

An exhibition of Ukrainian contemporary art, that explores fragility.



Opened October 25, 2022

This exhibition of Ukrainian contemporary art explores fragility. This is the feeling which every Ukrainian is experiencing now. Also, this is the inner property of the surrounding world.

The virtual space of the exhibition is a fusion of Pantheon, a bunker and a spaceship.

DANYLCHUK



KARINA DANYLCHUK **Nuclear**

«Fragility depicts our way of life. It's our bubble of comfort and certainty which can explode every moment. Someone outside or inside the bubble can break it with unexpectable words or actions. Even when you can't control the outside world, you have a responsibility for your own moves. However, the situation is different when someone fiercely destroys your life. An expectation and dream debris, debris of your stuff and home. All things that seemed stable, permanent, significant become fragile in just one second. In my opinion, the exhibition doesn't only show it, but also rethink it. Wealth, things, and everyday life are fragile and vulnerable. And at the same time relationships between people, our unity, and psychological health are more significant.

My artwork is about the fragility of material. The bird frightened by an explosion at night reminds me of myself on 24 February at 4 a.m. Instantly, without any warning or preparation, its comfortable world changes. The frightened bird rises from the steppes of the Mykolaiv region, in a moment destroying the cobwebs hangin on September thistles. Now it's the bird who destroys the worlds of other animals, provoking a chain reaction.»

ANDRII KOVALYK

«For myself, I understand the topic "Fragility" as an opportunity to disrupt the peace of mind and vital balance at the personal level of a specific person, and at the level of the entire planet by certain reckless actions.

In such a state, people and whole nations can show both their best and their worst features. Today's fragile situation in the world shows who is who. Our Ukrainian people have shown how strong and indomitable they can be when united!»



ANDRII KOVALYK **Unbreakable's**



ANDRII KOVALYK
Spring



KOVALENKO

«I think that behind every work of an artist is their body, their personality. Someone has a more stable spirit and nature, someone breaks after every unbearable event. "Fragility" is about a human, about their nature, about their possible injury. Not every person is able to clearly express their feelings. In society, we are used to keeping our problems to ourselves. We are afraid to seem fragile to the world, because this is a taboo and a "weakness". I think that fragility is given to all of us. No matter how strong you stand on your feet, do not lower your head, we can all fall and break like tempered glass.»



OLENA KOVALENKO
WAR IN THE NECK

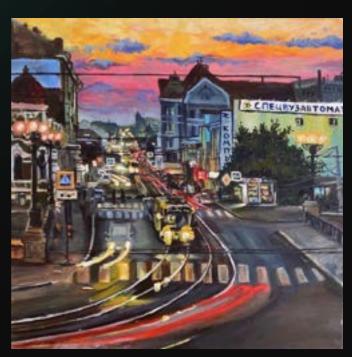
VALERIIA PRASOL

«I perceive fragility as my life. All your plans and thoughts on life are fragile. They can change in an instant. How fragile is our planet is, our health, our love - all these things must be protected!

Enjoy life and the people around you, and appreciate all the things, because all is fragile and you can lose everything in an instant. Fragility is loss.»



VALERIIA PRASOL Hold me



VALERIIA PRASOL **Kharkiv**

KOVALCHUK

«I associate fragility with humans and their psyche. The war has reminded us of this in a very dreadful way. In any life situation, the human psyche is the first to react. And especially now, when the country is at war, our souls are wounded by the terrible events that happen every day.»

