

Some information on this page is only available in Dutch

## YAROSLAVA KRUTOVA

When tomato becomes a piece of cake

Yaroslava Krutova's multidisciplinary practice combines academic insight with artistic expression to explore social structures, human emotions, and the influence of popular culture. Her work examines themes of manipulation, collective consciousness, and power, challenging established perspectives. After relocating to The Hague following the invasion, she began collaborating with local artists, creating a meaningful exchange of ideas and experiences. Through her work, she reflects the emotions, resilience, and realities of displaced communities, bringing together diverse stories that resonate deeply with audiences. Immersed in a new cultural environment, Yaroslava explores themes of war, displacement, identity, and belonging. Through visual storytelling, she invites viewers to reflect on loss, endurance, and the strength of the human spirit.

### SOCIAL MEDIA

[www.instagram.com/kruttova/](https://www.instagram.com/kruttova/)

[www.youtube.com/c/ATCHERRYGARDEN](https://www.youtube.com/c/ATCHERRYGARDEN)

### EDUCATION

2010 - Sociologie National Technical University  
2015 Kharkiv Polytechnic Institute diploma

### EXHIBITIONS

2025 ENERGY foundation B.a.d Rotterdam, Netherlands During Art Rotterdam in Ahoy, Foundation B.a.d (ten minutes away from Ahoy) shows the group exhibition ↪ ENERGY ↪, with works by both members (those living and/or working in B.a.d) as well as guest artists. Our location, Talingstraat 5, is a beautiful school building designed between 1953-1955. In and around this building, the artists of ↪ ENERGY ↪ show their works. Photography, sculptures, paintings, and installations in situ. [www.foundationbad.nl/energy-4/](https://www.foundationbad.nl/energy-4/)  
Group

2025 Grin and bear it foundation B.a.d Rotterdam, Netherlands The project 'grin and bear it' delves into exploring the connection between smiling and

### PROJECTS

2026 The Interwoven Nature of Good and Bad in Our Lives The Hague, Netherlands Good and bad exist side by side in our lives, continuously overlapping and reshaping one another through fresh layers of experience. If a person could eliminate all painful memories, it would inevitably also erase the joyful ones, as they are profoundly intertwined. What truly defines us is not the division between light and darkness, but rather their coexistence within the same narrative.

2024 Grin and bear it foundation b.a.d Rotterdam, Netherlands [www.foundationbad.nl/grin-and-bear-it/](https://www.foundationbad.nl/grin-and-bear-it/) Project delves into exploring the connection between smiling and sadness by meeting with individuals to uncover hidden emotions. The study references Carney Landis research on smiles, highlighting that

	<p>sadness. The study references Carney Landis research on smiles, highlighting that not all smiles convey happiness. Video interviews brings visual expressions to the surface as well as multiple meanings of “the same” depending on the distinction of being, as well as outlining the complexity of understanding facial features.</p> <p><a href="http://www.foundationbad.nl/grin-and-bear-it/">www.foundationbad.nl/grin-and-bear-it/</a> Duo</p>		<p>not all smiles convey happiness. Participants will experiment with expressing various emotions through smiles, guessing others' emotions, and creating smile-related content.</p>
2024	<p>Barcelona Indi Film Festival Barcelona, Spain Short film WHEN TOMETO BECOMES A PIECE OF CAKE</p> <p><a href="http://www.madriff.org/barciff/">www.madriff.org/barciff/</a> Group</p>	2023	<p>When tomato becomes a peace of cake The Hague, Netherlands</p> <p><a href="https://youtu.be/T6WzrDIOEiY">youtu.be/T6WzrDIOEiY</a> As millions of other Ukrainians, the artist experienced stress of changing the environment and living in uncertainty with strangers. Her work is full of complex stories about loneliness and equity, rights, and cultural cliches. There is a subtle mix of intonations: from humour to sorrow, and the hope of finding a place to call home. The work consists of two parts: the first is documenting the artist’s everyday life, and the second represents the artist’s internal world that exists in parallel with daily routine. Krutova performs as the main character, showing her story of being hosted by a Dutch family. She picks up on physical changes, such as not eating sugar because her hosts would not eat it, cooking different food, and wearing different clothes — in short, completely transforming her habits and self-representation, unavoidably entering an internal conflict. Sound is a key element in the piece, portraying the rapid changing of feelings. It also includes motives from Ukrainian traditional songs referring to the baggage the artist brings to her new context. The project addresses the questions: Is “home” a place or an emotional state? Can you find new home within a new society without being rooted in it? And will you loose yourself while searching for your new identity?</p>
2023	<p>Larnaca Biennale EVOHK gallery Larnaca, Cyprus Short Film and Q&amp;A Yaroslava Krutova Ukraine, 1993 WHEN TOMATO BECOMES A PIECE OF CAKE Video</p> <p><a href="http://biennalelarnaca.com/event/homeawayfromhome-screenings/">biennalelarnaca.com/event/homeawayfromhome-screenings/</a> Group</p>		
2023	<p>The Grand Palace of Everyone NEST The Haage, Netherlands I don't think I'll stay here long</p> <p><a href="http://nestruimte.nl/exhibition/the-grand-palace-of-everyone/">nestruimte.nl/exhibition/the-grand-palace-of-everyone/</a> Duo</p>		
2022	<p>I don't think I'll stay here long Saxylnd, Unseen Amsterdam, Netherlands I don't think I'll stay here long</p> <p><a href="http://unseenamsterdam.com/city-program">unseenamsterdam.com/city-program</a> Duo</p>		
2022	<p>Down There in the Cherry Garden Perdu Amsterdam, Netherlands Ewa’s performance was presented in Ukrainian together with her translator Sergej, accompanied by her paintings with a corresponding sound composition. <a href="http://perdu.nl/nl/r/on-what-binds-us-together/">perdu.nl/nl/r/on-what-binds-us-together/</a> Duo</p>	2022	<p>I don't think I'll stay here long Nolimitartcastle Amsterdam, Netherlands <a href="https://youtu.be/n05cpttBf60">youtu.be/n05cpttBf60</a> It is a complex narrative about loneliness and togetherness, kindness and cultural cliches, humor and sorrow, but also about support and a hope to have home again. This project was comissioned by Outsiderland, Amsterdam and supported by FOTODOK, Utrecht and is a collaboration between artists Yaroslava Krutova and Jana Romanova.</p>
		2022	<p>Down There in the Cherry Garden Perdu Amsterdam, Netherlands <a href="https://youtu.be/losmZreR4ik">youtu.be/losmZreR4ik</a> The title of the work is the first line of a Ukrainian song that has</p>

