

SARIEV
CONTEMPORARY

ART BRUSSELS

22 – 24 April, 2016
Preview & Opening 21 April

DISCOVERY

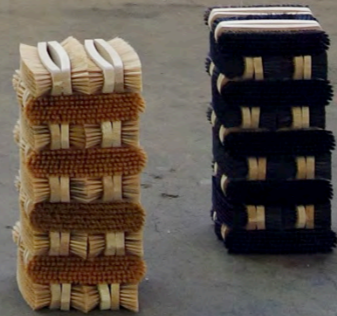
Artists presented:

Vikenti Komitski
Pravdoliub Ivanov
Valio Tchenkov
Şakir Gökçebağ

Cinematek
Vikenti Komitski

www.sariev-gallery.com

www.artbrussels.com/



Works by Pravdoliub Ivanov

Especially for SARIEV Contemporary's participation in Art Brussels 2016 Pravdoliub Ivanov will create an installation from his emblematic series of works with smashed/cut/broken Persian carpets.

In the last few years, the Persian carpet has often been the “medium” for Pravdoliub’s works. It is possible that the everyday traditions of his native country of Bulgaria, which is geographically and historically located at the border between the East and the West, are important here [...] It is possible that the memories from his childhood under socialism, when such carpets were the most accessible symbol of prestige at home, are important here as well [...]

Regardless – smashed to smithereens ([Fairy Tale Device Crashed](#), 2013) or shattered by stones ([Ornaments of Endurance](#), 2011 and [Ornaments on Demand](#), 2013 [and [Wrinkles of Modernity](#), 2014/2015]), Persian carpets are for the artist a symbol of smashed reality rather than of the exotic Orient; perhaps even a symbol of the fairy tales inside each one of us. Looking immaculate and beautiful, the carpets in these installations are destroyed in a way that is highly atypical for them; they are smashed to pieces, just as usually happens metaphorically with notions and ideals.

Walter Seidl

SARIEV
CONTEMPORARY

PRAVDOLIUB IVANOV



Pravdoliub Ivanov
Double Ornaments,
2016
installation
cut carpet
248 x 169 cm

*To be shown for the
first time at Art
Brussels*



PRAVDOLIUB IVANOV was born in 1964 in Plovdiv, Bulgaria. He graduated from National Academy of Fine Arts, Sofia in 1993 where he presently is a Chief Assistant – Professor. He lives and works in Sofia, Bulgaria and is a founder member of the Institute of Contemporary Art – Sofia. Pravdoliub Ivanov has held solo exhibitions in private galleries in Sofia, Plovdiv, Warsaw, Vienna and institutions in La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland and New York. He has participated in big international shows such as: 2015: Heaven and Hell, From magic carpets to drones. Villa Empain, Brussels, (Curators: D. Hennebert and C. Dosogne) End Fragment; 2014: Future Past – Past Future, within the framework of the Transmediale, Berlin; 2013: The Unanswered Question, TANAS and Neuer Berliner Kunstverein, Berlin; 2012: In Crisis –Terra Mediterranea, The Nicosia Municipal Art Centre, Nicosia; Sport in Art, MOCAK, Krakow, Poland; Beautiful game, City Art Gallery, Ljubljana, Slovenia; 2011: Within / Beyond Borders – The Collection of the European Investment Bank at the Byzantine & Christian Museum, Athens, Greece; Zwischenlager / Entrepot, Krinzinger Gallery, Vienna; An Elusive Object of Art, Dana Charkasi Gallery, Vienna; Vidéo et après Suspended Spaces #1, Screening at Cinema 1, Centre Pompidou, Paris, France; 2010: “Suspended spaces - depuis Famagusta”, Amiens, France; 2009: “Who Killed the Painting?”, works from the Block Collection, Neues Museum Weserburg Bremen, Germany 2007: A Place You Have Never Been Before, 52 nd Venice Biennial, Bulgarian Pavilion; 2006: Of Mice and Men, 4th Berlin Biennial. 2005: Sous les ponts, le long de la rivière-2, Luxembourg. 2004: On Reason and Emotion, 14th Sydney Biennial. 2003: In the Gorges of the Balkans, Fridericianum Museum, Kassel, Germany; Blut & Honig, Zukunft ist am Balkan, Essl Collection, Vienna, Austria. 2000: Manifesta 3, Borderline Syndrome, Ljubljana, Slovenia. Pravdoliub's works have been reproduced in magazines such as Frieze, Flash Art, Kunstforum, Artforum etc., as well as in publications such as East Art Map. SARIEV Contemporary represents Pravdoliub Ivanov since 2011 and presented his work at ViennaFair (2014, 2013, 2011); Istanbul Contemporary (2012, 2011); ArtInternational Istanbul (2015, 2014); Shanghai Contemporary (2012); Roma Contemporary (2012); Art Brussels (2016), Art Cologne (2016).

