

GJORGJI DESPODOV

Rooted in internet and digital culture, Despodov's practice uses familiar objects to open speculative worlds, crafting provocotypes that embrace incompleteness and spark critical reflection.

Despodov's practice blends investigative methods with playful elements, rooted in storytelling deeply engaging with internet and digital culture. His work often employs familiar objects that reflect personal experiences while opening portals into speculative, world-building narratives. His work exists on the threshold between physical and digital environments. He refers to his projects as provocotypes: prototypes that do not aim to resolve but to provoke, that insist on incompleteness as a method of critique. Unlike functional prototypes that strive toward optimization, provocotypes thrive in friction. They are not answers but interruptions, creating spaces for dialogue and critical reflection.

WEBSITES

Personal website

gjorgjidespodov.com/

SOCIAL MEDIA

www.instagram.com/despodov/?hl=en

MEMBER OF A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION/ARTISTS' ASSOCIATION

Private Print

EDUCATION

2023 - 2025	Nonlinear Narrative Den Haag, Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten diploma
2022 - 2022	Design+Science Symmer School Cohabitation University of Ljubjana
2015 - 2019	Advertising Design Sofia, National Academy of Art diploma

EXHIBITIONS

2025	Museumnacht Den Haag Kunstmuseum Den Haag, Netherlands www.kabk.nl/agenda/interactive-art-route-by-kabk-graduates-at-museum-night Group
2025	SCROLL, PANIC, REPEAT GOGBOT Enschede, Netherlands www.gogbot.nl/art/gjorgji-despodov-doom-scroll-rehab Group
2025	Freqy Rhythm x Studio/K: Queer Artist Showcase ADE Studio/K Amsterdam, Netherlands Group
2025	Slanted Dreams VR Exhibition Skopje, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Curated and text by Ilija Prokopiev Slanted Dreams is a virtual exhibition featuring two interactive installations: Where I Post From by Gjorgji Despodov and There are no real shortcuts by Klelija Zhivkovikj, designed by Borko Hadjievski. When we use the word slanted to describe a dream, it almost sounds like an oxymoron. After all, aren't all dreams slanted by nature? Isn't there always something twisted within them, an odd curvature of time and space, a sudden shift from one room to another, from one place to another, a face that changes shape, a body that dissolves into air, gravity itself quietly forgotten? Yes, every dream is slanted. And in those moments, we, too, become slanted beings, drawn intimately into that tilted world. It is there, in the dream's subtle confusion, that we recognize something deeply personal: our own private inclination, our unique and secret way of seeing the world askew. The slanted dream mirrors the slanted self, both revealing how truth, perception, and memory bend and shimmer beneath the surface of waking life. privateprint.mk/en/vr- studio/slanted-dreams-virtuelna-izlozha Duo
2025	5th Biennale of Young Artists Museum of Contemporary Art Skopje, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia msu.mk/exhibition/15- biennial-of-young-artists/ Group
2025	Honey, I'm Home Dom mladih Split Split, Croatia The exhibition Honey, I Am Home! consists of two artworks that explore themes of belonging and the search for home within the queer community through animation and 3D modeling. The short film, titled Honey, I am home!, presents a playful narrative in which the artist positions himself within a virtual world. "As he moves through the story, he explores the house as a literal and symbolic space of escape, completely dissociating himself from reality and entering absurd scenarios. These surreal moments reflect a deep sense of longing often present within the queer community – a longing for a space of belonging," the announcement text reads. The second work, From Where I Publish, draws on the imaginative potential of play as an escape from reality. By constructing a dollhouse and creating new worlds, the artist represents "how many queer people as children escaped reality through imaginative play." In this work, Despodov refers to the TikTok trend where people decorate the inside of their computer cases, connecting the online sphere with the queer experience. dom-mladih.org/en/organization/queeranarchive-2/ Solo
2025	Play Day n' Night #1 Worm Rotterdam, Netherlands WORM presents: Play Day n' Night We're launching a new cultural, cross-disciplinary programme under the banner Play Day n' Night: a space to nurture new ideas, grow unexpected collaborations, and breathe fresh energy into Rotterdam's day-nightculture with cultural curiosity and transformation, creativity, and community. For two weekends (40+ hours!), we're

