

Almagul Menlibayeva

b. 1969, Almaty, Kazakhstan

“Revisiting the past makes it possible to understand the present and to project the future. If your past has been constructed by others, the ability to make choices or effect change becomes limited”.

Almagul Menlibayeva is a multidisciplinary artist whose research-driven practice spans site-specific multi-channel video installation, photography, digital media, textile, performance, and immersive environments. Born in Almaty, Kazakhstan, and working between Kazakhstan and Germany, she examines the intersections of nomadic culture, decolonial thought, Soviet modernity, post-socialist transformation, ecology, gender, and Eurasian mythologies. Through a combination of field research, documentary strategies, indigenous cosmologies, and contemporary technologies, she explores how histories, identities, and cultural memories are continuously reshaped across Central Asia and the wider Eurasian region.

Emerging amid the collapse of the Soviet Union, Menlibayeva was part of the ‘Green Triangle’, an underground collective of artists, poets, philosophers, and alternative thinkers active in late-Soviet Kazakhstan. Working outside official narratives during a period of profound social and political transformation, the group fostered an independent approach to creative expression and embraced experimental forms of artistic production. Her experience with the ‘Green Triangle’ contributed to the formation of an autonomous perspective that continues to inform the artist’s examination of memory, identity, and the enduring effects of colonial and postcolonial systems across Central Asia.

From the outset, education represented for Menlibayeva a conscious social and political stance. In the late 1980s, Almagul Menlibayeva enrolled at the Kazakh National Academy of Arts, choosing the Department of Decorative and Applied Arts with a deliberate focus on textile practices. At the time, painting and sculpture remained heavily regulated by Soviet ideological imperatives, particularly in the aftermath of the December 1986 protests and subsequent state repression of students and intellectuals.

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Textile offered the artist a way to step beyond a colonial system of thought and reconnect with forms of knowledge rooted in nomadic Kazakh culture and its material languages. Felt, ornament, embroidery, and their historical migrations across Central Asia, Siberia, Iran, and India became central to her early investigations. Rejecting the decorative categorization imposed upon these forms under socialist discourse, Menlibayeva approached textile as an independent system of cultural codes – a language through which ritual, movement, and philosophies of belonging survived across generations.

This line of inquiry remains essential throughout her practice. In Menlibayeva's work, textile functions simultaneously as material, image, archive, and a means of transmitting cultural knowledge. The nomadic way of life itself remains a significant point of reference, shaping the artist's understanding of cultural continuity. Her recent 'Cyber Textile' works extend these investigations into digital environments, approaching artificial intelligence as a contemporary means of generating and circulating symbolic systems. Through her works, ancestral visual codes reappear in new contemporary contexts, as ornament and textile are reinterpreted through data, interfaces, and digital forms of representation.

Underlying the artist's research is a sustained re-reading of Central Asia beyond inherited geopolitical narratives. Menlibayeva's projects frequently examine Soviet modernization, collectivization, ecological catastrophe, famine, forced displacement, nuclear histories, and the ideological transformation of the region from a historical center into a perceived periphery. Drawing connections between the Caspian region, Siberia, the Silk Roads, the Caucasus, and the Middle East, the artist resists simplified definitions of Central Asia as a singular or static geography. Instead, her works construct fluid cartographies shaped by empires, trade dynamics, ecological shifts, and cultural exchange.

Fieldwork and archival inquiry are important components of Menlibayeva's methodology. She has worked extensively across Kazakhstan, particularly in regions influenced by Soviet industrialization, environmental extraction, and the Gulag system. Her long-term projects connected to Karaganda and Karlag revisit the histories of political repression, forced deportation, and multicultural displacement that reshaped the region throughout the twentieth century.

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Collaborating with local communities, historians, researchers, and filmmakers, she combines documentary material, staged cinematic imagery, immersive sound, and textile structures to create layered installations where historical and speculative narratives coexist.

Women stand at the forefront of her narratives across these landscapes. Menlibayeva consistently foregrounds Kazakh and Central Asian women as carriers of memory. Her female protagonists move through post-Soviet ruins, mythological terrains, sites of ritual significance, places of worship, and digital contexts. In works such as 'My Silk Road to You', her women emerge as agents through whom cultural knowledge survives outside official commentary. "Without women," the artist notes, "the knowledge connected to these places would not have survived".

