

BORJANA VENTZISLAVOVA  
ARTISTIC BIOGRAPHY

CONTACT:

BORJANA VENTZISLAVOVA  
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**BORJANA VENTZISLAVOVA** Sofia born, Sofia and Vienna based artist and filmmaker (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 Tokas 2024, Tokyo, JP

Artist in Residence in CCA Andratx 2020/21, Mallorca, SP

Artist in Residence in NYC 2019, ISCP - BMKÖS, A

Art Award of the City of Vienna 2017, A

Artists in Residence Banff Center, 2017 CAN, BMKÖS

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

Independent Project Award, 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

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, SCREENINGS (SELECTION):**

- 2024  
In conversation with the water, DEPOO Gallery, Sofia  
Water Walk With Us, Toplocentrala Centre for Contemporary Arts, Sofia  
New News from Another Home, SofiaDocumental, Sofia  
New News from Another Home, Diagonale, Graz
- 2023  
I love my aunt Hope, BKI Wittgenstein House, curated by Walter Seidl, Vienna, A (solo)
- 2022  
Water Walk With Us, Radiator Gallery, curated by Gregory Volk, NYC, USA (solo)  
If You Want It, UniCredit Studio, Sofia, BG (solo)  
We/re nature, National Gallery Sofia, BG (solo)  
We/re nature, documenta ArtLab Gleis1, Regensburg, D (solo)  
In this together, Public Art, curated by Lisa Ortner-Kreil, St. Pölten, A (with Aldo Giannotti)
- 2021  
We/re nature, curated by Dr. Lisa Ortner-Kreil, Kunstforum Wien, A (solo)  
In this together, Public Art, curated by art hoc project, St. Pölten, A (with Aldo Giannotti)
- 2020  
In this together, Kunst im öffentlichen Raum, curated by art hoc project, St. Pölten, A (with Aldo Giannotti)  
Und der Himmel klärt sich auf (MAGIC RESISTANCE), LLLLLLLL, Vienna, A (solo)  
Radiator Gallery, Long Island City, NYC, (upcoming solo-postponed)
- 2019  
And the sky clears up (MAGIC RESISTANCE), curated by Séamus Kealy, Salzburger Kunstverein, A  
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  
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 athens in Wien, curated by Antonia Rahofer und Kunstverein EXTRA, Vienna, A (duo with

- Emanuel Ehgartner)  
in athens, curated by Antonia Rahofer and Eleni Michaelidi, Snehta, Athens, GR  
à(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 (SELECTION):**

- 2024 WICKED FUTURES curated by Nora Mayer, MOTHERBOARD 2.0, Vienna  
Listen to Nature, curated by maria Holter, artP Kunstverein, Perchtoldsdorf, A  
Sensing Resonance, Wiener Klimagipfel, Klima Biennale Vienna, A  
Sounds Like a Whisper (Poetically Political), Sofia City Art Gallery,  
curated by Galina Dimitrova and Ariel Reichman
- 2023 KUNST. LEBEN. LEIDENSCHAFT, curated by Günther Oberholzenzer, Museum Angerlehner  
AVANTGARDE UND GEGENWART, curated by Luisa Ziaja, Belvedere21, Vienna  
In this together, Public Art, St. Pölten, PERMANENT
- 2022 Was fehlt, curated by Maximilian Lehner, Salzburger Kunstverein, A  
Monitoring: Absolutely Killing It, Kasseler DokFest, D  
KUNST. LEBEN. LEIDENSCHAFT, curated by Günther Oberholzenzer, Museum Angerlehner, A  
How Soon is Now?, curated by Walter Seidl and Maria Vassileva  
AVANTGARDE UND GEGENWART, curated by Luisa Ziaja, Belvedere21, Vienna
- 2021 IDism, curated by Pavel Naydenov, BKI Haus Wittgenstein, A  
AVANTGARDE UND GEGENWART, curated by Luisa Ziaja, Belvedere21, Vienna  
Genie.Жени. Kunstverein Baden, A  
the smile of the sphinx, curated by Ilari Valbonesi, Collegium Artisticum, Sarajevo, BiH  
NEXT Balkan: Bulgarian contemporary art in Belgrade, SRB
- 2020 AVANTGARDE UND GEGENWART, curated by Luisa Ziaja, Belvedere21, Vienna  
Common Ground. Salzburger Kunstverein, curated by Séamus Kealy & das Team  
Destruction and Fury, curated by sixpackfilm, online  
Utopia of a Transformation, Curated by Luciana Esqueda and Denise Parizek, Unam Mexico City  
WITTGENSTEIN 2020, curated by Denise Parizek and Kukla Krisztián, aqb-Budapest
- 2019 Petition, curated by Philippe Batka, Salzburger Kunstverein, Salzburg, A  
WITTGENSTEIN 2019, curated by Denise Parizek, R. Mihailov Exhibition Halls, Veliko Turnovo, BG  
Thank you Mr. Ruf! , Credo Bonum Gallery, Sofia, BG

Things I Love - in the spirit of Fluxus, curated by Hermes, BFP Gallery, Bushwick, Brooklyn, NYC  
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 Ilina Koralova und Boris Kostadinov, Center of Contemporary Art , Plovdiv, BG  
Migrations of Fear, curated by Ilina 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 Sivie 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

#### **PUBLIC & PRIVATE COLLECTIONS (SELECTION):**

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

#### **PUBLICATIONS/REVIEWS/ARTICLES (SELECTION):**

Borjana Ventzislavova: Water Walk With Us, zingmagazine, Interview: Gregory Volk, June 2022  
[https://zingmagazine.com/blog\\_posts/borjana-ventzislavova-water-walk-with-us/](https://zingmagazine.com/blog_posts/borjana-ventzislavova-water-walk-with-us/)

Artforum: Radiator Gallery, Water Walk With Us, curated by Gregory Volk  
<https://artguide.artforum.com/artguide/radiator-gallery-10729/water-walk-with-us-curated-by-gregory-volk-206300>

derStandard, Kunstforum Wien: Borjana Ventzislavovas Irrlichter unter Palmen, text by Dominik Kamalzadeh, 8. Juni 2021  
<https://www.derstandard.at/consent/tcf/story/200012723555/kunstforum-wien-borjana-ventzislavovas-irrlichter-unter-palmen>

Petition <https://www.e-flux.com/announcements/298028/petition>

EIKON #106, Text: Nina Schedlmayer

dasbiber, Interview: Nada El-Azar, 15. Juni 2020

Falter, Zufallsstudien: Treffen in der Kunstwelt, Text: Nicole Scheyerer

EIKON, 5x5 Photo Tracks, Gegenbilder, Text: Steffen Siegel

artmagazine, Traumwelt-Glamour, Text: Nina Schedlmayer

Blister; Mein Sofia aus der 90er. Borjana Ventzislavova 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 Ventzislavova, text: Silvie Aigner

Der Standard, Print 22.01.2011, - "Einwände gegen die Unbetroffenheit", Text: Dominik Kamalzadeh

Wiener Zeitung, Nov., 2010, Wien, A - Galerie - Borjana Ventzislavova & 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"