- throwing open the doors to UBIK, S/ash Gallery, and even spilling out onto the sidewalk. worm.org/production/play-day-n-night-1/
Group
- 2025 Where are you now? #2 Paradise Den Haag, Netherlands This edition invites five artist duos to explore intimacy as a shared experience — one that is broken down, reimagined, and reshaped through the creative expression of each collaboration. Through their combined work, new meanings and identities will emerge, reminding us that who we are is always shaped by the external. By exposing the private, we seek to examine how intimacy transforms when shared and reshaped by others, challenging the agency we hold over both our personal lives and our art. www.kabk.nl/en/events/where-are-you-currently-2
Group
- 2025 THE SEXSHOP ARTSHOW Nolimitsartcastle Amsterdam, Netherlands THE SEXSHOP ARTSHOW is a group exhibition that celebrates the intersection of art, intimacy, and the unexpected. Can the masterpiece also be the sex toy? Where does the line blur between an object to admire and one to experience? In this show, EVERYTHING IS FOR SALE! Come and spend your money on the sensual and sublime, art in all its unashamed forms. This isn't just an exhibition; it's an invitation to rethink and savor the spaces where art and intimacy intersect. At No Limits! Art Castle, these two sides are always embraced: the acknowledged and the overlooked, the celebrated and the stigmatized. In previous exhibitions, we've reflected on these dynamics, both in the art world and among the artists themselves. This time, we focus on the object, a work of art that exists between two worlds. nolimitsartcastle.nl/evenement/the-sexshop-artshow/
Group
- 2025 back2breaks Greyspaceinthemiddle Den Haag, Netherlands
Group
- 2025 A Bright Past Is Ahead of Us Škuc Gallery Ljubjana, Slovenia A Bright Past Is Ahead of Us explores the unsettling concept of generational promises – ideals and beliefs passed down through lineage that bind us to expectations we may neither trust nor identify with. Using the theory of fairy tale narrative codes as a curatorial pretext, the exhibition features work by five artists, Enar de Dios Rodríguez, Gjorgji Despodov, Jaione Cerrato, Klelija Živković and Lara Reichmann, who envision narratives that challenge our understanding of human and social relations. Set in a semi-darkened space that masks unease, the exhibition contrasts fantastical and poetic elements with stark political, environmental and economic realities. It becomes a site for layered reflection and dialogue, guided by speculative design and documentary methodologies. www.galerijaskuc.si/exhibition/a-bright-past-is-ahead-of-us/
Group
- 2025 Xenospaces NOVAgallery Pula, Croatia Humans navigate their surroundings through sensory perception and culturally constructed logics, shaping how we claim, interpret, and transform space. Yet this perspective, though central to our understanding, is not absolute. HEKA Lab investigates the limitations of this human-centric dominantly visual framework, exploring how spaces, the materials within them and the soundscapes are experienced and influenced by both human and non-human interactions. By challenging the static notion of space as a human-visual-dominated construct, each project uncovers its dynamic and relational nature. These "xenospaces" reveal the layers of coexistence, where diverse forms of life and alternative ways of perceiving the world create unexpected relationships. Rather than fixed or universally understood, space becomes an active participant in shaping realities, encouraging new perspectives that transcend human logic and sensory bias. Through installations that translate these overlooked dimensions into tangible experiences, HEKA Lab invites visitors to reconsider their place within the shared, interconnected fabric of existence, where perception and reality are far more fluid than they might appear. novogallery.net/en/exhibitions/xenospaces/
Group
- 2025 Archief F(r)ictions: een uitnodiging om ontrafelde verhalen te traceren, te bevragen en te verschuiven National Archives Den Haag, Netherlands The exhibition Archival F(r)ictions includes thoughtful narratives exploring topics like the colonial plant trade, the blank spaces in cartography, the provision grounds of plantations, the oral histories of indigenous cultures, the songs of ancestral sorrow, the deterioration of archival material, the concept of an 'amphibious' archive, the history of the limbo dance, the fear of getting lost, the legacies of corporate colonialism, and feminist spatial practices. From coffee rituals to the trade in botanical plants and from shadow performances to fossil capitalism, there is plenty to see in this upcoming exhibition. It will undoubtedly offer new perspectives on the common past and present new possibilities for the future. www.kabk.nl/en/events/masterstudenten-non-linear-narrative-presenteren-archival-frictions
Group
- 2025 Ambiguous Beauty KO-OP Gallery Sofia, Bulgaria FIG 4.0: Ambiguous Beauty. The exhibition explores the ambiguous boundaries between figuration and abstraction, constantly shifting and blending into one

another, giving rise to images and symbols that feel familiar yet different. Embracing ambiguity encourages us to look deeper, broadening our perspectives and enriching our understanding of the world. Eventually, when the fog lifts, we hope for sunshine... [fig.bg/Group](#)

