

MARIA KAPAJEVA

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from 2019 A member of Estonian Artists' Association and Estonian Photo Union
since 2015 Higher Education Academy Fellow, UK

EDUCATION

2021- PhD Candidate, practice-based, Estonian Academy of Arts
2015 PGC in the Creative Arts Education University for the Creative Arts, UK
2013 MA Photographic Studies University of Westminster, UK
2009 BA (Hons) Photography University for the Creative Arts, Farnham UK
2000 BA (Hons) Economics and Business Administration University of Tartu, Estonia

AWARDS

2026-2028 Artist's salary, Estonian Ministry of Culture
2025 The Visual and Applied Arts Annual Award — The Cultural Endowment of Estonia
2024 The grant for *Inside Out* youth program at my studio *Circle In Cube* — The British Council in Estonia
2024 The six-month Artist Fellowship — The Cultural Endowment of Estonia
2023 Eduard Wiralt's Scholarship — Estonian Ministry of Culture
2021 The Kraszna-Krausz Photo Book Award — for the book *Dream is Wonderful, Yet Unclear*
2021 The six-month Artist Fellowship — The Cultural Endowment of Estonia
2020 *A Woman's Work* Award — Creative European Programme, Photo Museum Ireland
2018 Shortlisted for Aperture First Photobook Award — for the book *You can call him another man*
2018 Runner-Up Award — FOKUS Video Art Festival, Denmark
2016 Gasworks & Triangle Network Fellowship — Kooshk Residency, Iran
2016 Shortlisted for UNSEEN Dummy Award - for the book *You can call him another man*
2016 Shortlisted for Self-Publish Riga Dummy Award - for the book *You can call him another man*
2016 Shortlisted for LATENT Award — D.O.O.R. & Materia
2016 The three-month Artist Fellowship — The Cultural Endowment of Estonia
2013 Shortlisted for The Title Art Prize — Blank Media Collective, UK
2010 PMI2 Award to develop new work in India — British Council, UK
2008 PMI2 Award to do a research in India — British Council, UK

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2026 I Am a Border, Tallinn Art Hall, Estonia, curated by Siim Preiman
2025 By Loosing Them, I Become A Whole - Kogo Gallery, Estonia
2024 *Listen to My Scream, Hear Their Dreams* — Draakoni gallery, Estonia
2023 *Loose photos, Odds and Ends* — Estonian National Archive in Tartu, Estonia
2023 *Loose photos, Odds and Ends* — Võrumaa Museum, Estonia
2022 *Loose photos, Odds and Ends* — KUMU Art Museum, Estonia
2021 *When the world blows up, I hope to go dancing* — Finnish Museum of Photography
2020 *When the world blows up, I hope to go dancing* — Art Hall Gallery, Estonia

2020 *Dream is Wonderful, Yet Unclear* — Lithuanian Gallery of Photography
 2019 *Dream is Wonderful, Yet Unclear* — Latvian Museum of Photography
 2019 *Test Shooting* — Digital Art Space at Copenhagen Business School, Denmark
 2017 *Dream is Wonderful, Yet Unclear* — Narva Art Residency, Estonia, curated by Liisa Kaljula
 2017 *I just knew... She's been with me ever since* — WOAK Gallery, Poland
 2017 *You can call him another man* — Kaunas Photography Gallery, Lithuania
 2015 *Interiors* — The Auckland Photo Festival, New Zealand
 2010 *Transformation* — Narva Art Gallery, Estonia
 2009 *Call Me Early* — ArtDepoo Contemporary Art Gallery, Estonia