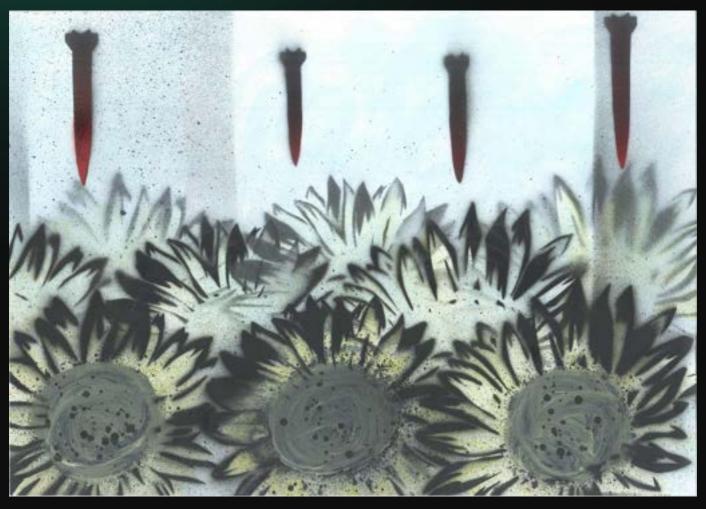


VICTORIA KOVALCHUK
Pain



«With the beginning of the war, we all realized how fragile our lives are and how fragile the whole world around us is. Every day, russian missiles destroy houses and cities. All dreams and plans can disappear in an instant.

A single second is enough to take away everything we have, everything we valued and loved.»



YANA MAKUKH

The fragility of the world

VIRTUAL EXHIBITION FRAGILITY





ANASTASIA KLYMENKO

«For me, fragility is about hypersensitivity. As a child, I was very much like that. I reacted to sounds, smells, other people's moods, cried a lot.

As I grew older, I began to think about my sensitivity as some kind of flaw, because it was really difficult to live like that. Any moment you can break down, because you are fragile. You need to rest from all irritants, otherwise you can get physically sick. After I went to therapy, I began to cherish my fragility as a special gift that allowed me to experience the world and everything in it and express it through art. Emphatize people. I learned when to switch off and go back into my shell for the rest. Now, during the war, it is difficult for me because I can't completely isolate myself from negative emotions. On the one hand, the feeling of danger does not go away. On the other hand, I am gradually learning to function in a different way and take care of my physical shell.

These historical times bring me back to important existential concepts such as death, love, loneliness. There are a lot of events and feelings which make every person feel fragile and insecure, especially in such stormy times. What is there, beyond the border? Will we meet everyone we loved? Did we really live? How to live in the moment when you don't know what will happen tomorrow? Will love withstand the new challenges and will the old traumas come back? Will you walk the same path together? Are we really lonely even among people and no one understands us?

A Polaroid photo with all collages symbolizes the bright moment of life, the most important one, the strongest emotion, the flight of the soul. In such a moment we open up to others and to the world, we are real. We are strong, but vulnerable and fragile at the same time. We are the real ones. The cat is considered to be a guide to another world. The boy in the girl's head in the work about loneliness is her inner self, with whom she can always talk. The raven is often a companion of gods and heroes on their journeys, so I decided to add it here as well. It is also often identified with death, and in death and birth we are always alone.»



ANASTASIA KLYMENKO



ANASTASIA KLYMENKO Loneliness



ANASTASIA KLYMENKO **Death**

NIKORCHUK

«Для мене тема "Крихкість" це про те, що легко може бути знищено, або пошкоджено і раніше це могли бути якісь речі здебільшого матеріального характеру, але зараз, проживши півроку у стані війни розумієш, що і наші життя теж крихкі як фарфорові вази, які можливо в мить розбити і вже ніколи не зібрати до купи.»



VLAD NIKORCHUK **A breach in space**



VLAD NIKORCHUK Border

ALINA PONOMARENKO

«Fragility is on the edge.

This is how I feel about this image now.

Fragility is a lack of support, the beginning of a struggle

Fragility is vulnerability and embarrassment
Fragility is black and white, penetration of one into the other
Fragility is small fractions of the whole

Fragility is something that loses its strength.»



ALINA PONOMARENKO Fragility

TRERIAKEVYCH



OLESIA TRERIAKEVYCH Renewal

«A lot of unpleasant, terrible things happen to us in life, which cause pain, rejection, sadness, grief. All these things leave are the cracks on ourselves. We mend these cracks the way we can. Sometimes we try to hide them, sometimes we show them off.

Can we make them our possession like the Gold cracks created in Japanese art Kintsugi? After all, this gold shows how we became ourselves, how we lived our lives, how we learned our lessons. This is our golden pattern of experience and knowledge.»

