

ALIONA CIOBANU

Aliona Ciobanu is a multidisciplinary artist and designer working at intersection of material and sound research.

Aliona Ciobanu is a multidisciplinary artist and designer originally from Chişinău and currently based in The Hague. She is a graduate of The Royal Academy of Art (KABK) in graphic design. Her work uniquely combines material investigations with sound research, allowing her to use materials as the primary voice to reflect on pressing political and societal issues. Having a conversational approach with the material, she unfolds the story by actively interacting with it in order to open up a different perspective from the one assigned as default.

SOCIAL MEDIA

www.instagram.com/alyunkka/

EDUCATION

2020 - Graphic Design Den Haag, Koninklijke
2024 Academie van Beeldende Kunsten
diploma

EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 Metal Memory Limbo Contemporary Milan, Italy
Metal Memory, a double solo exhibition by Aliona Ciobanu and Sophia Gatzkan, focuses on the physicality of non-standard bodies and their intellectual secretions, exploring how they both interact with technology to embody narratives of trauma, adaptation and healing. Both artists explore matter as a vehicle for identity and transformation, using it as a starting point to interrogate the socio-cultural and political structures that shape our perceptions of the world. A common theme in their practices is the use of reconfigurative processes, from fusion to assemblage, which allow them to deconstruct and rewrite histories outside of dominant perspectives. Here, memory and metal – understood both as a transformative element and as a vector – meet and become a transformative force. An energy capable of renewing the relational paradigm between contrasting elements and their ability to adapt, creating fluid and nuanced connections. limbo-contemporary.com/exhibition/metal-memory/Duo
- 2025 ‘Y/our memory’ Kunsthal Kloof Utrecht, Netherlands Together with guest curator Cees Martens, Kunsthal Kloof presents the work of Elma Čavčić, Alyona Ciobanu, Kelvin Dijk, Dakota Magdalena Mokhammad and Bodil Ouédraogo. The exhibition explores the importance of shared histories and family archives in shaping and discovering one's own identity. In the works presented by the artists, elements of these personal and collective archives play a key role. From newspaper clippings and cooking recipes to religious folklore and family collections. The exhibition also encourages visitors to reflect on their own personal and shared identity and history. Archives are not merely containers of the past. They are, just like us, always part of an ongoing process of becoming. kunsthalvloof.nl
Group
- 2025 Rhyme and Flow RM68 Beijing, China Fired dreams, woven energies, metal politics, matter graphics, observational woodwork and in situ collage. The rhyme of craft and industry, the lexicon

of objects. The exhibition reflects diverse auterial contexts and narrative approaches, anchored in specific times and spaces, yet generates contrasts, resonances, or complements. Though the particular processes remain locally rooted, design itself functions as discursive, encountering others through echoing rhyme and flow, opening to cultural dialogue. With potential as a long-term vehicle for design critique, this show could stimulate local design discourse while engaging with global contemporary culture. room6x8.com
Group

- 2024 Flower Metals DMW Gallery Antwerp, Belgium
Flowers and metals both occur in nature. One alive, of a sacred status and nurtured until cut. The other inanimate, but mangled, melted and deformed into shapes and technologies. Both are gifted to our loved ones. 'Flower Metals' puts together a list of artists and their works, which combined create an artificial oasis full of objects that are floral and or robust, sacred and or deformed, flower and or metal. 'Flower Metals' is a group exhibition featuring works by Anna-Marie Berdychová, Alyona Ciobanu, Bram De Jonghe, Bella Hunt & DDC, Emilija Povilanskaitė, Benny Van den Meulengracht-Vrancx and Walter Wathieu.
www.dmwgallery.be/?utm_campaign=linkinbio&utm_medium=referral&utm_source=linkinbio
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- 2022 Those among us Dutch Design Week Eindhoven, Netherlands 'Recipes of displacement' is a video installation, featured on three screens. The main screen is dedicated to the interviews of five people from different backgrounds, who fled Ukraine. They share stories about their journey to the Netherlands, perceptions of the new status of 'temporarily relocated persons', and the overlaps of the Ukrainian-Dutch cultures. The second screen features the process of cooking borshch.
www.kabk.nl/nieuws/kabk-students-at-dutch-design-week-2022
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- 2021 Drawing Appreciation Day at ...ISM project space ...ism The Hague Artist initiative Hgtomi Rosa is a guest at ...ism project space for an exhibition in which drawing is central. The project stems from the interest in drawing as a practice and the appreciation for people who use drawing in their lives. Hgtomi Rosa has invited 30 artists to show one drawing. The drawings may differ in size, function, age and success. They can be sketches, explanations, maps with routes on them, instructions, childhood drawings, spontaneous or substantial visual thoughts, drawings that were made to share with other people or a perfectly finished work of art. The artists respond to each other's drawings through comments, written thoughts and interpretations. In this way the drawings are connected with each other as an expression of thought in image and word. And displayed within the physical space that ...ism offers as a space for new thoughts. Your

attendance is being valued as a contribution to Drawing Appreciation Day.
ismprojects.wordpress.com/2021/09/15/drawing-appreciation-day/
Group

PROJECTS

2024 What to memorise? What to forget?
The Hague, Netherlands
graduation.kabk.nl/2024/aliona-ciobanu “What to memorise? What to forget?” is a project that explores the collective memory embodied in monuments and collective sites aiming to present an alternative perspective of shared sites of remembrance that were part of ideological dogma. Through an iterative process of impressing images onto aluminium, through melting and remoulding stories the works allows further perspectives, stepping out of political narratives to tell the story of time. The aluminium pottery, widely-used in everyday objects, when used as a part of public and private contexts in Moldova, melts stories of the material into monuments. The stories are shaped by the fluidity of metal: they intertwine and form ongoing narratives.