For Menlibayeva, the Silk Road itself functions through its multiplicity of exchanges and overlapping trajectories. Within her work, the concept expands beyond trade into broader histories of industrial and ideological transitions.

Recent projects have further expanded her practice into broader transregional dialogues, particularly through collaborations engaging the Caspian region and its contemporary political, environmental, and infrastructural dynamics. Across these works, Menlibayeva continues to explore how suppressed histories survive within visual culture, how ancestral knowledge adapts to technological change, and how Central Asia may be reimagined beyond imposed narratives.

Menlibayeva represented Kazakhstan at the 52nd Venice Biennale and has exhibited internationally at institutions and exhibitions including the Centre Pompidou, the Stedelijk Museum, the Gwangju Biennale, the Kochi-Muziris Biennale, and the Moscow Biennale, among others. In 2017, she was awarded the Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the French Ministry of Culture. Across more than three decades of practice, she has emerged as one of the leading artistic voices examining the historical, cultural, and geopolitical complexities of Central Asia.

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EDUCATION

- 1987-92 Kazakh National Academy of Arts, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- 1986-87 Painting Studio of Sergei Maslov, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- 1985-86 Private studies with Gani Bayanov, Almaty, Kazakhstan

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 "Transoxiana Dreams" / De Groen Fine Art Collection, Arnhem, Netherlands
- 2019 "GENIUS LOCI of Central Asia" / Andakulova Gallery, Dubai, UAE
- 2018 "#98 Almagul Menlibayeva" / Cinema Babylon, Berlin, Germany
- 2018 "Green, Yellow, Red, and Green Again" / TSE Art Destination, Astana, Kazakhstan
- 2016 "Transformation" / Grand Palais, Paris, France
- 2015 "Transoxiana Dreams" / Videozone, Ludwig Forum, Aachen, Germany
- 2013 "Empire of Memory" / Ethnographic Museum, Warsaw, Poland
- 2013 "An Ode to the Wastelands and Gulags" / Kunstraum Innsbruck, Austria
- 2012 "Daughters of Turan" / Casal Solleric, Palma de Mallorca, Spain

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- 2011 "Exodus" / Nassauischer Kunstverein Wiesbaden, Wiesbaden, Germany
- 2011 "Les rêves perdus d'Aral" / Galerie Albert Benamou, Paris, France
- 2011 "Transoxiana Dreams" / Priska C. Juschka Fine Art, New York, USA
- 2011 "My Silk Road to You" / Tengri-Umai Gallery, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- 2010 "Lonely at the Top" / M HKA Museum of Contemporary Art, Antwerp, Belgium
- 2010 "Daughters of Turan" / Priska C. Juschka Fine Art, New York, USA
- 2009 "Exodus" / Tengri-Umai Gallery, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- 2009 "Kurban" / Priska C. Juschka Fine Art, New York, USA
- 2008 "Kissing Totems" / Priska C. Juschka Fine Art, New York, USA
- 2007 "On the Road" / Galerie Davide Gallo, Berlin, Germany

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 Thailand Biennale Chiang Rai 2023: The Open World, Chiang Rai, Thailand
- 2023 Dietmar Seitz: Das Kasachstan-Projekt, Freiburg University Library, Freiburg, Germany
- 2023 "Altar of the East: Nuclear Testimony" / Zwetajewa Center, University of Freiburg, Germany

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- 2023 "Kuzeu Displaced Identity" / Delphi Space, Freiburg, Germany
- 2023 Montevideo Biennale, Montevideo, Uruguay
- 2023 "As Though We Hid the Sun in a Sea of Stories" / HKW, Berlin, Germany
- 2023 Asia Now 9th Edition, Monnaie de Paris, Paris, France
- 2023 "Angry Tulips" / IArt Gallery, Tbilisi, Georgia
- 2023 DMZ Documentary Film Festival, South Korea
- 2023 "One Belt. Many Roads" / WUK, Vienna, Austria
- 2023 "Costume and Collapse" / Slavs and Tatars, Berlin, Germany
- 2023 New Visions Triennale for Photography and New Media, Henie Onstad Kunstsenter, Norway
- 2023 Oberhausen International Short Film Festival, Oberhausen, Germany
- 2023 "Women Defining Women in Contemporary Art of the Middle East and Beyond" / LACMA, Los Angeles, USA
- 2023 Collection MOMENTUM, New Mexico, USA
- 2023 "The Fog of War" / Almaty, Kazakhstan
- 2023 "The Fog of War" / Tbilisi, Georgia
- 2023 "The Fog of War" / Baku, Azerbaijan
- 2023 "Video Club" / Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2023 Sharjah Biennial 15, Sharjah Art Foundation, UAE