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026 Borås Art Biennial, curated by Taru Elfving, Sweden
 2025 *In-Between*, Wozownia Art Gallery, Poland (October-November)
 Estonian and Finnish artists exhibition (September-October)
 COCOON - Estonian Maritime Museum
 2023 The Spring exhibition — Tallinn Art Hall, Estonia
 Look at me! Listen to me! — Tartu Art Museum, Estonia
 2022 *Decolonial Ecologies* — The Latvian Centre for Contemporary Art, Latvia
 Women on the move — F3 freiraum für fotografie, Berlin, Germany
 2021 *My problem is a woman's problem* — Fabryka Sztuki w Łodzi, Poland
 (Self-)opinion — Tartu Art Museum, Estonia
 2020 *Patterns: Kreenholm textile design 1963-2005* — Estonian Museum of Applied Art and Design
 2019 First Feminnale of Contemporary Art — Museum of Fine Arts, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
 May My Voice Now — curated by Elena Zaytseva, Pushkin House, London
 Industrialised — curated by Alex Zawadski, Blackburn Museum and Art Gallery, UK
 Photobooks from Baltic States — curated by Evita Goze, Belgrade, Serbia
 2018 *Field/s ONE* — curated by Thom Bridge, Sluice HQ Art, London, UK
 Riga International Biennial of Contemporary Arts — curated by Katerina Gregos, Latvia
 Transformations — 44 Gallery Contemporary Photography, Belgium
 Narratives alongside Him — curated by Gintarė Krasuckaitė, Kaunas Photography Gallery, Lithuania
 To J. Alfred Prifrock — curated by Indu Antony, Bangalore, India
 2017 *Dark Rooms: Photography and beyond* — 44 Gallery Contemporary Photography and PAK, Belgium
 INTERGENFEM — organised by Desperate Artwives, London, UK
 he, she, me — an exhibition of two with Tomek Zerek, Oloman Gallery, Detroit, USA
 UNA Y OTRA (One And Another) — curated by Rodrigo Orrantia, Espacia El Dorado, Bogotá, Colombia
 Hatched — The North Wall Gallery, Oxford, UK
 The Censored Exhibition — Copenhagen Photo Festival, Denmark
 Leboudoir2.0 — Arles, France
 Circulation(s) on theme *Feminine* — Voies Off, Arles, France
 2016 *Marry Me* — One Goa Festival, India
 VISION 20/20 — Knowle West Media Centre, Bristol, UK
 Between the lines: artists' books — curated by Archipelago, London, UK & at Materia gallery, Rome, Italy
 Ouvrage — curated by Archipelago, Twenty14 Contemporary, Milan, Italy
 The Photobooks Exhibition — Athens Photo Festival, Greece

- Home for Two Days* — curated by Chinar Shah, Home Sweet Home, Ahmedabad, India
FATHOM Residency exhibition — Four Corners Film, London, UK
- 2015 *The Space Around Me* — curated by Tiiu Talviste, Tartu Art Museum, Estonia
LOOK/15: Exchange — curated by Anna Fox, Tate Liverpool, UK
- 2014 *Traces: Contemporary Baltic Photography* — Budapest Centre of Architecture, Hungary
 Fotokunstiness — Tallinn, Estonia
Celebrating Europe — Kaunas Photography Gallery, Lithuania
Walls — curated by Elena Zajtseva, Pushkin House, London, UK
he, she, me — Samuel Harn Museum, Gainesville, USA
The Interior (PIX Quarterly 8) — Galerie Max Mueller, Mumbai, India
Family — Guernsey Photo Festival, UK
- 2013 The Title Art Prize exhibition — Blank Media Collective, Manchester, UK
 MAPS show — Ambika P3, London, UK
Contested Frequencies: The Position of a Woman — EBRD, London, UK
- 2012 United Art Fair — New Delhi, India
FAUST II — Photomonth Festival, Budapest, Hungary
The World in London — The Photographers' Gallery, London, UK
Joyful Archipelago — curated by Olga Grotova, Yinka Shonibare's Project Space, London, UK
Travelling Light — Foyer Gallery, NID, Ahmedabad, India
- 2011 *Sunny Side Up* — Margate Photo Festival, UK
Travelling Light — Foyer Gallery, Farnham, UK
Home-Made / Dialects4 — Pushkin House, London, UK
- 2010 *Distant Closeup* — Going global 4 conference of British Council, V&A Museum, UK
Fresh Faced & Wild Eyed — The Photographers' Gallery, London, UK
- 2009 New Contemporaries — Fairfield's Art Centre, Basingstoke, UK
Memory and Migration — Wall Gallery, Oldknows Studios, Nottingham, UK
 London Art Book Fair - with bookRoom, Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK
Itchy Scratchy — curated by Jason Evans, Permanent Gallery, Brighton, UK
Eclectic — Old Truman Brewery, London, UK
 Open Salon — The Viewfinder Photography Gallery, London, UK