COMMISSIONS

2024 Ex Oriente Ignis Pochen Biennale Chemnitz, Germany The second part of the 4th POCHEN Biennale comprises an international media art exhibition to open in September 2024. The exhibition featuring some 20 artists is being developed by the Ukrainian curator Serge Klymko, whose current position as managing director of the Kyiv Biennale has helped him gain extensive expertise in the eastern European art scenes. His primary interest lies in the power structures that persist in post-socialistic countries, especially with regard to their impact on art production. The POCHEN Biennale wants to give Ukrainian artists the opportunity to present their works to an international audience.
www.pb2024.eu/en finished

2023 Kyiv Biennial Kyiv Biennial Vienna, Austria Kyiv Biennial is an international forum for art, knowledge, and politics that integrates exhibitions and discussion platforms. It adopts an interdisciplinary perspective at the intersection of the humanities, socially engaged art, and political activism in order to reflect on the crucial issues of the contemporary world. Kyiv Biennial is organized by the Visual Culture Research Center. The fifth edition of the Kyiv Biennial will take place across Europe at locations in Kyiv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Uzhhorod, Berlin, Warsaw, Lublin, Antwerp and Vienna as the main exhibition venue. In view of the brutal Russian attack on Ukraine, a comprehensive biennial project in Kyiv long seemed deeply uncertain, if not impossible. But, with a cascade of openings—starting in Kyiv in October 2023, finishing in Berlin in 2024—the fifth Kyiv Biennial will be taking place. This Biennial edition is conceived as a European event, with dispersed exhibitions and public programs in a number of Ukrainian and EU cities, and realized in partnership with leading European institutions in the field of contemporary art. The project aims to reintegrate the Ukrainian artistic community, divided by war and scattered across Europe, and to enable its actors to work together with international colleagues and partners on the cultural, social and environmental challenges Ukraine is currently facing and to place them in a global context. Artistic images, investigative documentations and

institutional practices will be explored with regard to possible exit strategies from the current impasse of war, authoritarianism and colonialism, where the scenarios for a new Ukraine beyond war could even be imagined. 2023.kyivbiennial.org/eng/ finished



Remnant, 2025
Aluminium casting, 46 x 39 cm



Tempo re-realities, 2025
Aluminium casting, 29,1 x 21,4 cm



What to memorise? What to forget?, 2024
Aluminium Casting, 100 x 170 cm



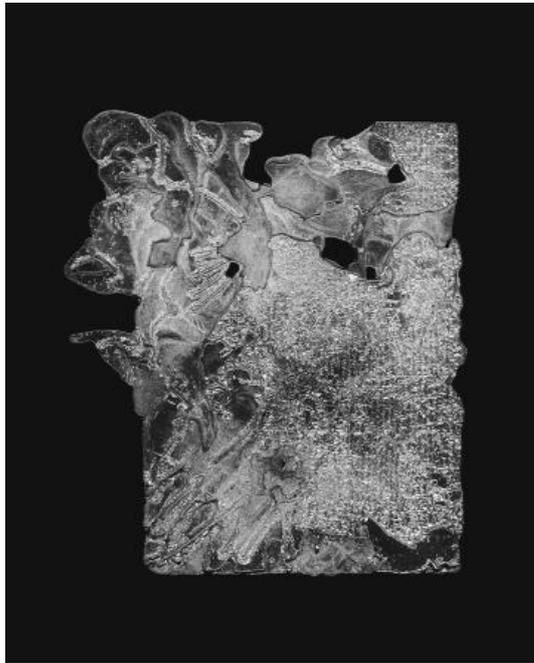
What to memorise? What to forget?, 2024
Aluminium Casting, digital print, 29,1 x 21,4 cm



Becoming, 2024
Aluminium Casting, 25,9 x 42,6 cm



Collapse, 2024
Aluminium Casting, 50,5 x 44,6 cm



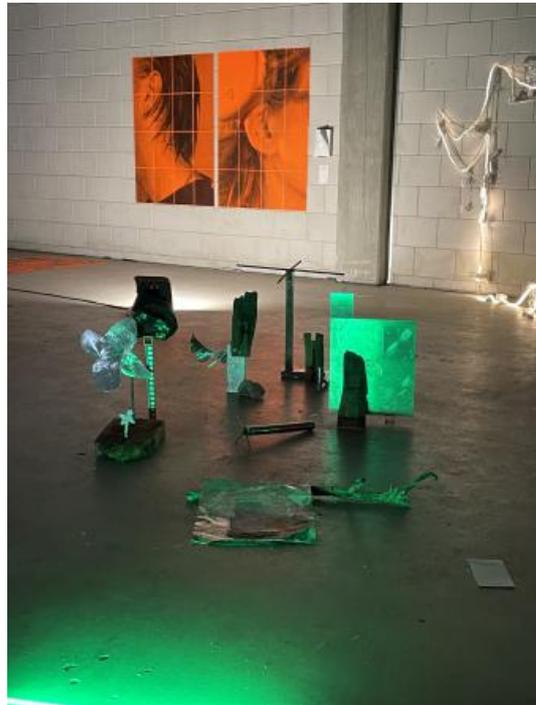
Potato flower, 2024
Aluminium Casting, 25 x 20 cm



Man eating soup, 2024
Aluminium Casting, 12,6 x 8,8 cm



Privacy, 2024
Aluminium Casting, 16 x 14,7 cm



Metal garden, 2023
Wood, metal, 100 x 100 cm