VAINOVA VAINOVA



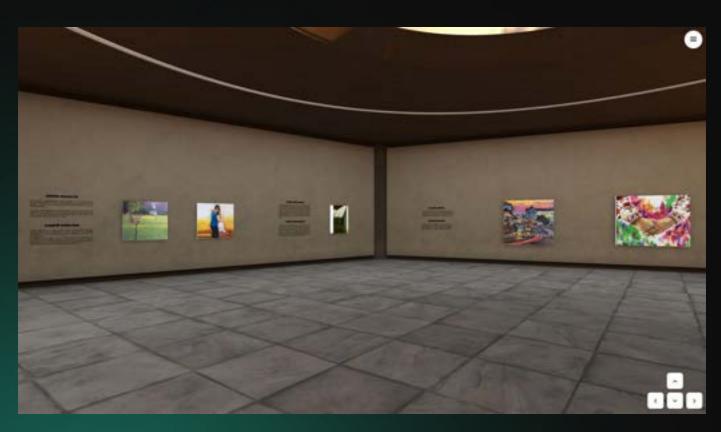
ALEX VAINOVA

Gifts of nature: apple

«Fragility. Fragile world, fragile nature, fragile human life and soul - this is what comes to my mind thinking about fragility. It's so easy to break it all down and crush it. One can step on a flower and easily crush the petals. When hail falls, it damages not only the petals, but also the leaves. One can cut down the forest and change the ecosystem. A fragile world can change and collapse in a moment, and Ukrainians know this firsthand. Life is fragile. One shot and you are not physically there, and the loss of loved ones breaks the soul, as well as betrayal.

In my works I show the beauty of nature and the fact that it is subject to the influence of external factors. The apple begins to rot quickly when it falls from the tree and hits the ground. A worm crawls into a ripened, sweet pear, and the pear deteriorates. A big mushroom which is beautiful from the outside, can be eaten by a slug. This is the way nature is, it is beautiful and should be appreciated.»

VIRTUAL EXHIBITION FRAGILITY







KOLIESNIK

«Too often I use the word "fragility" to describe my current reality. The fragility of souls, bodies, and our homes. The list can be continued, but I will focus on these and call them unions.

It is they who make Fragility so dangerous, because they are manipulated. Before everything cracks at the seams, the days are full of hope. Alliances are about strength until the moment of fragility.»



OLENA KOLIESNIK

The city of my love



OLENA KOLIESNIK Life. With hope

TATIANA

«Крихкість, властивість матеріалу руйнуватися... Що довкола останнім часом виявилося непідвладним руйнуванню? Врода молодої дівчини під плином часу зникає. І раптом відкрилася цінність цього природного процесу. Бо набагато гірше коли її вроду і навіть життя раніше відведеного сроку забирає ракета-вбивця чи зовсім не для неї призначена куля. Я не могла подумати, що пшеничні поля можуть бути спалені трохи божевільним сусідом моєї країни. Волошки в полі витоптані російськими берцями. А в світовому устрої утвориться все більше тріщин.»



TATIANA RAK
Ukrainian girl with flowers

VINOGRADOVA

«Art for me is a path, the only way to be heard. It's my way of comprehending the experience and getting closer to something that always attracted me from my early years.

I was born and spent 20 years of my life in Ukraine. Since my youth, I discovered Ukrainian culture in its various manifestations. It gave me a sense of taste and aesthetics, as I feel it and see it now. It has been three years since I moved to Switzerland. It was that kind of experience that prompted me to return to my roots, delve even deeper into the study of our cultural heritage, and pass it on to others. It made me value the peculiarities of history, traditions, and culture. These things are very fragile. If we don't recreate it in our memory now, then who will pass it on to future generations?

With my paintings, I convey the greatness and power of Ukrainian words, songs, and deep and powerful vibrations of the Voice. The very important questions are: is it even needed to preserve and cherish our cultural heritage, and our roots and identify ourselves as bearers of a certain culture? Is it important to distinguish "yours" from "someone else's", and when adopting "someone else's", do it carefully and be aware of it? Should we draw conclusions from history? To be honest, back in time, I studied history as a fairy tale, as if it had nothing to do with reality. I studied in vain. Through Ukrainian songs, and the coloring of Ukrainian traditional clothing, ornaments, and accessories, it is possible to reflect our powerful, long-suffering culture as fully as possible. It is invincible, inexhaustible, and multifaceted.