Works by Valio Tchenkov

At Art Brussels 2016 SARIEV Contemporary will present new paintings by the artist from its gallery list Valio Tchenkov who has lived in Germany for over 15 years and is well-known at the art scene in Munich.

He describes his artistic approach as follows: “I take notes about events that have never happened, allowing myself to be influenced by insignificant motives. I start painting thinking I know where I am headed. But if I have no luck, I complete the job too quickly, and disappointment inevitably settles in. Then the real work begins. I start all over. If I am lucky, my painting emancipates itself from the initial intent and the figures are integrated into or assimilated by what has already happened in it. Bits of it mutate. Everything is beyond my control. I feel as if I am driving on a highway: I speed up, there are no rules... suddenly there is a sharp turn, but I go straight ahead anyway, speed up even more, and, lo and behold, I find myself in the ditch.”

German critic Annegret Erhard notes in an article on Munich-based artists (Weltkunst magazine, 2013) that Tchenkov handles coincidences very well. “He is also technically very skilled, which is crucial to the survival of painting in times when it has been declared dead.” She adds that he mixes in substantial doses of skepticism and reflection, without making a claim to genius. “There are things that cannot be painted and things that must be painted,” says Tchenkov, “... there is no real point in painting anyway, so you might as well do what you must”.

SARIEV
CONTEMPORARY

VALIO TCHENKOV



Valio Tchenkov
Facter, 2015
oil, letters
140 x 110 cm

SARIEV
CONTEMPORARY

VALIO TCHENKOV



Valio Tchenkov
Composition I, 2016
oil, paper, wood, tin
195 x 120 cm

SARIEV
CONTEMPORARY

VALIO TCHENKOV



Valio Tchenkov
Confused Fighter, 2015
oil painting, cardboard
70 x 50 cm



VALIO TCHENKOV was born 1966 in Svishtov, Bulgaria. He lives and works in Munich, Germany and Oresh, Bulgaria. He studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Sofia and the Akademie der Bildenden Kuenste, Munich. Tchenkov has participated in various exhibitions such as “Poesie Summer Watou”, Belgium, curated by Jan Hoet; “Fuori Uso”, Pescara, Italy, curated by Agnes Kohlmeyer; “Sweet Case Eluminated”, MAC/VAL Museum Paris, curated by Katia Angelova (a.o.); and “Conviction”, Dafen Art Museum, China, curated by Wenie Wong (a.o.). In Bulgaria, he has been nominated for the M-tel Unlimited Contemporary Bulgarian Art Award (2011) and participated in the exhibition “Why Duchamp? From Object to Museum and Back (125 years)”, curated by Maria Vassileva (SAMCA, 2012). His first solo exhibition in Bulgaria, “...in a trice and for a while...”, was shown at Sariev Contemporary in 2012. Besides painting, he attends the Roma Pickpocketing Academy to learn how to survive under difficult circumstances. SARIEV Contemporary presented Valio Tchenkov at Art Brussels (2016, 2015), Art Cologne (2016), Vienna Fair (2014, 2013), Contemporary Istanbul (2012).

