

SNISARENKO

Concept of the Featured exhibition for the LA Art Show 2025

She, Unbroken

Complete Text Of The Exhibition

Since the onset of the war in Ukraine in February 2022, Ukrainian women have endured unimaginable challenges, marked by displacement, mental health struggles, economic instability, and vulnerability to violence. Despite these profound hardships, their resilience and spirit have shone through in countless ways, not least through their art. The war has displaced millions of Ukrainian women and children, with 8 million refugees fleeing the country and an additional 6.5 million internally displaced within its borders. This upheaval has fractured communities and forced women to navigate unfamiliar landscapes while grappling with acute stress and trauma. Studies reveal staggering rates of mental health challenges, with nearly all war-displaced Ukrainians showing symptoms of Acute Stress Disorder, and 30% of the population estimated to suffer from PTSD. The economic and social fabric of Ukrainian life has been deeply altered. With men conscripted for military service, women have stepped into traditionally male-dominated industries, such as mining and heavy labor, while also facing widespread unemployment and poverty. Meanwhile, reports of sexual violence and the harrowing conditions faced by expectant mothers—giving birth in bomb shelters and basements—paint a stark picture of resilience amid adversity.

“She, Unbroken” presents the powerful and intimate voices of Ukrainian-born women artists who have endured the ravages of war and its indelible impact on identity, body, and spirit. The exhibition explores themes of displacement, reinvention, and transformation, delving into the ways conflict reshapes identity and creative expression. Each artist contributes a profound narrative, blending memory and survival in a tapestry of resilience and reinvention. This collection serves as a tribute to their unyielding strength and creativity—a testament to the enduring human spirit.

Silence as a Sanctuary

The exhibition invites viewers to reflect on the quiet strength of women navigating the aftermath of war. Works by Inna Kharchuk capture the profound emotional significance of fleeting moments of peace and connection, such as the intimacy of a hug. Her work also includes a collage of cultural elements, offering a layered exploration of memory and identity. Inna's pieces evoke the quiet strength required to preserve a sense of self amid displacement, highlighting the interplay between the personal and cultural dimensions of survival.

Works:

Inna Kharchuk "Levada/Home"

Inna Kharchuk "collage" - tba



Inna Kharchuk,
Levada/Home, 2024
Acrylic, oil and pastel on canvas,
53 x 20 in (135 x 60 cm)

Inna Kharchuk,
Collage TBA, 2025
Mixed media on paper
approximately 35 x 55 in

The Female Body as a Vessel

The female form emerges as both a vessel of memory and an emblem of reclamation. Anna Veriki's striking "The Dog Does Not Fly, But Has Wings" uses her own body as a central motif, engaging viewers in an emotional dialogue about identity and survival. Her Running series, with its primal simplicity of grey, white, and red, channels the raw instinct to escape and reconnect with one's essence. Veriki's work is a powerful ode to the female form as a site of strength, resilience, and transformation.

Works:

Anna Veriki "The Dog Does Not Fly, But Has Wings"

Anna Veriki "My Freedom"



Anna Veriki,
The Dog Does Not Fly, But Has Wings,
2023
Oil on canvas, 60 x 82 in (150 x 210 cm)



Anna Veriki, My Freedom, 2023
Oil on canvas, 60 x 82 in (150 x 210 cm)

Memory and Transformation

In this segment, themes of memory and displacement take center stage. Liza Zhdanova's work feature abstract forms and intense red colors, embodying the dualities of beauty and turmoil. Her use of dripping paint captures the passage of time and the profound impact of loss, creating emotionally charged narratives of resilience. Liza also presents a compelling video artwork that reflects her personal experience of living through war. The piece offers an intimate window into her emotions during this period of upheaval, interwoven with her journey of becoming a mother. Her art is a reflection of the human spirit's ability to adapt and grow despite overwhelming adversity.

Works:

Liza Zhdanova "No name"

Video art - tba



Liza Zhdanova,
Untitled, 2020
Acrylic on canvas,
78 x 60 in (200 x 150 cm)

Liza Zhdanova,
Digital video, 2025
TBA

Unbroken Spirit

Iryna Maksymova's bold figurative style comes alive in "Caring for Each Other," where dynamic figures and symbolic imagery create a powerful narrative. Her depictions of strong yet tender female figures embody the resilience and enduring spirit of Ukrainian culture. The presence of animals symbolizes protection and hope, offering a vision of a world where resilience triumphs over adversity. Maksymova's art celebrates the courage and creativity of women who transform hardship into strength, inspiring viewers with their unyielding determination and vitality.