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- 2023 Guangzhou Triennial, Guangdong Museum of Art, China
- 2022 Asian Art Biennale Bangladesh, Dhaka, Bangladesh
- 2022 "The Thing Is" / Panke Gallery, Berlin, Germany
- 2022 "Jaou 2022" / Kamel Lazaar Foundation, Tunis, Tunisia
- 2022 "Fog of War" / Goethe-Zentrum Baku, Azerbaijan
- 2022 "The Other Kabul: Remains of the Garden" / Kunstmuseum Thun, Switzerland
- 2022 Survival Kit 13, Latvian Centre for Contemporary Art, Riga, Latvia
- 2022 Mardin Biennale 5, Mardin, Turkey
- 2022 "One Belt. Many Roads" / Austria
- 2022 "Totems of Central Asia" / Andakulova Gallery, Dubai, UAE
- 2022 "Life In-Betweens" / Taiwan Ministry of Culture, Taipei, Taiwan
- 2021 "Taking Flight" / MOMENTUM, Berlin, Germany
- 2021 "ART from ELSEWHERE" / Seoul International ALT Cinema & Media Festival, Seoul, South Korea
- 2021 "The Parallel Worlds" / Samarkand, Uzbekistan
- 2021 "Blocks | Stories of the dialogues beyond the limits" / Palermo, Italy
- 2020 Asia Pacific Triennial 10, Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, Australia
- 2020 "Once Upon a Time and Now!" / University of Kent, Kent, UK

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- 2020 Sovereign Asian Art Prize, Hong Kong
- 2020 "Potential Words 1: Planetary Memories" / Migros Museum, Zurich, Switzerland & YARAT, Baku, Azerbaijan
- 2020 "Between Sun and Moon" / Lahore Biennale, Lahore, Pakistan
- 2019 Channels Festival, International Biennial of Video Art, Melbourne, Australia
- 2019 "Water (Proof)" / Kunstquartier Bethanien, Berlin, Germany
- 2019 RMIT University Art Residency, Melbourne, Australia
- 2019 "Border Agency Liquid Landscapes: What If the Ground Under Your Feet Can't Be Trusted?" / Kunstfort, Vijfhuizen, Netherlands
- 2019 "This Land Is Your Land" / Valletta Contemporary, Valletta, Malta
- 2019 "Uly Dala Hikayalary" / Atameken Exhibition Complex, Taldykorgan, Kazakhstan
- 2019 "Re-memembering. Dialogues of Memories" / House of V. Kubrin, Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan
- 2019 "Racing the Galaxy" / Astana Art Show, Palace of Independence, Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan
- 2019 "Eyes East Bound" / Cairo Biennial, Cairo, Egypt
- 2019 Culture Summit, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2019 "Uly Dala Hikayalary" / Museum of Fine Arts, Shymkent, Kazakhstan

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- 2019 "Climbing Through the Tide" / B7L9, The Kamel Lazaar Foundation, Tunis, Tunisia
- 2019 "Sacrées Femmes" / Galerie BELEM, Benamou-Lagié-Maxé, Paris, France
- 2019 "Collection" / M HKA, Antwerp, Belgium
- 2018 "10 Years, 100 Artists, 100 Films" / Midnight Festival, Babylon Cinema, Berlin, Germany
- 2018 "Making Worlds" / diffract – center for the theoretical periphery, Berlin, Germany
- 2018 "DOTLAND II" / Peninsula, Berlin, Germany
- 2018 "Inverted World" / Neues Museum, Nuremberg, Germany
- 2018 Contemporary Istanbul, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2018 "Mystic" / Karl Oskar Gallery, Berlin, Germany
- 2018 "Focus Kazakhstan" / Bread & Roses, Momentum Worldwide, Berlin, Germany
- 2018 "V.I.E. (Video Image Evolution)" / Albert Benamou Gallery & Galerie W, Paris, France
- 2018 "bitch MATER-ial" / Studio 1, Kunstquartier Bethanien, Berlin, Germany
- 2018 "March Meeting 2018: Active Forms" / Sharjah Art Foundation, Sharjah, UAE
- 2018 "Prélude LIEBEN" / Taxispalais Kunsthalle Tirol, Innsbruck, Austria
- 2017 "The Time in Astana After Future" / Astana State Museum, Astana, Kazakhstan