Works by Şakir Gökçebağ

René Block comments the transformation of everyday objects on occasion of Gökçebağ's solo show 'Prefix & Suffix' at TANAS (Berlin) in 2013 as follows: *He releases everyday objects of their functional purpose and through interventions full of humor, smart reconstructions, alienation, fragmentation or ornamental rearrangements he turns them into spectacular pieces of art. It is always fascinating how he transforms trivial cheap materials into tender, aesthetical and fine creations. Furthermore, Gökçebağ's artworks 'convey something seldom found in contemporary art; they convey a seemingly uninhibited joie de vivre.'*



Şakir Gökçebağ
Blonde & Brunette,
2015
shoe brushes
23 x 23 x 45 cm each
Edition 1/3+1 AP

*The work was exhibited in Şakir Gökçebağ's solo show
'Reorientation' at Kunstverein Ludwigshafen, 23.01.-10.04.2016*



Şakir Gökçebağ (born 1965 in Denizli, Turkey) is a Turkish artist based in Hamburg, Germany. He graduated from Marmara University Faculty of Fine Arts (1987). The artist, granted by German and Austrian governments several times has also been honored with George Maciunas - Wiesbaden, Markus Lupertz - Düsseldorf, Stiftung Kunstfonds – Bonn awards. His solo shows include: 'Aftermade' (2016) at SARIEV Contemporary, 'Der, Die, Das' (2013) at Gallery Arsenal (Poznan, Poland), 'Prefix & Suffix' (2013) at TANAS (Berlin), 'Simple Present' (2010) at Saarländisches Künstlerhaus, Saarbrücken; 'Cutemporary Art' (2008) at Kunstverein Leverkusen. Selected group shows: 'At The Crossroads II' (2014) at Sotheby's (London), 'Seriously Ironic, Positions in Contemporary Turkish Art Scene' (2009) at CentrePasquArt (Biel, Switzerland), 'Taswir - Pictorial Mappings of Islam and Modernity' (2009) at Martin-Gropius-Bau (Berlin), 'Wirnenneneshamburg' (2008) at Kunstverein Hamburg, 'Passion of Mankind Mankind' - Summer Biennial (2007) in Lulea (Sweden)

Works by Vikenti Komitski

Young Bulgarian artist Vikenti Komitski is presented at the fair with a version/re-creation of his art work “Being Clever Doesn’t Help” from 2008 as well as with new collages from 2015 and 2016.

The artistic work of Vikenti Komitski revolves around everyday objects whose context and meaning are analyzed, scrutinized and transferred into a different reality. Komitski changes the nature of objets trouvés as well as of specifically chosen commodity goods that refer to the reality from which they were taken and in which they were originally used. However, Komitski's use of ready-made principles is not only applied to objects but also to ideas.

Walter Seidl

Employing the logic of ready-made objectivity and minimum artistic intervention, Vikenti Komitski's works transform everyday-life objects and practices, seeking an instant artistic communication with the viewer. It is as if they are guided by the sudden idea, the momentary switch-over and change of situation, which leads to a different viewpoint.

