MARYNA SEMENKOVA

b. 1983, Ukraine | Based in Berlin, Germany

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BIOGRAPHY & ARTIST STATEMENT

Maryna Semenkova is a Ukrainian multidisciplinary artist, researcher, and performer based in Berlin. Working across performance, photography, collage, and video, she investigates how political systems, war, and historical violence are inscribed into human psychology and the physical body. Originally trained in law and practicing psychotherapy and meditation since 2008, she brings an analytical and somatic rigor to her artistic research. Following Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022, her practice has focused on forced displacement, inherited post-Soviet trauma, and the persistence of oppressive structures.

Treating the human body as a living political and historical archive, Semenkova uses durational and site-responsive performance as a mode of resistance against emotional numbness. Coining the framework of *eco-mind feminism*, she links the global ecological crisis to patriarchal architectures of thought, examining the entanglement of mental health, gender hierarchies, and planetary survival.

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS & PERFORMANCES

2026 *Kodin tuntu (Sense of Home)* (solo exhibition & performance featuring photo series *Liminal Traces* and video), Villa Väinölä / Nelimarkka Museum (Regional Art Museum of South Ostrobothnia), Alajärvi, Finland

RED UTOPIA (photographs and video), Art Window, Vienna, Austria

2023 *PARAGRAPH 24* (performance), SomoS Arts, Berlin, Germany

2022 *ZERO LINE* (performance), Nelimarkka Museum (Nelimarkka-museo), Alajärvi, Finland

THE VYSHYVANKA (performance), Les Rencontres d'Arles, Arles, France

The Last 4 Days of February: Diary (photographs), Gallery Huit, Arles, France

TAPED (performance) & *The Last 4 Days of February: Diary* (documentary), Atelier 11, L'AiR Arts, Paris, France

Three Years of Black (photographs), Mindspot Space, Odesa, Ukraine

2021 *Theater Reportage* (photographs), Odesa Academic Musical Comedy Theater, Odesa, Ukraine

You Are Welcome to My Room Upstairs (site-specific photo exhibition), Artist's apartment, Odesa, Ukraine

2014 *INDIA: PHOTOGRAPHY RESEARCH* (photographs), Lakshman Jhula, Rishikesh, India

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS & SCREENINGS

2025 *FROSTY GREY* (photo series), *The 11th Annual Autumnal Exhibition*, Ideal Glass Studios, New York, USA

NO NAME (performance video), *FEMNOISE*, Vitalnya.community, Odesa, Ukraine

2024 *Paragraph 24* (video), *Erinnerungen an die Zukunft*, Schloss Schönhausen Museum, Berlin, Germany

THE VYSHYVANKA & *ZERO LINE* (performances), *Woman in a Time of War*, Helsinki, Finland

ASPHALT AS BASE. CONTEXTS (photo series), Ideal Glass Studios, New York, USA

Paragraph 24 (video screening), *PARIS LIT UP Magazine* Issue #11 Launch, Paris, France

2023 *ZERO LINE* (performance), Myymälä2 Gallery, Helsinki, Finland

2022	*RED UTOPIA* (performance), *not-residency-but-art*, Munich, Germany
	Identities: Aspects of Ukrainian Contemporary Photography, Apollonia European Art Exchanges, Strasbourg, France
	The Last 4 Days of February: Diary, PhotoDoc, Paris, France
	The Last 4 Days of February: Diary (documentary), *TALK TO ME* Online Festival, Institute of Contemporary Art Greece, Athens, Greece
2021	*ON THE BORDER: IDENTITIE(S) GNNR*, Art Space K85, Athens, Greece
	ON THE BORDER: IDENTITIE(S) GNNR, Museum of Odesa Modern Art, Odesa, Ukraine
2020	*NO NAME* (performance), *15.12*, Technology Group, Odesa, Ukraine
	FAT (performance), *Food Intension*, Green Theatre, Odesa, Ukraine
	DREAM (performance), *The Yard*, Museum of Odesa Modern Art, Odesa, Ukraine
2018	*63 METERS* (performance), *Noise Art Festival*, Agarti Art Space, Odesa, Ukraine

ARTIST RESIDENCIES

2026	Artist Residency, Villa Väinölä / Nelimarkka Museum, Alajärvi, Finland
2023–2024	Long-Term Artist Residency (13 months), SomoS Arts, Berlin, Germany
2022	HIAP (Helsinki International Artist Programme) Residency, Nelimarkka Museum (Nelimarkka-museo), Alajärvi, Finland
	Artist Residency, *NOT RESIDENCY*, Munich, Germany
	Artist Residency, Gallery Huit, Arles, France
	Artist Residency, L'AiR Arts, Paris, France

CONFERENCES, SYMPOSIA & SELECTED PROJECTS

2025	Seminar Participant, *War-ning Art: Resilience, Response, and Artistic Knowledge in Finland*, Helsinki, Finland
	Performance Presentation (*Eulogy*) & Speaker, *Heidelberg Workshop on Human Rights Education and Solidarity in Uncertain Times*, Mark Twain Center for Transatlantic Relations, Heidelberg, Germany
	Conference Speaker / Participant, *Human Rights in the Balance: Safeguarding Social and Environmental Sustainability*, Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies (FRIAS), Freiburg, Germany
2023–2025	Artistic Collaboration, *The LOOM* (documentary film project), USA / Germany
2022	Roundtable Speaker, *Refugees: Geopolitics of Exile*, Les Rencontres d'Arles, Arles, France
2020	Invited Performer, *Landscape Gardening Sculpture* (Solo Exhibition by Oleksandr Shevchuk), Museum of Odesa Modern Art, Odesa, Ukraine

EDUCATION

2021	Contemporary Art System Program, SKVOT, Kyiv, Ukraine
2020	Performance Art Summer School, Museum of Odesa Modern Art, Odesa, Ukraine
2018	Graphic Design Program, Projector Creative & Tech Online Institute, Odesa, Ukraine
2013	Photojournalism Program, VM Photo School, Kyiv, Ukraine
2005	Master of Law (Jurisprudence, Criminal and Civil Law), Odesa National Academy of Law, Odesa, Ukraine

SELECTED PRESS & PUBLICATIONS

2023

9 Lives Magazine (France) — Carte blanche à Julia De Bierre: Maryna Semenkova – Les 4 derniers jours de février : Le journal

2022

Le Monde (France) — Claire Guillot, *« Photo : aux Rencontres d'Arles, la foule de l'avant-Covid est de retour »* (review featuring Maryna Semenkova's performance at Les Papeteries Étienne), July 11, 2022

Süddeutsche Zeitung (Germany) — Ukrainische Kunst: Residenzprogramm und Ausstellung in München

PARIS LIT UP (France) — Spotlight: Atelier 11 & L'AiR Arts Residency

USI Online (Ukraine) — Performance Dedicated to the War in Ukraine at Modigliani's Historic Studio in Paris

2021

Priboi News (Ukraine) — Performance on Identity at the Museum of Odesa Modern Art (MOMA)

2020

Muse (Ukraine) — Five Performances at the Museum of Odesa Modern Art

Muse (Ukraine) — Performance Art Summer School Showcase at MOMA Odesa

USI Online (Ukraine) — Open-Air Performances at the Museum of Odesa Modern Art Courtyard