- 2024 Bricolage, The House of Confluence RU House at Colonels Row, Building #404B on Governors Island New York, United States In August 2024, "The House of Confluence" presents a group exhibition "Bricolage." It showcases the works of five artists currently in the residency program of RU: Cecilia Barreto (Mexico), Shia Roan Conlon (Finland), Gjorgji Despodov (North Macedonia), R.B van Heesch (Netherlands), and David Přilučík (Czech Republic). This exhibition is curated by RU Guest Curator Data Chigholashvili. Bricolage is a loanword from French that relates to the exhibition not with its direct translation, but conceptually through its multifaceted understanding in arts, humanities, and social sciences. It connects with "The House of Confluence" by reflecting on international exchanges in the arts, and in this process, bringing residency group shows together to offer new insights. Moreover, bricolage here is seen as worldmaking (introduced by Nelson Goodman), more in a sense wherein culture and meanings are (re)considered in flux, as lived experiences – that critically build on existing symbols, knowledge, and imaginations to create new understandings and directions. Through different topics and approaches found in the artworks, the exhibition proposes a diversity in worldmaking. In this bricolage, we find revisiting symbols and charts, representing personal or imaginary worlds, addressing less-known stories, and exploring fragments of reliefs or landscapes – aspects that flow and differently emerge in the works, creating interconnections concerning the complexity of how we make the (sense of) world around us. The first floor of the house presents rather personal aspects in worldmaking, while the two installations differ in approaches and forms of expression. [residencyunlimited.org/programs/the-house-of-confluence-bricolage/Group](#)
- 2024 A Girl Named Work, Cejla Brno, Czech Republic Showcases a long-term collaboration between artists Zarevska and Despodov. This installation was made in the timespan between March 2023 and May 2024, and stands as a trilogy based on three poems by Zarevska – "Queen of Something," "Margaret" and "Future of Work". It invites the viewer to speculate on labor, identity, resilience, and what it means to be a woman at the end of the world. In addition, it is about women (but not only) resisting through rest, negligence, writing poetry and through being free of guilt, as the world melts down from the heat of everyday evil. [www.kubaparis.com/submission/438478Duo](#)
- 2024 Visibility Horizon Galeria17 Prishtina, Albania Post-truth politics and manipulative mainstream media form and frame the visibility horizons in the contemporary world. The concept of post-truth has been a prevalent concern in modern times and has become ingrained in the political landscape of democratic societies. George Orwell, in his dystopian novel "1984", portrays a society in which the totalitarian regime asserts its control over all cultural and social domains, establishes a distinct language, manipulates historical events, and suppresses those who resist the government. At different times in history, different modes of visibility are created by power to control society (Michel Foucault, "Discipline and Punish", 1979). Because of this, governments and other powerful groups often create the technology of a disciplinary order, to control what people see and how they experience the world. When we talk about increasing exposure (visibility) as a form of political acknowledgment, isn't it a word about shaping and re-shaping the Truth? How many levels of Reality (Horizons) can we talk about and how do we accept and select what is Truth and what is False or Spin? [galeria17.org/en/visibility-horizon/Group](#)
- 2023 XVII DENES Nova Agora Cifte Amam Skopje, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia [akto-fru.org/%D0%9D%D0%9E%D0%92%D0%90-%D0%90%D0%93%D0%9E%D0%A0%D0%90-20-%D0%93%D0%9E%D0%94%D0%98%D0%9D%D0%98-%D0%9D%D0%90%D0%93%D0%A0%D0%90%D0%94%D0%90-%D0%94%D0%95%D0%9D%D0%95%D0%A1_new-agera/Group](#)
- 2023 Precarity has a Chance Structura Gallery Sofia, Bulgaria The rapid shrinking of public space amid global capitalism is directly damaging the emergence of the public sphere and, consequently, the public person. The atomization and subsequent privatization of public spaces depoliticizes everyday life and changes whole contexts and ecosystems in the post-truth era. The neoliberal urban restructuring in post-socialist societies has shrunk and transformed public spaces to sites for passive reception of consumerist and nationalist messages rather than being places for nurturing democratic political subjectivities. Artists have always tended to enter contested and polarized grounds, to set the stage for the public to emerge, to imagine "new ways of operating" in the formal rules and "disciplinary structures" as de Certeau's tactics... And, this selection is precisely that – different artistic endeavors that reclaim and redefine the public sphere and the public space by creating

