta u. Kunstverein EXTRA 2017, Athens, GR
Artists in Residence Chicago 2015, BMUKK, A
Ruf Award Grant, 2015, Sofia, BG
Austrian State Stipend for Fine Arts 2013, BMUKK, A
Research Residency 2012 - D6 (former ISIS Arts), Newcastle, UK
MAK Schindler Artist in Residence 2011, LA, USA
Grant for Independent Project, CEC ArtsLink, NY, USA
Artists in Residence, Kala Arts, Berkeley, ArtsLink 2009, USA
Start stipend 2009, BMUKK, A
Artists in Residence ISIS Arts 2007 - Newcastle, UK
Artists in Residence Rome 2007, BKA, A
Grant - Pro Helvetia, Sofia, BG
Winner Top Ten Nonfiction (Fokus Pokus Euromatik) - Cologne Conference 2006, D
Winner Otto Prutscher Fonds 2006 - Vienna, A
Susmannstiftung 2005 - Vienna, A
Artists in Residence – dezentrale medien, 2002, Austrian Cultur Forum, London, UK
Recognition (luis, i think!) - CYNETart 2001, Dresden, D
Honorable Mention (luis, i think!) -AIM III, Art In Motion 2002, Los Angeles, USA
Distinction (herein.at - dezentrale medien) – Ars Electronica, 2002, Linz, A

SOLO AND DUO SHOWS (SELECTION):

- 2019** And the sky clears up (MAGIC RESISTANCE), curated by Séamus Kealy, Salzburger Kunstverein, A (solo)
That Thing, curated by Walter Seidl, BKI "Haus Wittgenstein", Vienna, A (solo)
Meet us in the desert, curated by Ursula Maria Probst, Gallery Sturm&Schober, Vienna, A (duo with Sissa Micheli)
Real Games, curated by Vera Mlechevska, Sofia City Art Gallery, BG (solo)
- 2018** WAHKOHTOWIN- WATER WALK WITH US, Bildraum07, Vienna, A (solo)
History Theatre, Intervention in public space, curated by Documenta, Regensburg, D (solo)
- 2017** We are part of a collection, curated by Vera Mlechevska, Water Tower - gallery +359, Sofia, BG (solo)
Borjana Ventzislavova – open studio show, The Project Space, Banff Centre, CAN (solo)
in αthens in Wien, curated by Antonia Rahofer und Kunstverein EXTRA, Vienna, A (duo with Emanuel Ehgartner)
in αthens, curated by Antonia Rahofer and Eleni Michaelidi, Snehta, Athens, GR (duo with Emanuel Ehgartner)
- 2016** Migration Standards, Red House, Sofia, BG (solo)
We shall overswim, Kurt--Kurt + LS43, Berlin, D (solo)
We are part of a collection, curated by Dessislava Dimova, gallery bäckerstrasse4, Vienna, A (solo)
Blickle Archive Series: Borjana Ventzislavova, curated by Claudia Slanar, 21er haus Kino, Vienna, A (solo)
- 2015** A Dance (in Chicago) | Borjana Ventzislavova, Defibrillator Gallery, Chicago, USA (solo)
Borjana Ventzislavova: Me, you and them, curated by Johannes Holzmann, Museum Angerlehner, Wels, A (solo)
- 2014** That Thing, the fridge, Sofia, BG (solo)
Roles, curated by Yovo Panchev, Sofia History Museum, Sofia, BG (solo)
- 2013** 15 Minute Constitutional Bed Stories, e(merge) art fair, Washington DC, USA (solo)
Living Dreams. Dreaming Lives., Sofia Arsenal - Museum for Contemporary Art, BG (solo)
- 2012** Living Dreams. Dreaming Lives., bäckerstrasse4, Vienna, A (solo)
- 2011** Common Dreams - Different Realities, bäckerstrasse4, Vienna, A (duo with Judith Sauper)
- 2010** In The Name Of, Thomas K. Lang Gallery, Vienna, A (solo / Mladen Penev)
ex-garage, Maribor, SLO (solo)