I am interested in watching and learning how it transforms into new forms and reveals itself in a new way in contemporary conditions.

This theme becomes especially painful, when what seemed to belong to you by default, suddenly finds itself in an existential threat. The need to recreate and understand "our own", especially in such difficult times for Ukraine, is becoming more and more acute. That is why my paintings sing, sometimes with fragile sonorous voices and sometimes with the ones coming from the chest.»



VINOGRADOVA



RYMMA VINOGRADOVA **Wedding**



RYMMA VINOGRADOVA Terra

EMELYANOVA



OLENA EMELYANOVA **Resistance**

«The concept of fragility is very relative. On the one hand, we understand fragility as the ability to be easily destroyed. Very often the things which look from the outside as very rigid and are widely accepted, are easily destroyed under the influence of simple events or circumstances. On the other hand, what we thought was delicate, fragile, and almost airy, turns out to be strong, powerful, reinforced concrete even in the most difficult situations.

My work "Resistance" is precisely about this relativity of fragility. The elegant fragile bird feels calm and organic in the stormy vortex on the edge of the cliff. And us, looking at him from the window of a strong house, worry about events that may never happen.

SVITLANA NISMEIKO



SVITLANA NISMEIKO
Scented tea

«Fragility. In fact, the most fragile thing in this world is a human. Cruelty around us, natural and other disasters make the mental and emotional state of the majority of people similar to a thin film that crumbles into many small and sharp particles with just one touch. People with no hope for the best are falling apart from the oversaturation of alarming news, increasing evil in the world, and total indifference. They become "spiky" and prickly, even though they are already empty inside.

My two paintings depict two opposites. One shows a child who still lives a carefree childhood and is at the same time strong, not crippled by life and fragile, because he is, after all, still a naive child. Another shows an adult man whose appearance does not match modern beauty standards, and this is his fragility. He catches people's judgmental, mocking glances and falls apart every day.»



KRISTINA KOLESNIKOVA

«We live in a time of change, a time in which everything has changed and can change in the blink of an eye. The life we have and what we will have is a fragile line, our present and our future. Protecting our inner peace, the memory of our ancestors, the history of the family, the history of the country, to pass it on to our children.

It seems so little and so much at the same time. But this is something that no one can take away from us, that little grain that each of us has, its fragility is as priceless as its value. The whole world can rest on it. They can make fun of us, they can take away our house. But they will not take away our thoughts, our skills. Ourselves.»



KRISTINA KOLESNIKOVA **Homeland**

HLIADCHENKO

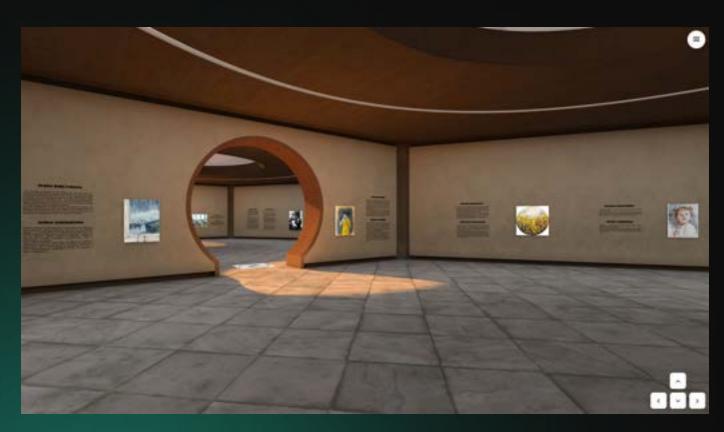
«Fragility is subtlety, tenderness, weakness. It forces us to be more attentive and kind.

For me, harshness is associated with children, so in order to not harm them, even just with a word, you have to be softer, sincere, and bright like them. I try to capture this subtle feature in my portraits.»



TETIANA HLIADCHENKO **Mia**

VIRTUAL EXHIBITION FRAGILITY







ANASTASIIA HUSEINOVA

«Fragility is what makes our world valuable.