tactics for its re-conquest and access for the precarized and silenced. These art practices can create public space anew through the struggles for the rights and in close relation with the social movements or even stimulate them in times when it seems that they are weak. structura.gallery/en/exhibitions/%D0%BD%D0%B5%D1%81%D1%82%D0%B8%D0%BC%D0%B0-%D1%88%D0%B0%D0%BD%D1%81-%D0%BE%D0%B1%D1%89%D0%B5%D1%81%D1%82%D0%B2%D0%B5%D0%BF/ Group

- 2023 Humano Tehnologija Cankarjev dom Ljubljana, Slovenia After three years of interdisciplinary development, bringing together various stakeholders and pushing the boundaries in the fields of augmented reality technologies, robotics and artificial intelligence, digitization and digitization of cultural heritage, ecology, and sustainable development, innovative and visionary pilot projects, products, artworks, festivals, and educational programmes will be presented. We will connect and present several creative areas, methodological approaches, and production contexts through the displayed projects, in which we will try to introduce new technologies into the basic postulates of the modern society of the twenty-first century according to the principle of technology humanization. Confronting the works that emerge from the postulates of consideration and reflection, openness and cooperation, mutual reciprocity, ideas and action were the ideas of only pushing to assemble the parts into a coherent community and opening spaces for the realisation of projects with knowledge and behaviour, ingenuity, research, and experiments as artistic elements. www.kibla.org/projekti-koprodukcije-in-mednarodna-sodelovanja/aktualni-projekti/ruk/dogodki/za-humano-tehnologijo/ Group
- 2023 Queen of Something PrivatePrint Skopje, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia The artists point out that the concept of “queen” has been widely popularized and democratized on social media in recent years; anyone can (and should) be a queen if they want to, without having to explain themselves - instantly and for free. “This installation, based on the poem of the same name by Zarevska, refers to the loneliness of existence in a world where humanity has died out, and the queen is left alone to contemplate her existence. In the poem, the queen is confronted with various objects and creatures that represent different aspects of her identity, but also her professional appearance, because after all - she happens to be the CEO of a poetry production company at the end of the world,” the authors say. They add that at the same time, Despodov builds the infrastructure that defines but also limits the “Queen of Something”, surrounding her with objects that compromise her essence, making her paradoxical and desperate, but at the same time beautiful and full of hope. [www.favu.vut.cz/en/ffa-news-f26745/dragana-zarevska-gjorgji-despodov-queen-of-something-skopje-\(nmk\)-d238845](http://www.favu.vut.cz/en/ffa-news-f26745/dragana-zarevska-gjorgji-despodov-queen-of-something-skopje-(nmk)-d238845) Duo
- 2022 KIBLIX Love and Peace International Festival of Art, Technology, and Science KIBLIX Maribor, Slovenia The epidemic-marked KIBLIX 2020–2021 explored what virtual worlds are today; it turned out to be the most consistent display of space-time »digital arts« and the most relevant exhibition of »digital realities« in the world. This year’s edition KIBLIX 2022 serves as a platform of the Network of Art and Cultural Research Centers - RUK. The network, created by the Delavski dom Trbovlje, PiNA from Koper, and KIBLA from Maribor, has implemented pilot projects, productions, residencies, workshops, debates and supported artistic creations by opening spaces of thought and action. After four years of networking, the facilitation of productions for artists, guest performances and exchanges, collaborations, presentations, and screenings has borne fruit. We leave you to decide how. www.kibla.org/en/festivals/kiblix/kiblix-2022/kiblix-2022-workshop-marko-vivoda-gjorgji-despodov/ Group
- 2022 Festival IZIS - Pipes Libertas Cultural Hub Koper, Slovenia festival-izis.org/en/x-pipes/ Group
- 2022 Welcome to PlanetB Ars Electronica Linz, Austria ars.electronica.art/planetb/files/2022/08/festival22.pdf Group
- 2021 SKIP AD Private Print Skopje privateprint.mk/en/events/exh-gjorgji-despodov-skip-ad Solo
- 2021 New Fashion Narratives Fashion Clash Festival Maastricht, Netherlands www.fashionclash.nl/fcf-2021 Group