- 2009** We shall overswim, Academia gallery, curated by Galina Dimitrova, Sofia, BG (solo)
Me, You and Them. No one is secure., curated by Galina Dimitrova, Credo Bonum Gallery (Cibank), Sofia, BG (solo)
- 2006** EURO DE LUX, Red house, Sofia, BG, curated by Yana Kostova, (solo)
It was always dark outside, Sofia City Art Gallery, curated by Yana Kostova, Sofia, BG (solo)
- 2003** This is the beginning of..., Emerging Artists, curated by Gabriele Bösch, Sammlung Essl, A, (solo / Miroslav Nivic)

GROUP EXHIBITIONS, FESTIVALS, SCREENINGS (SELECZION)

- 2019** Digital Dramatizations: Ecologies from the Future, curated by Dimitrina Sevova, Ancient Bath and SKLAD, Plovdiv
Part of Plovdiv 2019, European Capital of Culture
- 2018** SOFIA QUEER FORUM 2018: HOMELAND FOR THE VAGABOND, curated by Mohammad Salemy and Patrick Schabus, Vaska Emanoilova Gallery, Sofia, BG
WAHKOHTOWIN- WATER WALK WITH US, Bildraum07, Vienna, A (solo)
HISTORY TOWER, public art, City of Regensburg, D
DANUBE ART LAB, City Gallery Leeren Beutel, Regensburg, D
PRODUCTIVE WORK - WHAT IS IT SUPPOSED TO BE? curated by Anamarija Batista, Q21, MuseumsQuartier Vienna A
Exiled Gaze I Gekreuzte Geschichten, curated by Doris Posch, Mexikoplatz and KAESHMAESH, Vienna, A
10 YEARS BÄCKERSTRASSE, Gallery Bäckerstrasse4, Vienna, A
- 2017** SHIFTING LAYERS, curated by Vladiya Mihailova, Sofia City Art Gallery, Sofia, BG
Migrations of Fear, curated by Iлина Koralova und Boris Kostadinov, Center of Contemporary Art, Plovdiv, BG
Migrations of Fear, curated by Iлина Koralova und Boris Kostadinov, KGLU, Slovenj Gradec, SLO
I dreamed we were alive, curated by Verena Kasper-Eisert and Sophie Haslinger, Kunst Haus Vienna, A
- 2016** lines, eyes on - Monat der Fotografie, curated by Sophie Haslinger und Corina Lueger, Spenglerei, Vienna, A
Fluchtpunkt Westen, Westraum, Berlin, D
Zuflucht. Asyl. Wo? Living Collection sixpackfilm, Metro Kinokulturhaus, Vienna, A
Look at Me! I am Made for You., curated by Boris Kostadinov, Projektraum LS43, Berlin, D
- 2015** PROCESS IN PROGRESS, curated by Vessela Nozharova, Galerie Bäckerstrasse4, Vienna,
A Shaping Realities, Galerie Bäckerstrasse Berlin, D
RABENMÜTTER: Zwischen Kraft und Krise: Mütterbilder von 1900 bis heute, LENTOS Kunstmuseum Linz, A
Mature and Angry, curated by Boris Kostadinov, Center for Contemporary Art, Plovdiv, BG
Imago Mundi. Luciano Benetton Collection. Mappa dell'arte nuova - Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Venice, IT
DISPLACED Film #1, curated by Bruce Allan and Ben Eastop, DISPLACED, Luckenwalde, D
WHAT DO YOU SEE?, curated by Maria Vassileva and Daniela Radeva, SGHG, Sofia, BG
Sleepless-The bed in history and contemporary art, curated by Mario Codognato, 21er Haus, Vienna, A
MIND THE GAP II - VIENNA, curated by Boris Kostadinov, Gallery Bäckerstrasse4, Vienna
- 2014** Specters Of The West curated by Claudia Slanar, bäckerstrasse4, Vienna, A
Difference Screen, curated by Bruce Allan and Ben Eastop, ABC No Rio, NY, USA
The Dignity Of Man, curated by: Maja Abdomerović, Berthold Ecker, Roland Fink, Terezie Petišková, Jana Vránová, Brno House of Art, SK
Bulgarische Arbeit, curated by Marleen Andreev & André Obermüller, geh8, Dresden, D
Difference Screen, curated by Bruce Allan and Ben Eastop, Nageratsi Institute, Yerevan, AM
der zweite blick – reise geschichten und andere déjà vus, program by Lisa Neuman & Gerald Weber, Open – Air short film festival, Vienna, A
The Dignity Of Man, curated by: Maja Abdomerović, Berthold Ecker, Roland Fink, Terezie Petišková, Jana Vránová, Art Gallery of Bosnia and Herzegovina
KEEP IN TOUCH, curated by Ursula Maria Probst, In der Kubatur des Kabinetts, FLUC, Vienna, A
The Dignity Of Man, curated by: Maja Abdomerović, Berthold Ecker, Roland Fink, Terezie Petišková, Jana Vránová, MUSA, Vienna, A
future past - past future, Artup!, curated by Sandra Naumann, Supermarkt, Berlin, D
- 2013** Fragile, curated by EIKON, Bawag Contemporary, Vienna, A
Mind The Gap, curated by Boris Kostadinov, Radiator Gallery, Long Island City, NY, USA
Dialogues, curated by Sivia Aigner, bäckerstrasse4, Vienna, A
Artup! Home/s - Benaki Museum, Athens, GR
Difference Screen, curated by Bruce Allan and Ben Eastop, Artisterium 6, Tbilisi, GE
Bulgarian Artists in Vienna. Contemporary Practices at the Beginning of the 21st Century – Sofia Art Gallery, Sofia, BG
Difference Screen, curated by Bruce Allan and Ben Eastop, Mongolian National Modern Art Gallery, Ulaanbaatar, MN
Art in Public Space “Zapaden Park” curated by Galina Dimitrova–Dimova, Sofia, BG
passeur, curated by Caroline Messensee, Galerie Odlile Ouizeman, Paris, FR