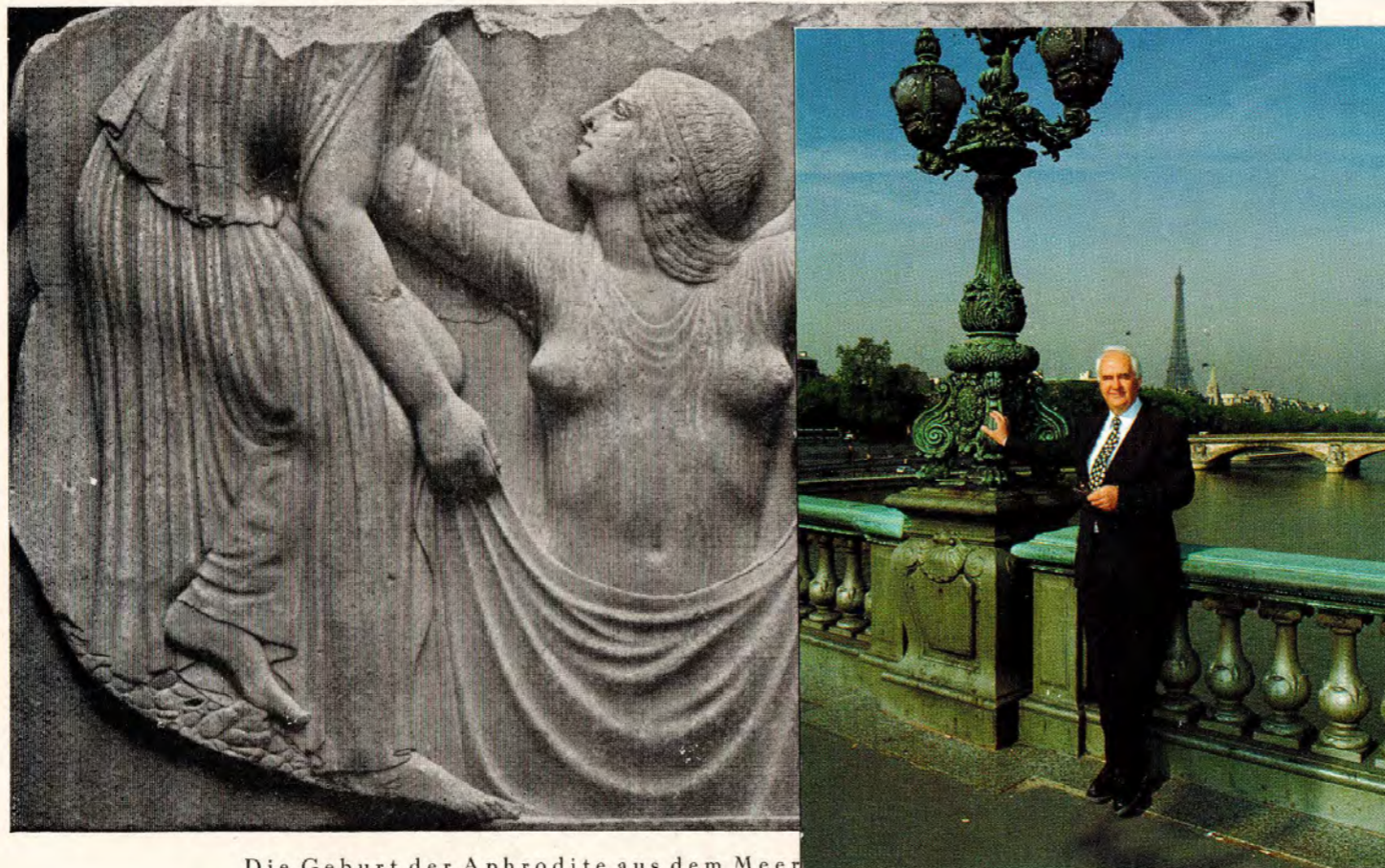
Vladiya Mihaylova

SARIEV
CONTEMPORARY

VIKENTI KOMITSKI



Vikenti Komitski
Untitled, 2015
collage
13.8 x 21.4 cm



Die Geburt der Aphrodite aus dem Meer

Vikenti Komitski