PROJECTS

2025 Doom Scroll Rehab: Cache Cleanse
GRADUATION FESTIVAL @ KABK Den

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES/RESIDENCIES

2024 Residency Unlimited, New York, Verenigde
Staten New York, United States Residency

Haag, Netherlands
graduation.kabk.nl/2025/gjorgji-despodov Welcome to the Cache Cleanse. Please leave your phones and algorithmic dependencies at the door. In this immersive installation, we enter a near-future scenario where the world is terminally online, and the collective consciousness is suffering from a little-known, absolutely-made-up-but-totally-real condition: Brain Rot. Caused by chronic overconsumption of low-effort, low-quality, high-repeat media (meme dumps, TikTok loops, Reddit scrolls, that one girl explaining Plato through a Hailey Bieber lip gloss review), this condition leaves civilization drooling, dopamine-fried, and spiritually unwell. But worry not: in this world, we don't abolish the Brain Rot—we treat it. Enter Cache Cleanse. This is not a spa. This is not a hospital. This is a fabulative materialization—part-therapy center, part-delulu chamber, part-speculative design proposal, but an entirely serious response to the collapse of attention and meaning. It replaces traditional wellness centers with community whisperers, anti-doom scrolling slime stations, and mood-based rituals. Envision a meditation session where instead of breathwork, you're softly instructed to "shhhh, swipe away." Imagine therapy, but your therapist is a softly-whispering voice repeating, "you are basically chronically chill." The Cache Cleanse is not a product. It is not a solution. It is a provocation—a prosthetic for the critical mind, designed to stretch our collective imagination around what care and content detox might mean in a world that cannot unplug. It doesn't want to save you. It wants you to think about why you needed saving in the first place.

2022

Unlimited is a Brooklyn-based arts organization that hosts international and local artists through its residency programs. As part of the DENES Award I received for Young Visual Artist of the Year in Macedonia, I participated in a two-month residency at RU, where I developed my practice, connected with curators and fellow artists, and took part in public programs across New York's contemporary art scene. residencyunlimited.org/

ART & SCIENCE LAB HEKA Koper, Slovenia
HEKA is a laboratory at the intersection of art and science, which is open since September 2021. It is a fruitful result of a long strategic plan programme MCRUK of the Association for Culture and Education PiNA. www.chlaydoscope.eu/heka-koper-slovenija/

2025

Honey, I am home Queeranarchive
Split, Croatia
kulturpunkt.hr/najava/izlozba/gjorgji-despodov-honey-im-home/ Honey, I am home! Is an exhibition comprised of two artworks that explore themes of belonging and the search for home — particularly within the queer community. Short film titled Honey, I am home! , presents a playful story in which the artist positions himself in the virtual world. As he moves through the story, he explores the house as a literal and symbolic space of escape, completely dissociating from reality and entering into absurd scenarios. These surreal moments reflect a deep sense of longing often present within the queer community—a longing for a space of belonging. The movie is set like a loop, the end does not feel like a conclusion, but like a possible beginning. Cyclical structure reflects how many queer people perceive the concept of home: even when they find it, they often don't feel completely safe or protected - it's never quite what "home" should be. The second work, titled From Where I'm Posting, plays with the idea of dollhouses and the creation of miniature worlds - reflecting how many queer people ran away from reality as children through imaginative play. In this piece, the artist draws inspiration from a recent trend on TikTok where people decorate the interiors of their computer cases, turning them into dollhouse-like micro-environment. Through this work, the artist reflects on how queer individuals often find belonging in online spaces, building communities and expressing

themselves freely through digital networks.

