

Masha Semikina

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Curriculum Vitae

Born in 1982 in Kaliningrad, Russia, Masha pursued a diploma in French language and literature in her hometown. She furthered her education in France, obtaining a Bachelor's degree in Management of Cultural Projects in 2006, and in 2009 earned a Master of Arts in European Interdisciplinary Studies in Warsaw, Poland. In Kaliningrad, she worked in the NGO sector, initiating and managing projects at the intersection of art, culture, and tourism. In 2012, she moved to Germany through the German Chancellor Fellowship Program and continued her work in the NGO sector. In 2018, she welcomed the birth of her son. Masha's artistic journey began in 2020 when she studied drawing and painting in various courses in Berlin, followed by studies in graphic design at OfG-Schule. In 2023, she spent time with her family in Belgium and Spain, during where she developed her abstract-figurative artistic style. Since late 2023, based in Berlin, Germany, she explores complex human relationships and diverse artistic mediums in her work.

Artist Statement

In my art, I bring human emotions to life through a variety of techniques, including painting, sculpture, and ready-made objects. I strive to create interactive art pieces that offer the public a multidimensional experience, fully immersing them in each theme. Inspired by both personal experiences and universal themes affecting women worldwide, I explore womanhood, expressions of female sexuality, gender dynamics, and the essence of beauty and strength. My work delves into the thoughts and feelings of women navigating various roles in today's society. Through this exploration, I aim to inspire a deeper reflection on what lies beneath the surface of seemingly happy, fulfilled individuals, encouraging viewers to consider the silent struggles and layered complexities that often shape these identities.

Group Exhibitions

Dezember 2024 – January 2025
ArtISla Collective at Palazzo Albrizzi-Capello, Venice, Italy

November 2024
"Visual Narratives", ArtISla Collective, Bardo Projektraum, Berlin, Germany

July - Oktober 2024
"Zeit ist Knapp", Zentrum für internationale Künste, Berlin, Germany

January - February 2024
"SichtbarSEIN" (Cooperation project of I.S.I. e.V. Initiative Selbstständiger Immigrantinnen and the Ludwig-Erhard-Forum für Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft), Embassy of Mexico, Berlin, Germany

January - February 2024
"Arte Fantastico", Colectiva Canary Art, Tenerife, Spain

MASHA SEMIKINA

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WORKING EXPERIENCE

- 01/2023 – Present** **Artist and Graphic Designer**
Berlin, Germany
& remote *Freelance*
Conceptualization and creation of unique multimedia artworks, design and maintenance of the website and social media presence, curation and coordination of the art collective art!Sla, including grant funding research, community management, and exhibition organization
- 11/2021 – 11/2022** **Project Manager**
Berlin, Germany *CSP Network for International Politics and Co-operation*
Managed community relations and financial operations, handled invoicing and procurement, developed proposals for public funding, reported project progress to funder
- 01/2020 – 11/2022** **Project Assistant**
Berlin, Germany *AVP e.V. - Project "Streetwork @ online"*
Managed finances, invoicing, and procurement, developed proposals for public funding, reported project progress to funders
- 10/2015 – 05/2019** **Assistant to the Executive Management**
Berlin, Germany *nbn at work GmbH*
Optimized business procedures and tracked project implementation, supported task distribution and staff hiring, developed and maintained social media channels
- 01/2014 – 02/2016** **Consultant**
Berlin, Germany *Freelance*
Wrote grant applications for international projects, built networks and partnerships, designed project goals and organized events, secured external funding
- 06/2012 – 12/2013** **German Chancellor Fellow (Alexander von Humboldt Foundation)**
Schwerin, Germany *Task Force EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region, Priority Area Tourism*
Conducted research and developed projects in the tourism sector around the Baltic Sea Region, networked with relevant stakeholders, assisted in organizing the Baltic Sea Tourism Forum 2013
- 03/2010 – 05/2012** **Deputy Director**
Kaliningrad, Russia *Regional Tourism Information Centre*
Developed project proposals for granting from the EU Neighborhood Program, launched the region's first tourism information centre, managed communication activities (website, newsletter, brochures), facilitated cooperation among public authorities, the private sector, NGOs, and academia as part of the Tourism Cluster Initiative
- 09/2009 – 12/2009** **Intern**
Stockholm, Sweden *Council of the Baltic Sea States, Baltic 21 Unit*
Researched environmental, renewable energy, and sustainable development policies in the Baltic Sea Region and beyond, provided administrative support for the Committee of Senior Officials meetings
- 07/2006 – 08/2008** **Managing Partner**
Kaliningrad, Russia *Art & Eco Village "Vitland"*
Founded and launched the business (recruitment, development of order processes, sales and billing systems, social media marketing), designed and organized art and cultural events
- 05/2006 – 06/2006** **Trainee**
Strasbourg, France *Directorate of Culture and Cultural and Natural Heritage, Council of Europe*
Conducted desk research on cultural policies of the Council of Europe member states

EDUCATION

- 09/2008 – 06/2009 **Master of Arts in European Interdisciplinary Studies**
Warsaw, Poland College of Europe
- 10/2005 – 06/2006 **Bachelor (Licence) in Management of Cultural Projects**
Metz, France Université Paul Verlaine
- 09/1999 – 06/2004 **Diploma in French language and literature**
Kaliningrad, Russia Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal University

TRAININGS

- 01/2021 – 05/2022 **Graphic Design**
online OfG / Online-Schule für Gestaltung
- 04/2011 **Project Management and International Cooperation**
Paris, France École Nationale d'Administration

PUBLICATIONS

- 05/2013 **Tourism in the Baltic Sea region: Current state and future perspectives.**
Political State of The Region Report 2013 (S.62-65), Baltic Development Forum
- 09/2013 **Online survey on international tourism cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region**
Priority Area Tourism of the EU Strategy for The Baltic Sea Region

SPECIAL SKILLS

- Languages:** English, German, French (professional proficiency)
Russian (native)
- IT:** MS Office, Project management tools (Project Cycle Management, Logical Framework, GanttProject), Social Media, Adobe Creative Cloud, Website constructors
- Artistic techniques and tools:** Acrylic and oil on canvas, paper, and wood, air-dry and polymer clay, video installations, mural painting with acrylic paints and brushes, charcoal and pencil drawing, digital illustrations, collage art, linocut