Untitled, 2015
collage
29 x 25 cm

62



Hubschrauber-Kranflug

Eisenhütter

Vikenti Komitski
Untitled, 2015
collage
27 x 20 cm



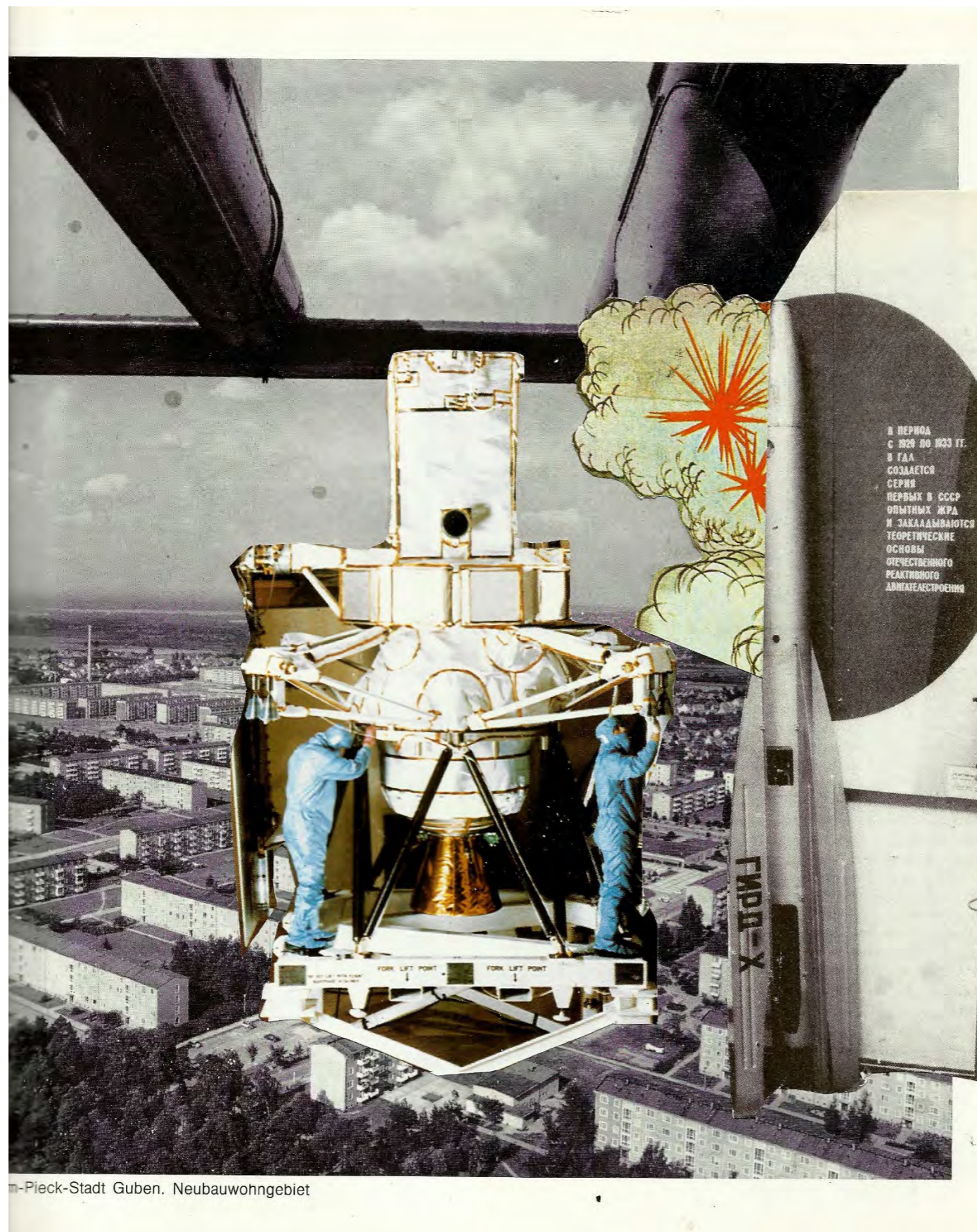
Vikenti Komitski
Untitled, 2015
collage
35.5 x 25.2 cm

