
Press release

***We Are All Connected* – new Migration Museum exhibition spotlights work by six Ukrainian artists**

The Migration Museum in London is launching a new exhibition on 1 December 2022 featuring works by six Ukrainian artists. *We Are All Connected* is a multimedia exhibition exploring themes of migration, identity and resilience amid the ongoing war.

After the Russian invasion on 24 February 2022, studies at the Lviv National Academy of Arts in Ukraine were suspended, throwing its emerging artists into a state of uncertainty. Although classes subsequently restarted, the past months have been very difficult – a time of fear, doubt and inner struggles, but also a time to become stronger and to learn.

As they search for a way out of war, the Academy's artists have continued to work. *We Are All Connected* showcases artistic responses to the current situation, ranging from photo collage, drawing and video, to installation and performance art, by six artists: Anna Dovhan, Illya Turyhin, Ivanna Bahriychuk, Yuliya Yeromina, Sofia Melnyk and Yaryna Shumska.

The free exhibition will be displayed in the windows of the Migration Museum in the heart of Lewisham Shopping Centre, accessible to tens of thousands of visitors and passers by. The artists will be travelling to London for a launch event on 1 December. This will be a chance to meet the artists, experience their work and find out how the Russian invasion and ongoing war has impacted their lives and Ukrainian art today.

"*We Are All Connected* demonstrates that art is an enduring force against war and persecution. Many Ukrainians have been given refuge in this country, many have been forced to leave and others have been unable. This exhibition by young Ukrainian artists is a dedication to their compatriots who are suffering as a result of war and reflects the hope that young people bring to the world," says Sue McAlpine, curator at the Migration Museum.

"One of my missions as an artist is to be an ambassador of Ukrainian culture. With a terrible war ongoing in my country, I appreciate the opportunity to be here with a group of young artists who continue to study in Ukraine while experiencing air-raid sirens almost every day. They believe in their future, in our Ukrainian future, and they have something to say and to share with the world," says Yaryna Shumska, artist and teacher in the Contemporary Art Practices department at the Lviv National Academy of Arts.

The exhibition and launch event are both free and open to the public at the Migration Museum (Lewisham Shopping Centre, London SE13 7HB). The launch event is on Thursday 1 December, from 6pm until 9pm. The exhibition runs until 22 January 2023.

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For more information, please contact:

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Notes for editors

Where and When

Migration Museum

Lewisham Shopping Centre (Entrance in Central Square)

London SE13 7HB

For directions and visitor information, please visit: www.migrationmuseum.org/visit.

Launch event: Thursday 1 December, 6–9pm. This event is free and open to the public. Register for your free ticket at: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/we-are-all-connected-ukrainian-artists-exhibition-launch-event-tickets-460121213937>.

Exhibition: Until 22 January 2023. The Migration Museum is open Wednesday–Sunday, from 11am–5.30pm (5pm close on Sundays). Admission is free and advance booking is not required.

Website and social media

Website: www.migrationmuseum.org

Twitter: [@MigrationUK](https://twitter.com/MigrationUK)

Facebook: [@MigrationMuseumUK](https://www.facebook.com/MigrationMuseumUK)

Instagram: [@MigrationMuseumUK](https://www.instagram.com/MigrationMuseumUK)

Hashtag: #WeAreAllConnected

Media images

A selection of media images can be found [here](#).

About the exhibition

This project came about through the friendship of Ukrainian artist Yaryna Shumska and British performance artist Denys Blacker. Denys previously contributed to one of the Migration Museum's exhibitions, *Call Me By My Name: Stories From Calais and Beyond*, and is a long-term supporter of its work. Yaryna teaches at the Lviv National Academy of Arts in western Ukraine. She offered the museum a body of work by some of her students, and with the help of generous individual donations, We Are All Connected will now become the next exhibition in the Migration Museum's innovative Artist Showcase window display and its first exploration of Ukrainian art.

For more information, please visit the exhibition page: www.migrationmuseum.org/event/we-are-all-connected-an-exhibition-of-works-by-six-ukrainian-artists/.

About the artists

Anna Dovhan (Ukraine, 2002)

Anna Dovhan is a student at the Lviv National Academy of Arts, Department of Contemporary Art Practices working in graphics and mixed media. The most recent project she took part in was about the war experience (Reactivation, Lviv, August–October, 2022). She is interested in the perception of sound and the personal experience that sound transmits. She took part in the creation of group audio works as a music composer ("A walk between the trenches", Kaunas, August 2022; "City-72", Kyiv, June 2022). In the journey to developing her practice and finding her own medium she has also made performance (Vezha 3.0 International Festival of Architecture and Arts, Lviv, July 2021) and installation (Detali, Ivano-Frankivsk, December, 2021).