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- 2017 "Archipelago KAGLAG" / Museum of Modern Art, Karaganda, Kazakhstan
- 2017 "When the Sea Looks Back" / A Serpent's Tale, The Many Headed Hydra #2, Berlin, Germany
- 2017 Arbat Fest, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- 2017 Garage Screen Program, Astana Art Expo, Astana, Kazakhstan
- 2017 "When the Sea Looks Back" / A Serpent's Tale, The Many Headed Hydra #2, Nida Art Colony, Nida, Lithuania
- 2017 "The Collection" / M HKA, Antwerp, Belgium
- 2016 "Urgent Conversations: Athens–Antwerp" / EMST, Athens, Greece
- 2016 "A New Language" / ROOT 1066 Contemporary Arts Festival, Observer Building Gallery, Hastings, UK
- 2016 Daegu Photo Biennale, Daegu, South Korea
- 2016 Kino der Kunst, Nuremberg Museum, Nuremberg, Germany
- 2016 Astana FEST, Astana, Kazakhstan
- 2016 Shymkent Art Festival, Shymkent, Kazakhstan
- 2016 "Archipelago KAGLAG" / Museum of Modern Art, Astana, Kazakhstan
- 2016 "Hero Mother" / MOMENTUM, Berlin, Germany
- 2016 "Do You Know Kazakhstan?" / Wild Project Gallery, Luxembourg
- 2016 Collection of Huma Kabakçı, Pera Museum, Istanbul, Turkey

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- 2015 "German Cool" / Salsali Private Museum, Dubai, UAE
- 2015 "Elective Affinities" / National Centre for Contemporary Arts (NCCA), Moscow, Russia
- 2015 "How to Gather? Acting in a Center in a City in the Heart of the Island of Eurasia" / 6th Moscow Biennale, Moscow, Russia
- 2015 "Union of Fire and Water" / 56th Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy
- 2015 "Fairy Tales, Utopian Days" / Museum of Contemporary Art Taipei, Taipei, Taiwan
- 2015 "LINE" / Art Rooms, Nicosia, Cyprus
- 2014 "Life as a Legend" / Museum of Contemporary Art Strasbourg, Strasbourg, France
- 2014 Prologue Exhibition, Honolulu Biennial, Honolulu, USA
- 2014 "Color of Pomegranates" / State Gallery Solyanka, Moscow, Russia
- 2014 "Threads" / Museum of Contemporary Art Arnhem, Arnhem, Netherlands
- 2014 "Changing Worlds: Contemporary Art from Central Asia" / Singapore Art Stage, Singapore
- 2013 "Lost to the Future: Contemporary Art from Central Asia" / LASALLE College of the Arts, Singapore
- 2013 Film Program Media Art Lab, 5th Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art, Moscow, Russia
- 2013 "A Sense of Place" / Wellin Museum of Art, Hamilton College, Clinton, New York, USA

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- 2013 "Transoxiana Dreams" / MoMA PS1, New York, USA
- 2013 "Projects Art and Science: Identity" / Museo MADRE, Naples, Italy
- 2013 Kino der Kunst, Munich, Germany
- 2013 "Female Power. Matriarchy, Spirituality & Utopia" / Museum Arnhem, Arnhem, Netherlands
- 2013 Conversation with Susanne M. Winterling at the Conference Winter, Kunsternes Hus, Oslo, Norway
- 2013 The Art Gallery of Calgary, Calgary, Canada
- 2012 Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art (APT7), Queensland Art Gallery & Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, Australia
- 2012 "One-Sixth of the Earth: Ecologies of Image" / ZKM | Center for Art and Media, Karlsruhe, Germany
- 2012 "Contemporary Art from Kazakhstan" / Winzavod Centre for Contemporary Art, Moscow, Russia
- 2012 International Biennale of Contemporary Art "Moya Yurga", Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia
- 2012 Videonale, Donetsk, Donetsk, Ukraine
- 2012 Nomadic Art Camp, Bishkek State Museum, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
- 2012 Biennale of Sydney, Sydney, Australia
- 2012 "Lightness & Gravity" / Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, Australia