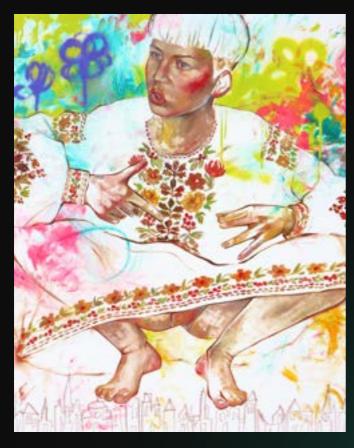
Only when there is a possibility of losing something, you start to truly appreciate it. No matter whether it is a thing, a relationship, a person, or even one's life.

The fragility of this world gives us excitement, interest and desire to develop ourselves. Fragility makes a person stronger, braver, more confident and more evolved. It makes you overcome the fear that everything can collapse in a moment.

Next day may not come, and this thought forces you to move on and create something new.

Treat day may not come, and this thought forces you to move on and create semething new.

My paintings depict the fragility of human life, past, future, present, plans, dreams, and one's perception of the world.»



ANASTASIIA HUSEINOVA **Migrant**



ANASTASIIA HUSEINOVA
The war

OVCHARENKO

«The word "fragility" runs like a red ribbon through my works. I paint flowers that are the embodiment of tenderness and fragility. But they have always been for me a symbol of boundless lust for life, resilience, hope and strength.

We are the same – fragile, but strong. We are able to pick ourselves up from the wreckage and blossom with new strength.»



OLENA OVCHARENKO

Motanka Doll

KALINCEVA

«Every person is looking for support and tries to create a stable and secure life. We often trust physical things and look for support outside of ourselves. But what is really our strength? What is an integral part of us? What stays with us forever?

The fragility of physical things, the fragility of relationships, and the fragility of every moment break our life. And a person themselves becomes very fragile in their reliance on the outside world. While losing every moment and being reborn in it, we gain a connection with a deep powerful source that endlessly nourishes our life, creating new spaces of self-expression.»



JULIA KALINCEVA Regeneration



TITIYEVSKA

«Today my country is on fire. Our cities are bombarded with rockets, crowds of Russian soldiers and tanks have come to kill us. Rockets terrorize our relatives and friends, they kill our children, destroy everything we loved.

And the whole planet is frozen now like a white dandelion, which can be destroyed by the slightest fluctuation. The world is hovering now like a tightrope walker balancing with a heavy load on a tightrope. One wrong move, one wrong step, and the world will fall into the abyss. And only our Ukrainian spirit, our community keeps the World alive so that it does not shatter into thousands of small pieces.

That's what I mean by "fragility".

Therefore, now my paintings are somehow dedicated to Ukraine, our struggle, our defenders. With the help of my works, I want to convey to the whole world that Ukraine first of all wants peace, but we are ready to fight for peace and freedom till the last breath.

Glory to Ukraine!»



OLENA TITIYEVSKA **Bucha**



OLENA TITIYEVSKA **February 24.**

ANASTASIIA KOVALOVA

«Fragility is the ephemeral existence of something. It could be glass, nature, or even stone. Almost everything that we can see and touch, we can break. As for me, there also exists a fragility that we cannot notice, but we can feel. One can find it in time, water, soul, words, dream, shapes, and forms. I'm trying to capture all these things in my paintings.

Everything around you is fragile. Fragility which you can't see in the physical world, you can rather feel in the paintings. »



ANASTASIIA KOVALOVA
Choose your way

SOLKAZIAN



YULIA SOLKAZIAN **Fragility**

«I am experiencing the war for the third time, first as a 9-year-old child in 1992 in Abkhazia, then in 2014 in Donbas and now since February 24, 2022 in Kyiv.

I concluded for myself that it is necessary to keep the light in the soul no matter what, that there is a way out, there is goodness, and even grass can grow out of stone. The world is fragile and beautiful at the same time. And I see it best in plants. Sunflowers and wheat have been symbols of Ukraine for me since childhood, its courage and endurance, especially after the stories of my grandmother who survived the Holodomor. Fragility and strength of growth and new life at the same time.

And most importantly, I just know and believe that the light will definitely win.»



YULIA SOLKAZIAN
The light will win



SAVICH

«Fragility.