PUBLICATIONS

ARTIST BOOKS / MONOGRAPHS

- 2024 *a year-long scream*, OPA! Publishing, Estonia (in three languages: Estonian, English, Russian)
 2020 *Dream Is Wonderful, Yet Unclear*, Milda Books, Latvia ((in three languages: Estonian, English, Russian)
 2018 *You can call him another man*, Kaunas Photography Gallery, Lithuania (in English)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 2026 *Sugu ja lugu / Gendered Lens*, Tallinn Museum of Photography
 2025 *The Pelgrave Encyclopedia of Cultural Heritage and Conflict*, eds. Ihab Saloul & Britt Baillie, a chapter by Natalia Arlauskaitė, Pelgrave Macmillan
Vikerkaar magazine, 3/2025, published texts from Non-cancer Diary (in Estonian)

2023 Vikerkaar 7/8, 2023 - selection of texts
 2023 *Your Time is My Time*, Annika Toots & Merilin Talumaa, Mousse Publishing and Roots to Routes
 2022 *Photography - A Feminist History*, Emma Lewis, Tate Publishing & Ilex
 2021 *A Global History of Women Photographers*, (English ed.), eds. Luce Lebart Marie Robert, Thames & Hudson
 2021 *Contemporary Ukrainian and Baltic Art. Political and Social Perspectives, 1991-2021*, ed. Svitlana Biedarieva, ibidem Press
 2020 *A Global History of Women Photographers*, (French ed.), eds. Luce Lebart Marie Robert / *Une histoire mondiale des femmes photographes*, Textuel
 2017 *Cosmic Shift: Russian Contemporary Art Writing*, Eds. Zaytseva & Anikina, ZED Books
 2012 *A Joyful Archipelago*, ed. Grotova, Guest Projects / Sunbury House

SCREENINGS

2024 The Rencontres Internationales de Paris/Berlin at the Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin
 2024 Daylight Project screening at *Circle in Cube*, Tallinn
 2023 The Rencontres Internationales de Paris/Berlin
 2023 Videocity, curated program by by Dr Andrea Domesle, Basel, Switzerland
 2023 Art Viewer: *A Piano Played By Ear* curated by Paola Paleari
 2022 *Spiral Bound* at Von Krahle Cinema by The Estonian Centre for Contemporary Art
 2021 ARSi Film Festival, Estonia
 2020 VAFT: Visual Art Festival Turku, Finland
 2020 Digital Art Space, CBS, Copenhagen, Denmark
 2019 TEDx Abay St Women, Kazakhstan
 2019 Critical Tourism Studies Conference VIII, Spain
 2018 Luminocity Video Art Festival, Canada
 2018 *Transcending species, Transcending gender, Transcending nations*. Deptford Cinema, UK
 2018 FOKUS Video Art Festival, Copenhagen, Denmark
 2017 NexT Film Festival, Bucharest, Romania
 2017 Berlin Feminist Film Week, Germany
 2017 Moving Image at ORGAN VIDA, Zagreb, Croatia
 2016 Bomb Factory's Second Artist Film Festival, London, UK
 2016 OPEN'16 Moving Image at Brighton Photo Fringe, UK
 2016 F_Festival, Dublin, Ireland
 2015 Month of Photography, Minsk, Belarus

RESIDENCIES

2025 KORDON Residency, Estonia
 2024 VARES Residency, Estonia
 2023 BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Arts, UK
 2020 Laznia Centre for Contemporary Art, Gdansk, Poland
 2017 Narva Art Residency, Estonia
 2017 Kaunas Photography Gallery, Lithuania
 2016 Kooshk Art Residency led by Rybon Art Centre, Tehran, Iran
 2016 Narva Art Residency, Estonia
 2015 *FATHOM* Residency at Four Corner & Film, supported by Arts Council England, London, UK

2014 Bridge Guard Art Residency, Štúrovo, Slovakia

2012 HIAP: TOKAMAK Residency, Finland

COMMISSIONS

2022 Kumu Art Museum — *Loose Photos, Odds and Ends* exhibition

2018 Aspex Gallery: *PONToon* project — a collaborative work with a group of local women

2017 Open Eye Gallery: *Culture Shifts* — a community project with a group of women

2016 Knowle West Media Centre: *VISION 20/20* — a new work for the 20th anniversary exhibition

2014 Harn Art Museum & University of Florida: *he, she, me* — a new work for the exhibition

2012 The Photographers' Gallery: *The World in London* — a portrait commission

COLLECTIONS

Tartu Art Museum, Estonia

Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art, Finland

Museum of Feminist Art (MoFA), Kyrgyzstan

Fotomuseum Winterthur, Switzerland

REVIEWS & INTERVIEWS

2026 Sirp - a review of the exhibition by Sanna Kartau (in Estonian)

Sirp - a review of the exhibition by Anneli Porri (in Estonian)