Work:

Iryna Maxymova "Caring for each other"

Iryna Maxymova "Its a Game"



Iryna Maksymova, Caring for Each Other,
2022
Acrylic, pastels, spray, markers on canvas,
53 1/8 x 59 7/8 in (135 x 152 cm)

Iryna Maksymova,
It's a Game, 2022
Acrylic, pastels, spray, markers on canvas,
27 1/2 x 38 5/8 in (70 x 98 cm)



Short Text Of The Exhibition

“She, Unbroken” brings together Ukrainian-born female artists who have lived through the experience of war. Their art reflects themes of displacement, identity, and transformation. Forced to leave their homeland, they explore what it means to reshape themselves in new places. This journey isn’t only physical. It’s a deeply personal, internal transformation where memories merge with new realities, and familiar parts of identity feel both distant and different. Through each piece, the artists share their resilience and strength, navigating the challenge of staying connected to who they were while adapting to who they are becoming. The female body often appears as a powerful symbol, capturing both the weight of memory and the courage needed to face an un-

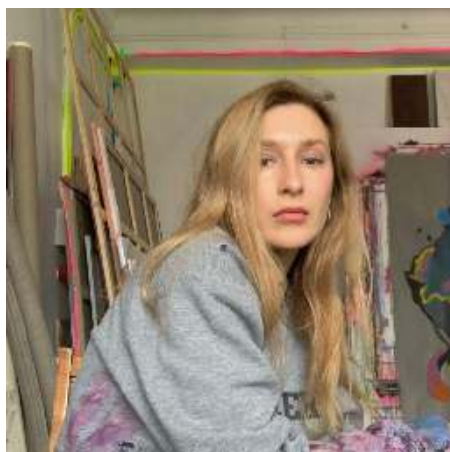
Featured Artists



Inna Kharchuk, (b. 1995, Rivne, Ukraine) is known for exploring themes of identity, memory, and gender. Studying at Lviv Academy of Arts, she developed a style influenced by avant-garde and impressionism, deeply tied to her Ukrainian roots. Inna’s art gained attention as she addressed societal issues, especially amid the war in Ukraine. Her relocation to Poland and Cyprus enriched her perspective, blending personal and cultural narratives. Through abstract works inspired by nature, she explores human emotions and advocates for peace. Inna’s series on motherhood delves into the intense journey of parenting, inviting viewers to reflect on relationships and personal growth. Her art, showcased in Cyprus, Ukraine, and Sorbonne University, aims to connect, heal, and inspire, highlighting art’s power to reveal shared human truths.



Anna Veriki's (b. 2002, Chernihiv, Ukraine) art is deeply personal, often exploring emotions, memories, and the complexities of love and fear. She frequently uses her own body as a reference, creating an intimate connection with her audience. In her notable "Running series," Anna explores primal instincts and freedom, using simple colors—black, white, and accents of red. This series delves into the concept of running as a metaphor for reconnecting with nature and one's true self. Despite the war, Anna remains in Kyiv, feeling a strong sense of duty to contribute to Ukraine's cultural heritage. The conflict has profoundly influenced her work, and her art continues to evolve within this challenging landscape.



Liza Zhdanova's (b. 1994, Kirovograd, Ukraine) work delves into themes of resilience and conflict. Educated at the Lviv National Academy of Arts, where she specialized in monumental painting, Zhdanova is widely recognized for her powerful "Flowers" series. This series captures life's fragile beauty amidst turmoil, with delicate blooms set against dark, foreboding backgrounds, symbolizing resilience in the face of conflict. Zhdanova's use of dripping paint evokes the passage of time and loss, inviting reflection on the duality of beauty and tragedy. Her art portrays the persistence of hope and life, even in dark times, serving as a testament to human strength. Through her emotionally charged canvases, she reminds us that amidst life's shadows, there is always color and growth, a message that deeply resonates today.



Iryna Maksymova, born in Kolomyia, Ukraine, in 1991, is celebrated for her vivid storytelling and bold figurative style. Inspired by the Ukrainian avant-garde and Neo-Primitivism, her work channels the imaginative flair of self-taught artists like Mariya Pryimachenko. Maksymova's art combines personal and cultural stories, marked by energetic strokes, spray paint, and diverse text. Her distinctive style often portrays powerful female figures—strong yet vulnerable—embodying resilience and national spirit. Animals, ranging from pets to mythical creatures, are central in her work, symbolizing protection and strength. Advocating for equality, human rights, feminism, and animal rights, Maksymova's art serves as a platform for social change, challenging societal norms. Each piece invites viewers to reflect on themes of empowerment, justice, and the enduring spirit of Ukrainian culture.

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