SARIEV
CONTEMPORARY

VIKENTI KOMITSKI



Vikenti Komitski
Untitled, 2015
collage
32.4 x 24.8 cm

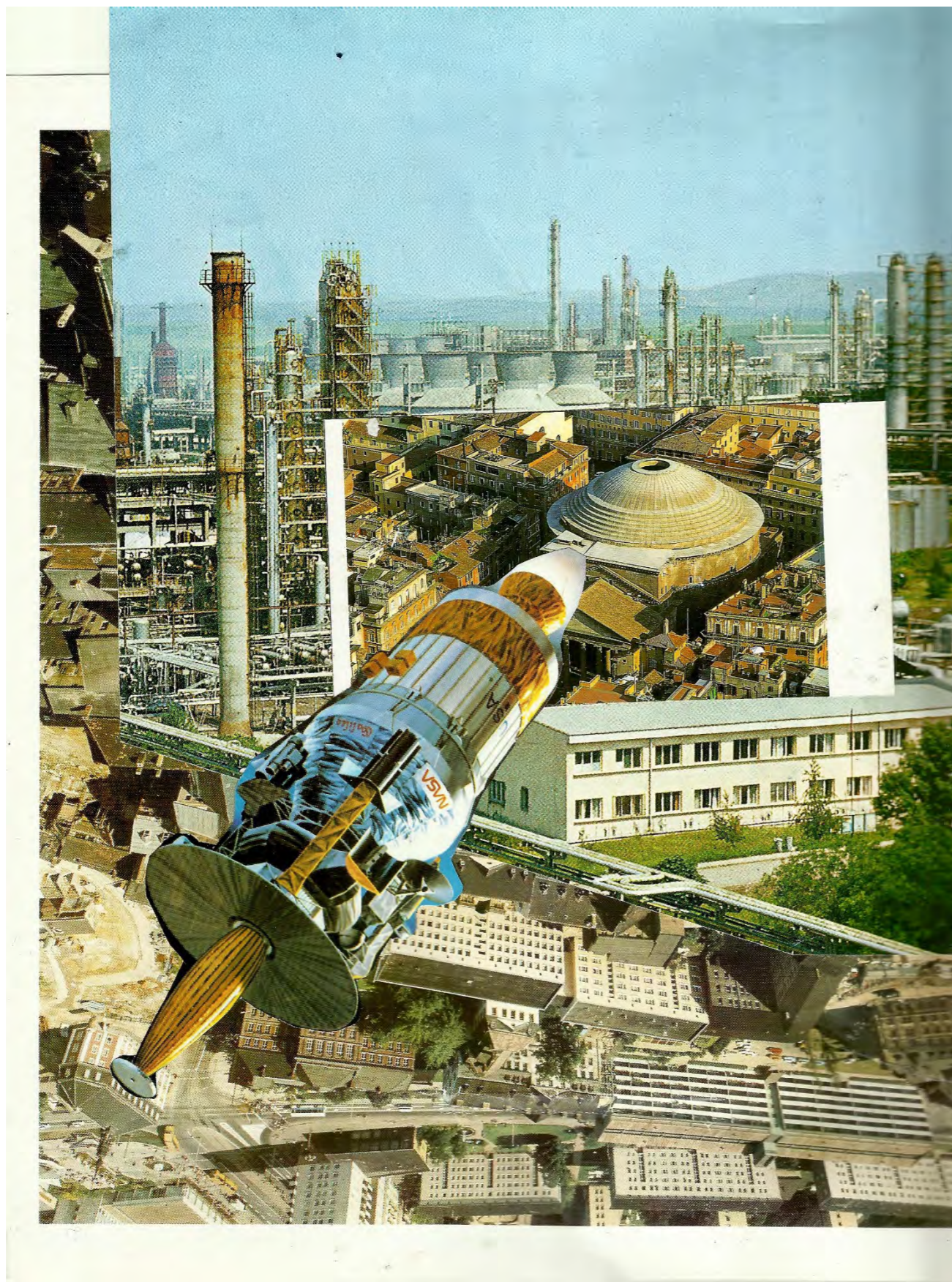


-Pleick-Stadt Guben. Neubauwohngebiet

Vikenti Komitski
Untitled, 2015
collage
27 x 23,5 cm

SARIEV
CONTEMPORARY

VIKENTI KOMITSKI



Vikenti Komitski
Untitled, 2015
collage
28.6 x 23.5 cm

SARIEV
CONTEMPORARY

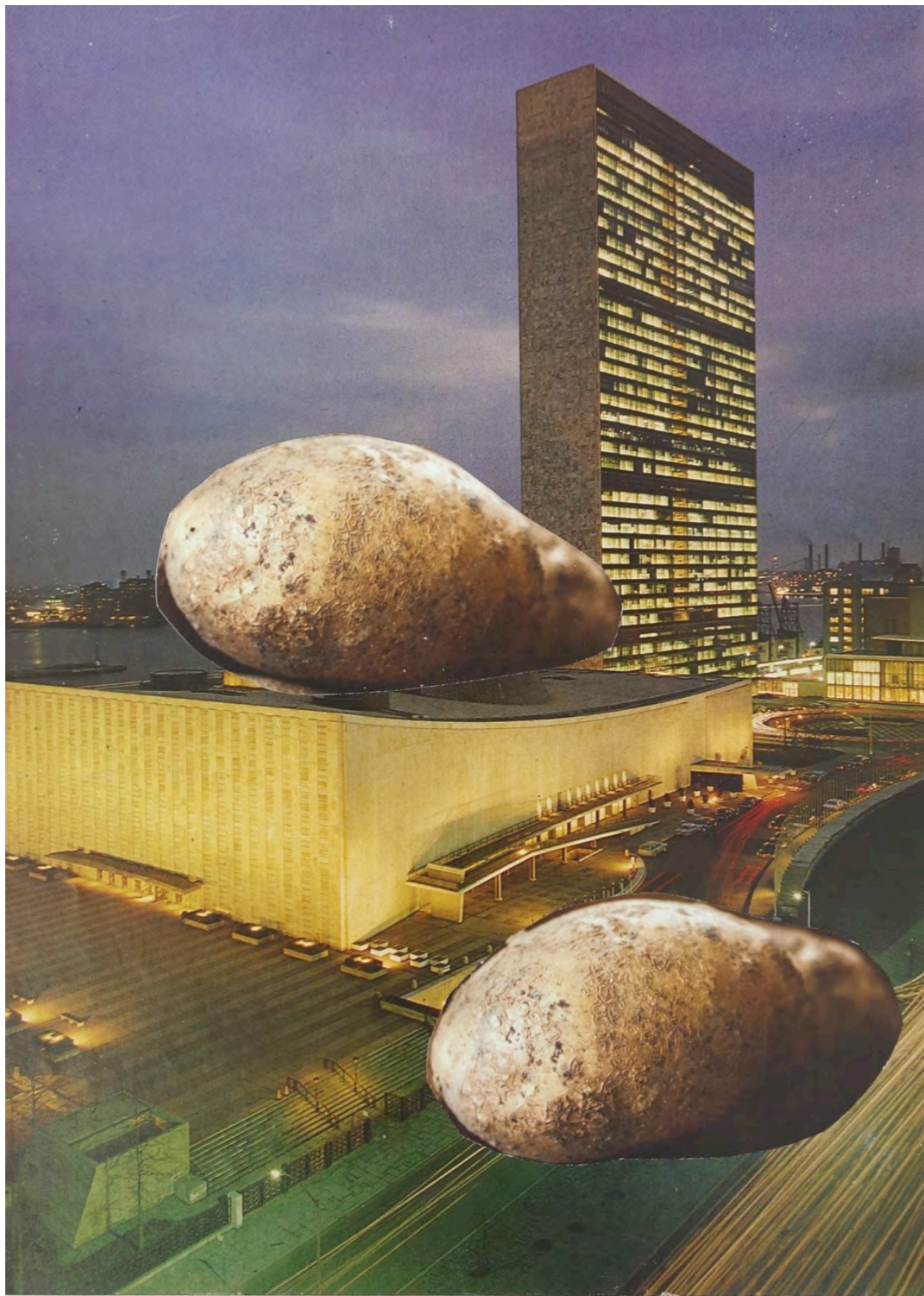
VIKENTI KOMITSKI



Vikenti Komitski
Untitled, 2015
collage
28 x 22 cm

SARIEV
CONTEMPORARY

VIKENTI KOMITSKI



Vikenti Komitski
Untitled, 2015
collage
29.5 x 21.7 cm

SARIEV
CONTEMPORARY

VIKENTI KOMITSKI



Vikenti Komitski
Untitled, 2015
collage
27 x 23.5 cm

SARIEV
CONTEMPORARY

VIKENTI KOMITSKI



Vikenti Komitski
Untitled, 2015
collage
27.6 x 27.5 cm



366

Vikenti Komitski
Untitled, 2015
collage
26 x 21 cm

SARIEV
CONTEMPORARY

VIKENTI KOMITSKI



Vikenti Komitski
Untitled, 2015
collage
27.8 x 18.5 cm



Vikenti Komitski
Untitled, 2015
collage
29 x 20.8 cm



Vikenti Komitski's work 'Tom & Jerry Live' is selected for the CINEMATEK video program curated by Anouk De Clercq and Céline Brouwez



Vikenti Komitski
Tom & Jerry Live, 2010
4:3
3'42"



