

SERGEY MELNITCHENKO



From the series “Young and Free”, 2017 - 2021

Born in 1991 in Mykolayiv, Ukraine, Sergey Melnitchenko started photography in 2009 and quickly gained more and more popularity.

Won the “Leica Oskar Barnack Newcomer Award 2017” in 2017, founded MYPH – photography school & gallery in 2018, he is currently a member of Ukrainian Photographic Alternative.

Although still young, Sergey Melnitchenko boasts a wide range of projects that granted him worldwide recognition and appraisal. Every series he develops touch upon different themes, employing different techniques – starting from “Schwarzenegger is My Idol”, where he frames his friends working out completely naked; up to “Behind the Scenes”, which sums up his experience as a professional dancer in Chinese nightclubs. With his latest “Fundamental Space Explorations of Naked Singularity”, Sergey aims to explore human nature in the quest for one’s place in the universe. Through the medium of photography, he highlights the tensions inherent in modern society; for instance, male nudity represents one of the main topics he wants to expand, as often overlooked, particularly in a conservative country such as Ukraine. Nonetheless, Melnitchenko cannot restrain himself, as he deems his works need to constantly be shocking and strange, never repetitive. “Time goes forward, and we must advance with it.”

EXHIBITIONS

Selected Group Exhibitions

2021 • Lusted Men at PhotoSaintGermain – Paris, France
2020 • “Behind the scenes” – 40 years of Leica Oskar Barnack Award – Leitz Park, Wetzlar, Germany
2020 • “Artificial Pain”, CENTRUM SZTUKI WSPÓŁCZESNEJ_W TORUNIU – Torun, Poland
2019 • face2face exhibition of Sergey Melnitchenko & MYPH collective – Mykolayiv, Ukraine
2019 • Daring youth – mostra fotografica, Open Art Week, Museo civico di Palazzo della Penna – Perugia, Italy
2019 • TAF “Tbilisi Art Fair” Photo Kyiv Booth, “Her” series – Tbilisi, Georgia
2018 • “So sweet Ukraine” projection at Suwon Photo Festival – Suwon, South Korea
2018 • “So sweet Ukraine” projection at International Photography Symposium. NIDA2018 – Nida, Lithuania
2017 • Leica Oskar Barnack Award Winners And Finalists – Berlin, Germany
2017 • The Smell Of Dust III – São Paulo, Brazil
2015 • Slideluck Show – Oakland, California, USA
2015 • «Ukrainian Photography: In Progress» In Frames Of “Odessa//Batumi Photo Days 2015” – Odessa, Ukraine
2014 • “Resistant” In Frames Of Parallel Program Of 4th Moscow International Biennale For Young Art – Moscow, Russia
2014 • “Photographer Of The Year 2013” – Kyiv, Ukraine
2013 • “Golden Camera 2012” – Kyiv, Ukraine
2012 • First International Festival Of Arts – Odessa, Ukraine
2012 • First International Fotokinofestival – Sebastopol, Ukraine
2012 • Upha “Cult Of The Body” – London, UK

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2021 • “Locktown”, POTLATCH, Milano, Italy
2020 • “Young and free”, Leica 6×7 Gallery, curator Adam Mazur – Warsaw, Poland
2019 • “From Dusk Till Dawn”, f22 foto space – Hong Kong
2019 • “Schwarzenegger is my idol”, Museum of Kharkiv School of Photography – Kharkiv, Ukraine
2018 • “Only Now Only Never”, FACE Foundation – Kyiv, Ukraine
2018 • “Behind The Scenes”, Claude Samuel Gallery – Paris, France
2017 • “PLAYDAY”, Face Foundation/Mironova Gallery – Kyiv, Ukraine
2017 • “Behind The Scenes” – Mykolayiv, Ukraine
2015 • “Les Amours Imaginaries” In Frames Of Landskrona Festival – Landskrona, Sweden
2014 • “Military Commissariat”, Estudio Ñ – Valdivia, Chile
2014 • “Schwarzenegger Is My Idol”, Fiebre Galería – Buenos Aires, Argentina
2013 • “Schwarzenegger Is My Idol” – Lviv, Ukraine
2012 • “Nails” – Krivoy Rog, Ukraine

Awards

Nomination on Foam Paul Huf Award – Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2020
One of 20 winners and jurors’ pick of DEBUTS 2018, the book and travelling exhibition – Warsaw, Poland, 2018
Winner Of “Leica Oskar Barnack Newcomer Award 2017” – Berlin, Germany, 2017
1st Place In The National Awards “Photographer Of The Year 2016”, Street Professional Category – Kyiv, Ukraine, 2017
Honorable Mention At “Photo Annual Awards 2015” – Teplice, Czech, 2015
International Contest “Golden Camera 2012” – 1st Place In Nomination “Conceptual Photography”, Amateur – Kyiv, Ukraine, 2013
Winner Of Contest “Photographer Of The Year 2012” In Nomination “Series Of The Year (Fine Art)” – Kyiv, Ukraine, 2013



PRESS & BOOKS



GUP Magazine, July 2020, Linda Zhengová:

SERGEY MELNITCHENKO: FUNDAMENTAL SPACE EXPLORATIONS OF NAKED SINGULARITY

<https://gupmagazine.com/articles/sergey-melnitchenko-fundamental-space-explorations-of-naked-singularity/>



ARTIBOOKS, May 2020:

Breaking stereotypes: An Interview with Sergey Melnitchenko

<https://www.artibooks.com/arti-blog/breaking-stereotypes-an-interview-with-sergey-melnitchenko>



redfine ART, February 2019:

Sergey Melnitchenko - The Perspective Of The Outsider

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pPL1Sqc17YI>



ARTDEPeDENCE MAGAZINE, January 2109, Anna Savitskaya:

The Peak of Tension with Sergey Melnitchenko

<https://artdependence.com/articles/the-peak-of-tension-with-sergey-melnitchenko/>



POSTPRAVDA, August 2018, Patrick Dooley:

How Sergey Melnitchenko's Photo School Has Given a Voice to Ukraine's Most Marginalized City

<https://www.postpravdamagazine.com/melnitchenko-photo-school-mykolaiv/>

SCHWARZENEGGER IS MY IDOL, MOKSOP, 2020

FASHION MAGAZINE, Selfpublished, 2020

PASSENGERS, Red Zet Publishing, 2018

FROM DUSK TILL DAWN, Rodovid Press Publishing, 2018

BEHIND THE SCENES, RALLY IN THE STREETS Publishing, 2017

LONLINESS ONLINE, Selfpublished, 2014





43a, from the series "Polaroids from China", 2015



From the series "Fundamental Space Explorations of Naked Singularity", 2019 - 2021



From the series "Young and Free", 2017 - 2021

CONTACTS

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Migrant Bird Space is a Berlin & Beijing-based art foundation and gallery, providing a showcase for artists as well as art agency services in China & Europe. Working out of the gallery space at Koppenplatz in the heart of Berlin, the foundation offers a professional platform for cross-cultural communication between China and Europe with a focus on contemporary Chinese art. Promoting both established and emerging artists, Migrant Birds provides gallery spaces for exhibitions in Beijing and Berlin, an artist-in-residence program, regular talks and lectures, as well as support in liaising with Museums, universities, private institutions and more.

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