I like to discover features which flowers and people have in common. How fragile and delicate the flowers are! They make you want to touch them very carefully not to break the petals. Human life is also very fragile, and there is great value in that! Enjoy every minute, contemplate the beauty of blossoming, follow your calling. And there is strength in fragility: it motivates to appreciate life and your loved ones, and encourages to move forward.»



KATRIN SAVICH

Modesty

IRA

POPOVYCH-BABIUK

«The theme of the exhibition "Fragility" is now, more than ever, close to every Ukrainian. This is the fragility and instability of the life which we used to rely on before the war. However our nation is strong and courageous and indomitable!

I drew this little porcelain ballerina during peacetime. I practiced ballet as a child and I know what enormous strength and willpower a fragile girl needs to become a ballerina!

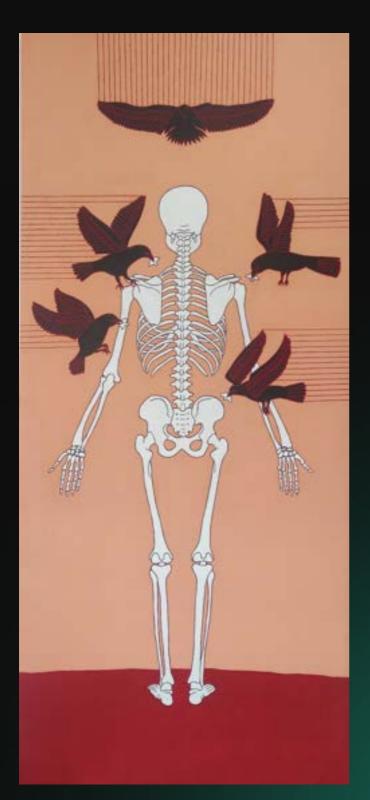
And now she is a symbol of strength and fragility for me.»



IRA POPOVYCH-BABIUK

Breakable

CLENA KAYINSKA



OLENA KAYINSKA

Blessed is who came, who left, and who stayed

«To live, a person must be exceptionally cautious and well-armed. She needs to promptly fight off the attacks, run fast to get on time, and struggle desperately, to take over a piece of land under the sun. There is no place for self-pity and weakness – one should be strong enough to survive.

The other side of a person is carefully camouflaged and hidden in everyday battle. This side has remained from deep childhood, but it didn't turn into a rudiment. This side has come deeper, into another dimension, unconscious space, behind the line.

You can see it, and breathe it, but very carefully, not to frighten it away. It can be perceived beyond reality. It's undoubtedly beautiful. It's fragility.

Fragility begins where there is no need to fight. To uncover your inner fragility, you should have a possibility to do this. You should not be afraid to do it. You need to be sure nobody would assault you at this moment.

To love and demonstrate tenderness, you should unveil your fragility. If you want the other person to reveal you their fragility, you should touch them carefully and gently.

Fragility is revealed when we sleep. We are vulnerable and natural when we sleep. When we sleep, we unconsciously caress and hug each other.»

OLENA KAYINSKA



OLENA KAYINSKA Forgetting room

OKSANA MYZUKA

«Fragility has always been perceived by me as vulnerability. But now I understand that this is an incredibly important stage that precedes global transformation.

The shell of the egg cracks inside out so that the chick can see the world.

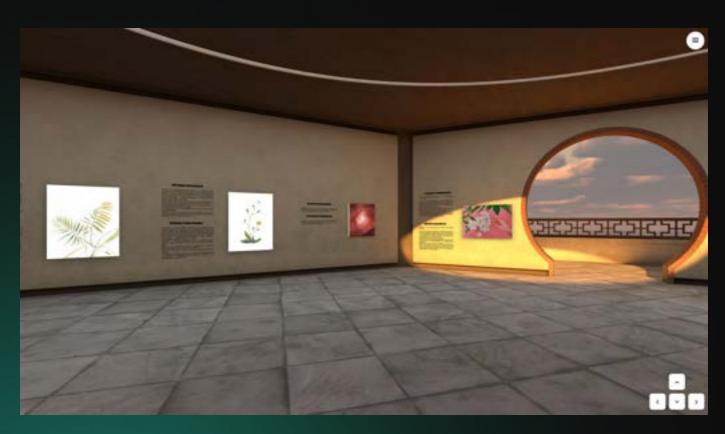
Ukraine is destroying its image as a vulnerable, enslaved country, full of suffering. Now she is starting her life to spread her wings in the future.»