been passed through generations. It appears in a series of paintings, writings, and sound recordings of a diary that Yaroslava was writing since the beginning of the war. In this work, the diary is a method of the translation of consciousness, transition to the Ukrainian language as much as it aims for poetical documentation of the events of the more than 100 days of an ongoing war through the iconographies of protest and intimate moments. The different forms of expression are an attempt to express the movement of translation and share feelings while addressing the untranslatability of different aspects of a language.

2022      *Pieds de Souper* Kyiv, Ukraine This is a series of experimental tasks in which Yaroslava flirts with the standard perception of pleasant and repulsive. Our brain's reactions are not always fundamentally ours and can be partially imposed by society. Associations are built during life experiences and can also be created during learning. In the first experiment, the game was played with pictures and perception. Yaroslava was provocative and made a series of videos of herself eating food with her feet. The goal was to talk to the audience about disgust and eroticism and the line between them. The reaction was instantaneous - many people found the performance disgusting, but also many fetishists started commenting. Interestingly, this led to social media algorithms banning these videos for inappropriate content, even though they did not contain any nudity.

2021      *Dyvne Interview* Kyiv, Ukraine [youtu.be/8gAcBo1B43c](https://youtu.be/8gAcBo1B43c) The social experiments conducted through disguised interviews provided a fascinating insight into how public figures react to unexpected situations. As drones flew into the studio and strangers unexpectedly entered to smoke, the participants found themselves in a whirlwind of unusual events. Jugglers and dancers added to the chaos, while delivery people enjoyed snacks and drinks while listening in. Firecrackers and balloons added to the surprise, and even birthday celebrations and impromptu songs were part of the mix. The unexpected departure of the film crew and a sudden change in the

host mid-interview further heightened the unpredictability. The experiment's outcomes revealed a spectrum of reactions, with most being positive. It was intriguing to note that individuals used to structured routines were particularly affected by disruptions, with some even leaving in frustration. Those new to public exposure, without prior criticism, displayed heightened responses. Surprisingly, actors among the participants embraced the changes, adapting to and actively participating in the evolving scenarios. Overall, the experiments shed light on how different personalities cope with unexpected challenges, offering valuable insights into human behaviour under pressure.

2020 Ukrainian Fashion Week FW 2020-2021 Digest with DT and Yaroslava Krutova Kyiv, Ukraine [youtu.be/YPbWW4ka82Y](https://youtu.be/YPbWW4ka82Y) The Ukrainian Fashion Week as how fashion is focused on the idea of a «sustainable fashion». The word «sustainable» became such a hype in the industry: a lot of people use it to attract attention, but do they know what does it mean? We decided to figure out how much do people who take part in The Fashion Week and attend it know about sustainability. During the whole week we made interviews with founders, speakers, main organisers, famous designers, volunteers and visitors of the shows. The results of this experiment can be clearly divided between the insiders and organisers who mainly considered it a lifestyle and the majority of visitors who only thought about casual usage of natural materials.

## INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES/RESIDENCIES

2025 Rotterdam, Netherlands Conducting research on the contradictory nature of a smile [www.foundationbad.nl](http://www.foundationbad.nl)

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## COMMISSIONS

2022 Down There in the Cherry Garden Amsterdam, Netherlands Performance [perdu.nl/en/](http://perdu.nl/en/)

2022 I don't think I'll stay here long Nolimitartcastle Amsterdam, Netherlands This project was commissioned by Outsiderland, Amsterdam and supported by FOTODOK, Utrecht. [nolimitsartcastle.nl/en/](http://nolimitsartcastle.nl/en/) finished

## SALES/WORKS IN COLLECTIONS

- 2026 Birds Private Collection Bielefeld, Duitsland Combination of oil paint and acrylic on canvas 80\*60\*2
- 2026 Kigsday's crowd Private Collection Kiel, Duitsland Acryl on canvas 25\*25
- 2025 Way Private Collection Amsterdam, Nederland Combination of oil paint and acrylic on canvas 30\*40
- 2025 Vol Private Collection Amsterdam, Nederland Combination of oil paint and acrylic on canvas 50\*50
- 2023 Streams of life Private Collection Heiloo, Nederland Acryl on canvas 20\*20

## PUBLICATIONS

- 2023 When Tomato Becomes a Piece of Cake Poster IVA Groep BV When Tomato Becomes a Piece of Cake Rotterdam, Netherlands
- 2022 Weaving with Words. Fragments of Fragile Conversations Book Growing Pains Weaving with Words. Fragments of Fragile Conversations Utrecht, Netherlands [growingpains.nl/Makers](http://growingpains.nl/Makers)

## AWARDS AND GRANTS

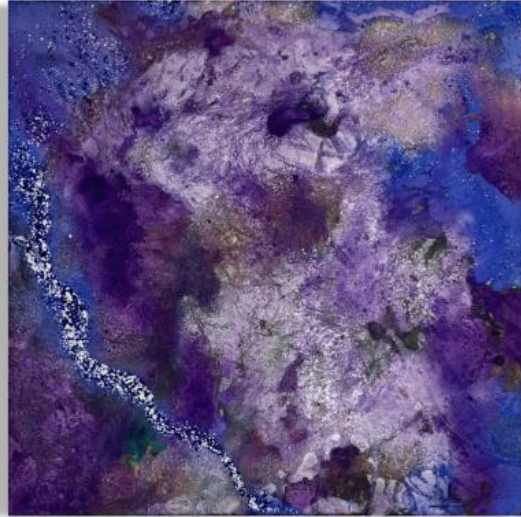
- 2022 Support Fund for Ukrainian artists Nederlands Letterenfonds The Hague, Netherlands THE SUPPORT FUND IS ADMINISTERED BY THE DUTCH FOUNDATION FOR LITERATURE, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE OTHER DUTCH NATIONAL CULTURAL FOUNDATIONS (THE CREATIVE INDUSTRIES FUND NL, THE MONDRIAAN FUND, THE NETHERLANDS FILM FUND, THE PERFORMING ART FUND NL AND THE CULTURAL PARTICIPATION FUND).

## SECONDARY ART-RELATED ACTIVITIES

- 2024 - "One Day Residency" event on Eiland von Brienenoord



Tierra de Siena Tostada, 2026  
Acryl, 80\*60\*2



Milky Way, 2026  
Acryl, 50\*50\*2



Peonies, 2026  
Layover acryl on existed painting, 30\*30\*3



Spirit, 2026  
Layover acryl on existed painting, 60\*80\*2



, 2026  
Layover acryl on existed painting, 50\*70\*2



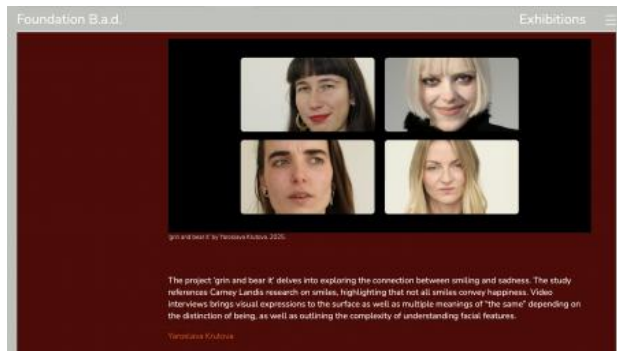
Smile, 2026  
Layover acryl on existed painting, 30\*30\*3



GRIN AND BEAR IT, 2025  
2:56



Grin and bear it, 2025  
Short film



Grin and bear it, 2025  
Short film



Grin and bear it, 2025  
Mixed media