Diagonale, Graz, A

Creative Assemblages – When aesthetics meet the economy or what do they have in Common?, curated by Dimitrina Sevova, co-curated by Mürteza Fidan and Melih T. Görgün, Siemens Sanat, Istanbul, TR
Stuttgarter filmwinter, Festival for Expanded Media, Stuttgart, D

2012

New works in the collection 2012, National Art Gallery, Sofia, BG
Magnet and antimagnet, curated by Iara Boubnova, ICA Sofia, BG
The Keyhole of Mr. Wittgenstein, curated by Boris Kostadinov, BCI Vienna “Haus Wittgenstein”, A
Neighbourhood x.0, curated by Ege Berensel, co-curated by Katerina Gkoutziouli and Pavlina Mladenova, Goetheinstitut Ankara, TR
A Room with a View - Abstract and Real Space in Photography, curated by Sivie Aigner, bäckerstrasse4, Vienna, A
In Fifteen Minutes Everyone Will Be In The Future, curated by Galina Dimitrova-Dimova, Dessislava Dimova, Art Today Association - Center for Contemporary Art, Plovdiv, BG
Rights to a Future, Big M, Göteborg Culture Festival 2012, SE
Nacht, curated by Verena Kasper-Eisert, Ostlicht, Vienna, A
Contemporary Icons: Recent Art from Bulgaria, curated by Jeffrey Hughes, Hunt Gallery, St. Louis, US
passeur, curated by Caroline Messensee, k/haus passagegalerie, Vienna, A
Wearing skirts, Museum der Moderne Mönchsberg, Salzburg, A
Migration Standards, curated by Silvie Aigner, Austrian Cultural Forum, Washington DC, US
Stuttgarter filmwinter, Festival for Expanded Media, Stuttgart, D
sixpackfilm - Migration Forms, Topkino, Vienna, A
Migration Close-Up, PIMP MY INTEGRATION, GARAGE-X, Vienna, A

2011

The Bulgarian Pavilion, curated by Svetlana Kuyumdzhieva, Credo Bonum Gallery, Sofia, BG
Final Projects, MAK Center for Art and Architecture, Los Angeles, US
Techné, Vienna, A
Transgressions, curated by Vera Mlechevska, Credo Bonum Gallery, Sofia, BG,
Split Film Festival, CRO
Festival du Nouveau Cinéma, Montréal, CA
Int. Short Film Festival, Istanbul, TR
Diagonale, Graz, A
ZagrebDOX, Zagreb, CRO