Delfi / Eesti Espress - a review of the exhibition by Margaret Tali (in Estonian)

Vikerkaar 4-5/2026, portfolio and article by Siim Preiman

2025 Sirp — a review of the exhibition by Sveta Grigorjeva (in Estonian)

Klassika Radio - Kultuuriministeerium — an interview (in Estonian)

Estonian Raadio 4 - Sergejeva — an interview (in Russian)

2024 Sirp — a review of the exhibition by Sveta Grigorjeva (in Estonian)

Looming 9/2024 — a book review by Santa Kartau (in Estonian)

Postimees, 10/08/2024 - a book review by Karmen-Eliise Kiidron (in Estonian)

2023 Estonian Radio 4 — an interview

Feministeerium — an interview

2022 Sirp — a review of the solo exhibition at Kumu by Dr Ingrid Ruudi (in Estonian)

Eesti Päevaleht newspaper — a review by Johanna Jolen Kuzmenko (in Estonian)

Sirp — an article by Ketlin Käpp (in Estonian)

2021 Art Fervour — an article 'Photography - Self-Publishing, Part III'

Photomonitor — a book review by Paul Boyling

British Journal of Photography — an article about The Kraszna-Krausz Award

Helsingin Sanomat — an article by Sini Mononen

Arterritory — an interview by Elnara Taidre (in English)

2020 Arterritory — an interview by Elnara Taidre (in Russian)

Collector Daily — a review of the book by Blake Andrews

Sirp — a review of the solo exhibition by Reet Varblane (in Estonian)

Sirp — a review of the book by Elnara Taidre (in Estonian)

Postimees — a review of the solo exhibition by Sveta Grigorjeva (in Estonian)

Postimees — an interview by Maria Arusoo and Sten Ojavee (in Estonian)

- Müürileht — an interview with Annika Toots and Merilin Talumaa (in Estonian)
 ERR — a review of the solo exhibition by Grete Tiigiste (in Estonian)
 Estonian Art magazine, 1/2020 — an article collaboratively with Linda Kaljundi
The Irish Times — an article by Aidan Dunne
GUP Magazine — an article by Linda Zhengova
FLOAT magazine — a feature of the book *Dream is Wonderful, Yet Unclear*
YET magazine — a feature of the book *Dream is Wonderful, Yet Unclear*
Calvert Journal — an article by Liza Premiyak
Birds in Flight magazine — an article by Lyolya Goldstein (in Russian)
OBJEKTIV magazine — a feature of the book *Dream is Wonderful, Yet Unclear*
- 2019 Unknown Gallery — a feature of the work *You can call him another man* (in Russian)
Human Sites of Memory: The Story isn't Simple by Colin Pantall
FK Magazine — a review of the solo exhibition by Santa Remere (in Latvian & English)
- 2018 BJP — a feature of the book in *Best of 2018* by Arnis Balcus, Riga Photomonth
I heart women platform — an interview by Laura Hensser
- 2017 KUNST.EE magazine - an interview by Liisa Kaljula
 Plekktrumm TV program on ETV2, October 2, 2017 (in Estonian & Russian)
 Твой вечер (Your evening) TV program on ETV+, September 28, 2017 (in Russian)
 Postimees — a review of the exhibition by Marika Agu
- 2016 Brighton Photo Fringe — an interview with myself and Amak Mahmoodian
vendure engraved 2016 (4) — an interview by Jez Riley French
FK Magazine — a video interview by Arnis Balcus
Eesti Päevaleht — an article about the exhibition (in Estonian)
 OSTSEE online magazine — an interview
Edge of Humanity magazine — an article
- 2015 Photoworks Annual: *Women* — an interview by Anna Fox
Global Archive Photography online platform — an interview by Karen Knorr
 L'Oeil de la Photographie magazine — a feature of a solo exhibition at Auckland Photo Festival
 The Daily Star (Bangladesh) — an article by Anata Yusuf
 GUP Magazine — a feature of the series *Interiors*
Documenting Fashion: A Dress History Blog / The Courtauld Institute of Art — an article by Alexis Romano
- 2014 n.paradoxa journal, v.34 — an article by Joana Monbaron
- 2013 Photoworks magazine — an article *Photography Family Politics* by Benedict Burbridge
 Re-View.org online magazine — a feature of the series *A Portrait of the Artist and a Young Woman*
- 2012 Book *Behind The Image* by Anna Fox and Natasha Caruana — a feature of the work *One Month*
- 2011 *Krasivaya Zhizn* magazine (Estonian, in Russian) — an article by Svetlana Zaitseva
- 2010 The shots Directory by shots Magazine and YPU — a feature of a portfolio
- 2009 Estonian newspapers Äripäev, Postimees, Narva Newspaper — reviews of the solo exhibition at ArtDepoo
- 2008 Viru Prospekt — an interview by Svetlana Zaitseva (in Russian)
 Cheese, 27/2008 magazine — a feature of the work (in Estonian & English)
- 2006 Cheese, 17/2006 magazine — a feature and cover image (in Estonian & English)
 Avenüü magazine. 3/2006 — a feature of a fashion series
- 2004 *New Europe* international publication - a featured image, Poland