VIKENTI KOMITSKI was born in 1983 in Sofia. He lives and works in Berlin. He graduated in Sculpture from the National Academy of Art in Sofia. He works with objects, installations and video. His solo shows are: *New Poor*, ICA, Sofia (2013); *Subjective Geography*, Sariev Contemporary, Plovdiv (2011); *1:200*, Ogms gallery, Sofia (2010); *No Image Available*, The Fridge, Sofia (2010); *#1*, Vaska Emanuilova Gallery, Sofia (2009). Komitski has participated in the following group shows: *Places of Transition*, curated by Gülsen Bal and Walter Seidl, freiraum quartier 21, Vienna (2014); *Sofia Contemporary festival* (2012); *Go West!* Muzeon Art Park, Moscow, special project for Moscow Young Art Biennial (2012); *Is It Free?*, NutureArt Gallery, New York (2012); *Together Again*, Radiator Gallery, New York (2012); *Isolation*, Senatsreservenspeicher, Berlin (2012); *East Of Best*, Roodkapje, Rotterdam (2011); *The End And Beyond*, Bania Starinna Center for Contemporary Arts, Plovdiv (2011); *Poor But Sexy*, Sariev Gallery, Plovdiv (2011); *An Exclusive Object of Art*, Dana Charkasi Gallery, Vienna (2011); *Entrepot*, Krinzinger Gallery, Vienna (2011); *August in Art Biennial*, Varna (2010); *Beyond Credit*, Antrepo 5, Istanbul (2010); *FQ Test*, GMG Gallery, Moscow (2010); *Photo I Photo You*, Calvert 22, London (2010); *Breaking Walls Building Networks*, Macedonian Museum of Contemporary Art, Tesaloniki (2010); *From Ideology to Economy*, Contemporary Bulgarian Art 20 Years Later, The State Central Museum of Contemporary History of Russia, Moscow (2009); *Remember Sofia Underground*, Shipka 6, Sofia, curators: Yovo Panchev and Ruen Ruenov (2009). He has been a resident artist at SIM, Reykjavik (2009), Futura, Prague (2011) and ISCP, New York (2012). Vikenti won the BAZA Award for 2011 and has been nominated twice (2009, 2011) for the Gaudenz B. Ruf Award for New Bulgarian Art. SARIEV Contemporary presented Vikenti Komitski at Art Rotterdam (2016), Art Brussels (2016), Vienna Fair (2016), Contemporary Istanbul (2011).



Sariev Gallery was founded by Katrin Sarieva and Vesselina Sarieva in 2004 in Plovdiv, Bulgaria's second largest city, initially as a Centre for photography and conceptual ceramics. In its fifth year, the gallery's growth led us on to develop it as a space for contemporary art, and in **2011** it was **Sariev Contemporary** was officially announced. **Sariev Contemporary** focuses on establishing itself as an international gallery for contemporary art and works for developing the scene for contemporary Bulgarian art.

Artists represented by the gallery: **Stefania Batoeva, Rada Boukova, Pravdoliub Ivanov, Vikenti Komitski, Lubri, Stefan Nikolaev, Nedko Solakov, Valio Tchenkov, Voin de Voin.** Sariev Contemporary has also worked with numerous curators and art historians including Vera Mlechevska, Vladia Mihaylova, Iara Boubnova, Jacob Racek, Vessela Nozharova, Emile Ouroumov, Maria Vassileva and also Walter Seidl, Bettina Steinbrugge, Aaron Moulton and René Block.

Following the mission to promote Bulgarian contemporary art abroad Sariev Contemporary organized **Focus Bulgaria at viennacontemporary 2015.** Dedicated to the goal for establishing international connections and visibility is also the project **Working Visits for International Curators and Art Critics** which started in 2015.

Another annual project of the gallery is the platform **Background: Young Artists.** In 2014-2015 the exhibitions from the platform were hosted at the Sariev Contemporary Project Space.

In addition to publishing artists' and exhibition catalogues and booklets, we've also commissioned the first bilingual history of Bulgarian contemporary art by art historian Vessela Nozharova (due 2015).

The need for creating a context and knowledge of contemporary art in Bulgaria has motivated us to develop two para-platforms in partnership with curators and art critics: the **annual educational course Introduction to Contemporary Art** and the **Collectors' Forum**, whose first edition was in 2011.

Along the way, Katrin and Vesselina Sarievi established two other independent organizations which are closely related to the idea of the gallery: the Open Arts Foundation (est. 2007) and the artnewscafe (est. 2008).

SARIEV
CONTEMPORARY

For any other information please contact SARIEV Contemporary

Vesselina Sarieva

+ 359 888 520 375

vesselina@sariev-gallery.com

SARIEV Contemporary

40 Otets Paisiy str., Plovdiv 4000, Bulgaria

www.sariev-gallery.com

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Twitter](#)