COMMISSIONS

- 2025 INNER BLOOM Dance company Sofia, Bulgaria INNER BLOOM is a dance film that presents the different stages of femininity with the means of choreography and 3D animation. The project is made by director Kosta Karakashyan, 3D animation artist Gjorgji Despodov and choreographer Stephanie Handjiiska, aiming to create a visually impressive product in which the woman and the female body are the protagonist and creator of the world around them. filmfreeway.com/INNERBLOOM670 finished
- 2025 PARISH Den Haag, Netherlands Poster design for a club night dedicated to queering spaces. www.instagram.com/parish_queer/ finished
- 2024 Anal Body-Anal Politics Dance company Tenerife, Spain I created an animation to accompany the lecture performance Anal Body-Anal Politics, visually complementing and amplifying the critical themes explored throughout the presentation. aleksandargeorgiev.com/ finished
- 2024 Expo Bricolage Residencyunlimited New York, United States Designed the promotional poster for Expo Bricolage, capturing the spirit of creative assembly and experimental art-making. residencyunlimited.org/
- 2023 ES U NO PARAR Dance company Tenerife, Spain Designed the promotional poster for ES U NO PARAR, a dynamic dance solo by Darío Bardam. finished
- 2021 HARIBO x Sage House Commercial Type Shanghai, China Led the spatial art direction for a Haribo-themed project set within a mall environment, transforming the space into a playful, fictional world inspired by the brand's whimsical identity. The centerpiece of the design was a vibrant pyramid structure that anchored the experience, surrounded by immersive zones that invited visitors to explore, interact, and indulge in the Haribo universe. The project merged retail space with fantastical storytelling, creating a surreal pop-up world that blurred the line between imagination and reality. www.sage-house.com/ finished
- 2021 London Fashion Week x Open Studio: Digital Fashion London, United Kingdom Developed 3D rigging and animation for Congregationdesign, a sustainable fashion brand exploring digital expression in fashion. The project involved creating and animating 3D-modeled garments, bringing virtual fashion pieces to life in a fully digital environment. www.congregationdesign.com/collection1 finished
- 2021 FNL NETWORK Digital Fashion Los Angeles, United States Developed a promotional 3D animation for FNL Network to support the launch of their content on new streaming platforms. The animation highlighted the network's focus on fashion, lifestyle, and global media, using bold visual

PUBLICATIONS

- 2025 Een boek met negen boeken Book Private Print Ilija Prokopiev and Marija Hristova Skopje, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia privateprint.mk/en/books/a-book-of-nine-books Ilija Prokopiev and Marija Hristova In conversation with Ivana Mirchevska, Gjorgji Despodov, Klelija Zhivkovikj, Jovan Josifovski, Viktorija Poposka, Dzemiliana Abdulova, Hristina Krsteska, Viktorija Machkovska, and Hana Korneti, Ivana Chaloska and Dimitar Samardjiev In this book, curators Ilija Prokopiev and Marija Hristova invite readers into a rich and reflective exploration of emerging art practices within the cultural landscape of North Macedonia. A Book of Nine Books is the culmination of a three-year journey of collaboration, dialogue, and creative experimentation with a new generation of artists and cultural workers—those who defy easy classification, resist imposed systems, and move fluidly between disciplines and identities. Through fieldwork, studio visits, and close-knit collaborations, A Book of Nine Books reveals a growing ecology of artists rethinking authorship, identity, and social engagement. From queer memory work in small towns to feminist archaeology, from permaculture storytelling to Roma cultural resurgence, the featured projects refuse static definitions, embracing experimentation and uncertainty as vital tools for cultural transformation. Book of Nine Books is the first volume in the Curatorial Insights series, published by PrivatePrint. The Curatorial Insights series examines contemporary curatorial practices and working methodologies and offers different perspectives on the theoretical and practical frameworks that inform curatorial discourse today. The project is sponsored by Prince Claus Fund for Culture and Development
- 2021 SKIP AD Book Private Print Gjorgji Despodov Skopje, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia privateprint.mk/en/books/skip-ad SKIP AD is the first artist's book by the graphic designer Gjorgji Despodov. Despodov creates a playful artistic method called the "Session for self-discovery," an integral part of the more comprehensive SKIP AD project. Through this method, critically oriented towards mass consumerism, Despodov opens the possibility for an alliance between the graphic designer and us, the users. Graphic design uses particular mechanisms to address users' needs; this project uses the very same mechanisms to assist us in discovering our own individual and essential needs. Hence, this act of self-discovery is simultaneously an act of resistance and an opportunity to create a new visual world. The project is sponsored by the Prince Claus Fund for Culture and Development
- 2019 SLANTED MAGAZINE #34 Book Slanted SLANTED MAGAZINE Karlsruhe, Germany www.slanted.de/product/slanted-34-europe/ Slanted Magazine #34—Europe is a plea for a multi-faceted and vibrant Europe, against the backdrop of an Europe of nations, right-wing populism, and selfish politics. It is an inventory of Europe, showing a comment, a perspective, a feeling of illustrators, photographers, writers and graphic designers from all around Europe.

storytelling and dynamic motion design. fnlnetwork.com/ finished

2021 GAY TIMES GAY Times London, United Kingdom Invited by Gaytimes alongside six other queer artists to create a visual celebrating their new brand identity and the queer community. www.gaytimes.com/ finished