2010

Body Codes. Images from the Museum's Collection, Museum der Moderne, Salzburg, A
Different Eyes, bäckerstrasse4, “eyes - on” Month of Photography, Vienna, A
Central Europe Revisited III, curated by Lorand Hegyi, Esterházy Foundation, A
TRIENNALE LINZ 1.0, curated by M. Hochleitner, St. Hoch, R. Iglar, M. Mauracher, Landesgalerie Linz, A
YOUKI - FM4 film series, Escape – utopia and youth culture, curated by Petra Erdmann, Wels, A
sixpackfilm - Populäre Rituale, Topkino, Vienna, A
Night of Museums and Galleries, “Coffee with suger”, curated by Galina Dimitrova, Plovdiv, BG
KOPENHAGEN CONTEMPORARY, “Coffee with Suger”, curated by Galina Dimitrova, Copenhagen, DK
Fullframe, Gartenbaukino, Vienna, A
Diagonale, Graz, A

2009

Contemporary photography. New positions from Austria., curated by Silvie Aigner, MMKK, A
short list “Rufaward” – Rayko Alexiev gallery, Sofia, BG
Common history and its private stories, curated by Roland Fink Iara Boubnova, MUSA, Vienna, A,
review, bäckerstrasse4, Vienna, A
Me, You and Them. No one is secure. - Phodar Biennial, Pleven, BG
The Temptation of Chalga, curated by Svetlana Kuyumdzhieva and Vessela Nozharova, SGHG, Sofia, BG

2008

Berwick Film and Media Arts Festival, Berwick, UK
bäckerstrasse4, Wien, A
"Entre Bulgarie et Roumanie, un fleuve" - Gare au Théâtre, Paris, F

2007

short list “Rufaward” - SGHG, Sofia, BG
„Bulgaria?...Oh, yes, Bucharest!”, curated by Yana Kostova, Plovdiv, BG
Porno total, ilegal - füe eine Liebe, Mayerhof, A
“Wohin denn ich”, area53, Vienna, A
Sexwork. Kunst Mythos Realität - NGBK, Berlin, D
10 years video art in Bulgaria, art alley, Sofia, BG
Star&Shadow Cinema, Newcastle upn Tyne, UK
The Rencontres internationales, Babyl. Movie Th., Berlin, D
The Rencontres internationales, Circ. de B. Artes Madrid, SP
sisonke, Topkino, Vienna, A

2006

[prologue] new feminism / new europe, Berlin, D
„minority logbox“ by Danesch/Rych in KÜBA: journey against the current, curated by T-B A21& K. Ataman
remapping mozart, curated by Ljubomir Bratić und Nora Sternfeld, Vienna, A
Otto Prutscher Fond PreisträgerInnen, Vienna, A
The Rencontres internationales, Villette Theatre, Paris, F
Little season, Sfumato, curated by Yana Kostova, Sofia, BG
16. Cologne Conference, Köln, D
Diagonale, Graz, A

2005

fake 2005, Critique of Pure Image, curated by Dimitrina Sevova, Plovdiv, BG
[prologue] new feminism / new europe, curated by Kathy Rae Huffman and Eva Ursprung in assoc. with

Marina Grznic, Reni Hofmüller, Diana McCarty, Milena Deleva, Agnieszka Wolodzko, Cornerhous, Manchester, UK
"the essence 2005" MAK, Wien, A
Digitale Kunst, quartier21, MQ, Wien, A

- 2004** the global and the man, Sfumato, curated by Galina Dimitrova, Sofia, BG,
Billboard Gallery Europe, curated by Mira Keratova, 12 cities, Europa
Interventionen gegen Rassismen, curated by Daniela Koweindl und Martin Krenn, IG Bildende Kunst, Wien, A
Coded culture, MQ, Wien, A
Di_alog, Rotovz, curated by son:da, Maribor, SLO
Permanent 04, Sammlung Essl, Klosterneuburg, A
Gastarbajteri, curated by Cornelia Kogoj (IM), Hauptbücherei, Vienna, A
Mediaforum 2004, Moscow International Filmfestival, RU
Magdalena, Festival for creative communication, Maribor, SLO
Schermi d'Amore, curated by Jutta Wernicke, Verona, IT
- 2003** Stuttgarter filmwinter, Festival for Expanded Media, Stuttgart, D
transmediale 2003, International Media Art Festival, Berlin, D
VIDEOFORMES 2003, Clermont-Ferrand, F
Radiator festival 2003, Nottingham, UK
WRO New Media Festival, Wroclaw, PL
SOHO Ottakring, dezentrale medien, Vienna, A
„no (b)order“ TQ, Wien, A
- 2002** dezentrale medien, Austrian Cultur Forum, London, UK
"the essence 2002", k/haus, Vienna, A
"AIM III", Art in Motion, LA, USA
"thank you for nothing", (curators gangart) dezentrale medien 01, Medienwerkstatt, Vienna, A
Ars Electronica, dezentrale medien 01, Linz, A
EMAF, European Media Art Festival, Osnabrück, D
File, Electronic Language International Festival, S. Paolo, BR
Cyberonica, ICA, London, UK
backup_festival, New Media In Film, Weimar, D
Rendezvous festival, Paris, F
- 2001** "Grenzenziehungen", Diagonale, Graz, A
"Videos aus Belgrad" MKA, k/haus Passagengalerie, Vienna, A
Diagonale, Graz, A
Impakt, "Couch Club", Utrecht, NL
Computer space, Computer Art forum, Sofia, BG
Videolisboa, International Video Festival, Lisboa, P
IDFA, Docs online 2001, Amsterdam, NL
Depot, dezentrale medien 01, Vienna, A
- 2000** VRML-Art, Monterey, California, USA
Diagonale, Graz, A