OKSANA MYZUKA

Overcoming Ukraine's past

VIRTUAL EXHIBITION FRAGILITY







TETIANA KOVALOVA

«Fragility is a multifaceted concept that can be applied to many things both literally and metaphorically. For me, as a botanical artist, fragility is primarily associated with plants that very often disappear from the wild due to human activity, such as the plant depicted in one of my paintings – "Snowdonia Hawkweed" – which is one of the fifteen rarest plants in the world. Petals, leaves, stems and roots that die very quickly without water and soil or because of someone's careless movements are fragile.

Peace, which can be destroyed in an instant by an invader who wants to satisfy his selfish ambitions, is fragile.

The whole world, which can disappear due to the game with nuclear weapons, is fragile. Therefore, everything must be treated very carefully and sensibly so as not to destroy by careless actions everything that was created and developed over the years and centuries.»



TETIANA KOVALOVA

Snowdonia Hawkweed

NATALIIA KUPCHYK

«Радіти кожному новому дню, творити та любити— ось що для мене важливо! Крихкість цього світу ми бачимо кожен день— в моїй Україні триває війна. Але не зважаючи ні на що я багато малюю. Я малюю— значить я живу! Я щаслива!

Я люблю шукати сенси в тінях, які відкидають рослини. Інтерпретуючи їх по-своєму, я проживаю кожен образ і малюю так, як бачить моє серце. Мої роботи різні, але вони наповнені сенсем. Відходячи від звичного погляду на природу, я бачу квіти в тінях від листя і навпаки. Мої роботи експресивні, але водночас сповнені любов'ю та спокоєм. Акварель як матеріал заворожує своєю тонкістю. Все відбувається на рівні інтуїції і я знаю, що це мій матеріал.

Я і акварель — єдине ціле.»



NATALIIA KUPCHYK **Two**

KULIKOVSKA KULIKOVSKA

«Крихкість— це людина і її життя, це природа в кожній квітці і в кожній пелюстці, це все, з чого складається світ і завдяки чому він існує. Світ існує завдяки своїй крихкості.»



NATALIIA KULIKOVSKA Color empathy. Red

YEVGENIYA YEREMEICHUK

«Fragility is something that's easy to break, it is a fragility that needs to be protected... In my work, I depicted Fragility in the form of my favorite exotic frangipani flowers, and my daughter's thin hand reaching for the flowers... What will happen next? Will she pluck them and then throw them away or will she hold them close to her, enjoying their sweet aroma and letting them grow further?...

The girl's soul, like these flowers, is also fragile...

I teach my children not to pluck flowers for a moment's pleasure. Fragility is not a reason to break, it is a reason to protect.

Color symbolism helped me convey my ideas and feelings. White is the color of purity and innocence. Pink is the color of Romance and Tenderness; the color of Dream and Hope - which are also fragile, but this is the very reason to treat them more carefully.»



YEVGENIYA YEREMEICHUK I'm just as fragile

VIRTUAL EXHIBITION FRAGILITY



CURATOR:

Delnara EL

ARTISTS:

Karina Danylchuk

Andrii Kovalyk

Olena Kovalenko

Valeriia Prasol

Victoria Kovalchuk

Yana Makukh

Anastasia Klymenko

Vlad Nikorchuk

Alina Ponomarenko

Olesia Tretiakevych

Alex Vainova

Olena Koliesnik

Tatiana Rak

Rymma Vinogradova

Olena Emelyanova

Svitlana Nismeiko

Tetiana Hliadchenko

Anastasiia Huseinova

Olena Ovcharenko

Julia Kalinceva

Olena Titiyevska

Anastasiia Kovalova

Yulia Solkazian

Katrin Savich

Ira Popovych-Babiuk

Olena Kayinska

Oksana Myzuka

Tetiana Ko<u>valova</u>

Nataliia Kupchyk

Nataliia Kulikovska

Yevgeniya Yeremeichuk

Kristina Kolesnikova

METASENSES Virtual gallery of Ukrainian contemporary art

