

Mia Karlova Galerie presents 'Wounds leave scars', an exhibition to be open 24th of February 2023 in Amsterdam on the day of the start of the war in Ukraine. Young Ukrainian and Russian artists express their reflections and talk about the consequences of war

This project unites two artistic practices from Russia and Ukraine. Art is sometimes dramatic, uncomfortable and emotional, but it reflects the reality of today. Life has drastically changed for both artists. War has become for them as for millions of other people, a borderline dividing their life into before and after. War forced Ukrainian designer Olexander Pinchuk to leave his home. He found his temporary home in the Netherlands, in Bergen op Zoom. Young Russian ceramic artists Yuliya Batyrova and Marat Mukhametov had to leave their homeland, their well-established studio in Moscow and start their new unknown life in the rural area of Turkey. For both practices last six months was the time to express their reflection in their main media. They both talk about the consequences of war, about the measure of guilt and about wounds that leave scars which will stay forever.



Olexandr Pinchuk

Olexandr (Sasha) is a well-known mixed-media artist and designer from Kam'yanets-Podilsky, Ukraine. His work is characterised by the use of conflicting materials and dark themes. Sasha has participated in several international exhibitions. One of them called THE HERO IN YOU took part in the Netherlands and united Ukrainian and Dutch artists on the topic of surviving the war. Sasha believes, that participation in this type of projects would help us all to create a better future.

Exhibition 'Wounds leave scars' took its name from the 'Scars' table. "This collectible design object is about wounds, about impacts, about pain, about feelings and about the fragility of our inner world. Traces of events touch us deeply in our hearts, bodies and souls. And the war is the worst of all possible experiences. Wounds leave scars behind. Whatever we do, it stays with us forever." – says Oleksandr Pinchuk.



Yulia Batyrova and Marat Mukhametov

Yulia Batyrova and Marat Mukhametov, are sculptural artists originally from Moscow specialising in ceramics. They left Russia in order to be able to talk openly and honestly about the war. It is impossible to do so in today's Russia.

“The generalisation of the Russian world, which made no practical sense, was embodied on 24.02.2022 in the deaths of thousands of people, in atrocities, in rapes, in starvation and in cities that were wiped off the face of the earth. The "Russian world" is engraved in the memory of millions. No one needs to explain what it is anymore. The so-called "Russian world" is blood, soot, tears and a total disregard for human life. Russia has become a Stalinist-type dictatorship built on anti-Western paranoia and nationalism. If the Russian world has ever existed, it was only to destroy itself.

This exhibition is our voice against the war in Ukraine. The core of these works are based on photo reports of the people trapped in the epicentre of the war and the destroyed cities. Our objects take contextual grounds from the works of Russian philosophers and researchers A.S. Solzhenitsyn and N.V. Epple on the uneasy past of Soviet Russia. We are certain that the current practice of hiding the truth about the tragic pages of the Soviet past, spread in Russia, has made a new major war in Europe possible. We are convinced that it is of crucial importance not to remain silent, which is why we have been rebuilding a workshop in Turkey and dedicated the last six months to a series of works on the theme of war and protest against Putin's regime. These works are an attempt to understand the current situation and resist the rhetoric of hatred and the justification of imperial ambitions.”

Olexander Pinchuk (Ukraine) – in presence

Yuliya Batyrova (Russia)

Marat Mukhametov (Russia)

24 February 2023

The exhibition will include functional sculptures, video installation and porcelain sculptures.

Olexander Pinchuk will present an artistic performance during the opening

About Mia Karlova Galerie

Mia Karlova Galerie gives centre stage to functional sculpture, rallying an intriguing roster of international artists whose experimental practices look upon reuse as a conscious act of new existence: sustainability enriched with a deliberate sense of meaning and the desire to provoke new emotions.

Founded in 2020 by interior designer and curator Mia Karlova, the eponymous Mia Karlova Galerie seeks to form a dialogue between works of various genres through a common emotional language.

Having opened a physical outpost in Amsterdam, Mia Karlova Galerie enthusiastically explores the ever-evolving, cross-disciplinary possibilities of design and art.

Press Contact:

Mia Karlova mia@miakarlova.com +31 6 2131 3036

miakarlova.com | [@miakarlovagalerie](https://www.instagram.com/miakarlovagalerie)