PUBLIC & PRIVATE COLLECTIONS (SELECTION):

Foto collection of BKA, Vienna, AT
Collection of the city of Vienna, MUSA, AT
Essl Collection, Klosterneuburg, AT
Estherhazy Collection, Eisenstadt, AT
Collection of National Art Gallery, Sofia, BG
Collection Angerlehner, Wels, A
Belvedere 21, Vienna, AT
LENTOS Linz, AT

PUBLICATIONS/REVIEWS/ARTICLES (SELECTION):

EIKON #106, Text: Nina Schedlmayer
Falter,
EIKON, 5x5 Photo Tracks, Gegenbilder, Text: Steffen Siegel
artmagazine, Traumwelt-Glamour, Text: Nina Schedlmayer
Blister, Mein Sofia aus der 90er. Borjana Ventsislavova über ihre Ausstellung "We are part of a collection" - Interview/Dessislava Dimova
Der Tagesspiegel, (05.07.2016), Die Blickrichtung wechseln, Text: GIACOMO MAIHOFER, D
Beliner Woche (07.06.2016), Die Galerie „Kurt-Kurt“ startet zweijähriges Kunstprojekt mit neuer Ausstellung, Text: KEN
The Washington Post, US, Five weird and wonderful works at the (e)merge art fair by Maura Judkis
The Daily Beast, US, Constitutional Performance Art? by Ann Binlot, EIKON #80, 2013 - Borjana Ventsislavova, text: Silvie Aigner
Der Standard, Print 22.01.2011, - "Einwände gegen die Unbetroffenheit", Text: Dominik Kamalzadeh
Wiener Zeitung, Nov., 2010, Wien, A - Galerie - Borjana Ventsislavova & Mladen Penev „In The Name Of“
Wiener Zeitung, Juni, 2010, Wien, A - Im Dreieck der Kunst, Linz: Die Triennale 1.0 Text: Julia Urbanek
Bildpunkt, Zeitschrift der IG Bildende Kunst, "Regimestörungen" / Frühling 2010 - Poster

DIE BRÜCKE - Kärnten, Kunst Kultur / NR.103 - Zeitgenössische Fotografie.
Kunstforum Band 199/2009 - Common History and Its Private Stories. Geschichte und Geschichten
Light, Feb. 2009 - Me, You and Them. No one is secure, Text: Boris Kostadinov
Gradski vestnik, Jan. 2009 - MigrantInnen erzählen über "zu Hause"
Monitor, Jan. 2009 - We shall overswim
1, N°77, Januar 2009, - No one is secured, Text: Nadja Mladenova
EIKON #63, 2008 - Fokus Südosteuropa ("We shall overswim") - Text: Yana Kostova
Vlna 27/2006- "EURO DE LUX" - Text: Yana Kostova
Jungle World, juni, 2006 - "It was always dark outside" - Text: Jutta Sommerbauer
1, 06/06 - "It was always dark outside", "EURO DE LUX"
Design Anarchy 2006 - tabula rasa
Adbusters Jan/Feb 2005 - tabula rasa
Der Standard 6/7 2004, Museum in Progress - dezentrale medien
Kurier, Mai, 2003, Sonderausgabe zur Ausstellung Kunst am Balkan
Die Bunte Zeitung Nr.1, 2002 - virtuelles Wohnhaus