Illya Turyhin (Ukraine, 2002)

Illya Turyhin graduated from the Lviv National Academy of Arts, Department of Contemporary Art Practices (2022, Bachelor) and has participated in group and personal projects in Ukraine and abroad (Poland, Spain). He mainly works with video art, performance and installation. The themes in his work usually involve social issues, an analysis of personal experience and perception. He lives and works in Lviv.

Ivanna Bahriychuk (Ukraine, 2002)

Works in performance, video art, photo collage, video performance. In her artistic activity she explores herself through the subjectivity of things and phenomena. She explores the environment through personal and social aspects. She has been a participant at festivals and group exhibitions in Ukraine. Bahriychuk is currently studying at the Contemporary Art Practices department at the Lviv National Academy of Arts and lives and works in Lviv.

Yuliya Yeromina (Ukraine, 2002)

Yuliya works in performance art, video, drawing and collage. She experiments with storytelling and with the viewer's attention. She has taken part in international festivals such as: V International Festival of Audiovisual Art "Tetramatics", Lviv, Ukraine 2021 (video "Defect"), Art project "FrankoLaboratorium 3.0. Beyond the limits of the possible" in the framework of "ФPANKO.RE: VOLUTION", Franko library patio, Lviv, Ukraine 2021 (performance "Within"), III International Festival of Architecture and Arts "Tower 3.0. Form of [IN]dependence", Svirzh Castle, Lviv region, Ukraine 2021 (performance "Svirzh Castle"), City exhibition, performative action, musical improvisation "Body", Lviv, Ukraine 2021 (collage "Gubovuch"), Ars Electronica Festival "Welcome to Planet B", Linz, Austria 2022 (installation "Russophobia 02"). Yuliia has transferred from Lviv National Academy of Arts and is currently a student at the Vilnius Academy of Arts in Lithuania.

Sofia Melnyk (Ukraine, 2001)

Melnyk is a student at the Lviv National Academy of Arts, Department of Contemporary Art Practices. She works with video art, performance, installation and sound and has participated in several local collective exhibitions and festivals of young artists. She is interested in conveying the sensual and the whimsical in her practices.

Yaryna Shumska (Ukraine, 1989)

Shumska works in performance art, painting, and installation. She explores the concept of human presence that provokes changes in the primary significance of places and situations. The main themes are connected to place, context, and memory: objects and their invisible stories. She graduated from LNAM. PhD and was given a grant by the Gaude Polonia scholarship program from the Minister of Culture of Poland (2013). She was shortlisted for the Young Ukrainian Artists Competition MYXi (2015), and the II Youth Biennale of Contemporary Art of Ukraine (2019). She was a participant in the I-Portunus mobility program (France, Germany, Poland, 2019) and Magic carpets (Italy, 2021) and Rupert residency (Lithuania, 2022). She is an author of solo exhibitions and art projects, a participant in numerous events and international performance art festivals in Ukraine and abroad, Poland, Germany, France, Portugal, Spain, Lithuania, Norway, Latvia, Japan, Thailand, USA, etc. She was a co-organiser of the International festival Days of Art Performance in Lviv (2019), and co-curator of the residency Archiv: at the place (2020) and Performance Art Archive of Ukraine (2021). She teaches at the Contemporary Art Practices department at the Lviv National Academy of Arts (LNAM). She lives and works in Lviv.

For more information, please visit the exhibition page: www.migrationmuseum.org/event/we-are-all-connected-an-exhibition-of-works-by-six-ukrainian-artists/.

About the Migration Museum

The Migration Museum explores how the movement of people to and from Britain across the ages has shaped who we are – as individuals, communities, and nations. Migration is a pressing contemporary issue, but there's an underlying story of comings and goings stretching back many centuries. Britain has thousands of museums, but unlike countries from Australia to France, Brazil to the USA, we don't have a permanent Migration Museum. Now more than ever, we need a welcoming space to come together to share stories, understand our connections to each other and explore how migration has shaped our lives.

We are proud to be based in the heart of Lewisham, London's Borough of Culture for 2022 and the UK's first Borough of Sanctuary. As a free museum in the heart of a shopping centre, we welcome tens of thousands of visitors a year from across Lewisham, London and beyond to our exhibitions and events, alongside a far-reaching education programme for primary, secondary, university and adult learners.

We have a growing digital presence, encompassing digital exhibitions and high-profile campaigns such as Football Moves People, which reached over 5m people during summer 2021. We will be based in Lewisham until at least summer 2023. Longer-term, we continue to seek a permanent site for a landmark Migration Museum allied to a nationwide network of venues, and will continue to expand the reach of our education work so that every child in Britain has the opportunity to learn more about our migration history.

For more information, please visit: www.migrationmuseum.org

For more information and to request an interview, please contact:

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