2019 ARTPOP FEVER Commercial Type Hong Kong, China Led the art direction and spatial design for Art Pop Fever, an event celebrating the bold, eclectic spirit of art pop culture. The venue was transformed into a vibrant, immersive environment inspired by pop aesthetics, blending playful visuals, layered textures, and dynamic color schemes. The design aimed to blur the lines between high art and pop culture, creating an engaging space where performance, installation, and audience interaction converged. www.chunkyonion.com/en/ finished

REVIEWS

2022 Gjorgji Despodov's book is a must-read for taking mass consumerism out of graphic design Website Joey Levenson United Kingdom www.itsnicethat.com/articles/gjorgji-despodov-graphic-design-070422
Gjorgji Despodov's book Skip Ad offers a critical examination of graphic design's role in shaping consumer culture. Through a "session for self-discovery," Despodov invites readers to engage with design elements that challenge conventional advertising norms. The book's conceptual layout encourages introspection, allowing individuals to explore their own needs beyond commercial influences. By repurposing design mechanisms, Despodov fosters a dialogue between designer and user, promoting a more mindful approach to visual communication.

AWARDS AND GRANTS

2025 STRP Young ACT Award STRP Eindhoven, Netherlands <https://strp.nl/updates/strp-young-act-award-winners-2025>
2023 DENES Award for Young Visual Artist in North Macedonia AKTO-FRU Skopje, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia The DENES Award is a prestigious biennial (now annual) prize for North Macedonian visual artists under 35, founded in 2002/3 by the Contemporary Art Center – Skopje in collaboration with the Foundation for Civil Society. Since 2015 it's been led by FRU, and offers finalists a residency in New York at Residency Unlimited, funded by Trust for Mutual Understanding

SECONDARY ART-RELATED ACTIVITIES

2025 - Queer narratives through personal artifacts, Galerija Kocka, Split (HR)
2023 - FUTURE OF SPAM: Guest lecturer, Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Technology, Brno (CZ)
2023 - KIBLIX: Dunch at The Holy Crab performative workshop in collaboration with Marko Vivoda, KIBLIX Love and Peace International Festival of Art, Technology, and Science, Maribor (SL)
2022 - Dunch at The Holy Crab: Performative workshop, IZIS Festival – Pipes / Cevi, Koper (SL)
2022 - Virtualization of Reality, R.O.R Festival, Nova Gorica (SL)



Doom Scroll Rehab: Cache Cleanse, 2025
3D Printed, CNC Cutting and engraving, ritualistic circle with approximate dimensions of 4,20 x 4,20 m



Doom Scroll Rehab: Cache Cleanse, 2025
3D Printed, CNC Cutting and engraving, approximate height of 1,70 m



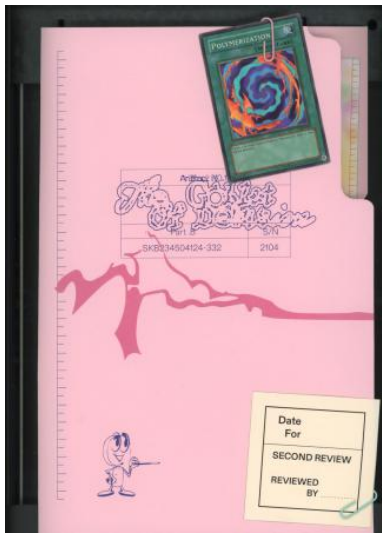
Doom Scroll Rehab: Cache Cleanse, 2025
Print on durable material



Doom Scroll Rehab: Cache Cleanse, 2025
Resin 3D-printed sculptures.



Doom Scroll Rehab: Cache Cleanse, 2025



The Goblet of Delusion. obj, 2025
Archaeological Report on the Goblet of Delusion, A4



SPAM-In Defence of the abandoned billboard, 2025
Illustration printed on self-adhesive PVC foil / plexiglass cut-outs, 150x105cm



SPAM-Future Oracle, 2025
site-specific installation consisted of 3D-printed object, plexiglass cut-outs, led light ring and audio piece



SPAM, 2025
site-specific installation consisted of 3D-printed object, plexiglass cut-outs, led light ring and audio piece



Honey, I'm Home, 2024
knauf blocks, pvc foil floor sticker, 1.5 x 1.5 x 2 m