TALKS & PUBLIC DISCUSSIONS

- 2026 Queering Archive and Art symposium, Lithuania
The Most Documented War conference, Centre of Urban History, Lviv Ukraine
Artist Talk, Centre of Urban History, Lviv Ukraine
Art in the times of crisis symposium, Viljandi Culture Academy, Estonia
Discussion panel “Memory: to hold on or let go?”, Narva Rugodiv Cultural Centre, Estonia
- 2025 Artist talk at Kerege, Almaty, Qazaqstan
- 2024 Discussion at Pickle Bar, organised by LCCA, Berlin Germany
- 2023 Discussion at a solo exhibition of Janina Sabaliuskaite at DRIFTS gallery, Lithuania
- 2022 Paris Photo X Elles - discussion panel on women in photography, chaired by Federica Chiocchetti
Latvian Center for Contemporary — *Art Feminist and Women’s Movements in the Baltics: Between Regional and Transnational Contexts*
- 2021 Estonian Photo Museum — Artist talk
WOPHA Congress — presentation as part of a panel A World History of Women Photographers, USA
Peckham24 — chairing a discussion with Etinosa Yvonne and Nina Franco, UK
The Photographers’ Gallery for The Kraszna-Krausz Book Award — a talk with Sunil Gupta & Monica Allende
Narva Art Residency — TOK Curators’s discussion: *On the Verge of Post-Industrial Routine*
- 2020 Red Zenith Collective — online conversation, Poland
Impressions Gallery Bookfair talk — online book presentation
Latvian Centre of Contemporary Arts — an artist talk
DocDocDoc School — an artist talk, Russia
Conference *Tolerance and mass media in a multinational region of Estonia* — a book presentation
10x10 Photobooks #InstaSalon — a conversation with curator Maria Veits (TOK Curators)
Gallery of Photography Ireland — online conversation with Shoair Mavlian (Photoworks)
Critical Tourism Studies Conference VIII — a presentation of video work *Test Shooting*, Denmark
- 2019 Arnolfini gallery: *Huts of Memory* symposium (UK) — an artist talk and panel, chaired by Colin Pantall
Prognostics lectures at University of the Arts Helsinki (Finland) — an artist talk
University of Konstanz — a discussion panel with writer Georgi Gospodinov, Germany
Leporello — an artist talk, Italy
CBS Digital Art Space — an artist talk, Denmark
- 2018 Solidarity Centre in Gdansk — an international research workshop *Postindustrial Stories*, Poland
KUMU Museum — a presentation at a research seminar, organised by Tallinn University, Estonia
One School Goa — an artist talk, India
- 2017 Calvert22 Foundation — a discussion panel *A Feminist Perspective on Dmitri Prigov’s Manifesto*, UK
Lithuanian Association of Photography — a discussion panel Photo books
Fast Forward a research workshop at Dillon+Lee Gallery — an artist presentation, USA
- 2016 Knowle West Media Centre — a discussion *Photography: artist, activist and innovator?* FOTONOW, UK
Four Corners & Film: Photoforum — an artist talk, UK
Ryciclart — an artist talk, Belgium
Plymouth College of Art — an artist talk at 3rd Annual Visual Culture symposium
- 2015 Four Corners & Film — an artist presentation at FATHOM symposium at CASS, UK
Fotodepartament — an artist talk, Russia
- 2013 Red Gallery — a discussion panel *The Archive and Fiction*, chaired by Federica Chiocchetti, UK

The Photographers' Gallery — an artist presentation *My Favourite Photo*, UK