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- 2012 "Off the Beaten Path: Women, Art and Violence" / RedLine Contemporary Art Center, Denver, USA
- 2012 "The Best of Times, The Worst of Times: Rebirth and Apocalypse in Contemporary Art" / Kyiv Biennial (Arsenale 2012), Kyiv, Ukraine
- 2012 "The Bride's Face" / PERMM Museum of Contemporary Art, Perm, Russia
- 2012 "Double Vision" / Motorenhalle – Centre for Contemporary Art, Dresden, Germany
- 2012 "Colors of the Oasis" / Seattle Asian Art Museum, Seattle, USA
- 2012 "Ultra Memory" / Palace of Independence, Astana, Kazakhstan
- 2012 "Aftermath" / Akbank Sanat, Istanbul, Turkey
- 2012 "Ecologies of Image" / MUSAC, León, Spain
- 2012 "Paganism" / Kalmar Konstmuseum, Kalmar, Sweden
- 2012 "East Is West: Three Women Artists" / LASALLE College of the Arts, ICA Singapore, Singapore
- 2011 Tashkent Biennial, Tashkent, Uzbekistan
- 2011 "Off the Beaten Path: Women, Art and Violence" / New Orleans Center for Creative Arts, New Orleans, USA
- 2011 Newcomb Art Gallery, Tulane University, New Orleans, USA
- 2011 Prospect.2 Biennial, New Orleans, USA
- 2011 Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art, Moscow, Russia

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- 2011 "Between Heaven and Earth: Contemporary Art from the Centre of Asia" / Calvert 22, London, UK
- 2011 "Expanded Cinema" / Moscow Museum of Modern Art, Moscow, Russia
- 2011 "Off the Beaten Path: Women, Art and Violence" / Global Health Odyssey Museum, Atlanta, USA
- 2011 Video Re:View Festival, BWA Contemporary Art Gallery, Katowice, Poland
- 2011 "COLLECTION XXVII: East from 4°24'" / M HKA, Antwerp, Belgium
- 2011 Videonale 13, Kunstmuseum Bonn, Bonn, Germany
- 2011 "Plot for a Biennial" / Sharjah Biennial 10, Sharjah, UAE
- 2011 "Off the Beaten Path: Women, Art and Violence" / Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, USA
- 2010 "21st Century: Art in the First Decade" / Queensland Art Gallery & Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, Australia
- 2010 "Mother" / Kulturzentrum bei den Minoriten, Graz, Austria
- 2010 "Tarjama / Translation" / Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, Cornell University, Ithaca, USA
- 2010 "Off the Beaten Path: Women, Art and Violence" / Tijuana Cultural Center, Tijuana, Mexico
- 2010 "Off the Beaten Path: Women, Art and Violence" / Museo Universitario del Chopo, Mexico City, Mexico
- 2009 "Off the Beaten Path: Women, Art and Violence" / Stenersen Museum, Oslo, Norway

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- 2009 "Off the Beaten Path: Women, Art and Violence" / University of California San Diego, San Diego, USA
- 2009 "Re-imagining" / Calvert 22, London, UK
- 2009 "Unconditional Love" / Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy
- 2009 "East from Nowhere" / Arsenale II, Turin, Italy
- 2009 "Tarjama / Translation" / Queens Museum of Art, New York, USA
- 2008 "World on Video – International Video Art" / Centro di Cultura Contemporanea Strozzi, Florence, Italy
- 2008 "Love Love Love" / Martos Gallery, New York, USA
- 2008 "The Peekskill Project" / Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art, Peekskill, USA
- 2008 "The Distance to the Sun" / Galerie Davide Gallo, Berlin, Germany
- 2008 "Asia" / The College of New Jersey Art Gallery, Ewing, USA
- 2008 "Time Code" / MAMbo (Museum of Modern Art of Bologna), Bologna, Italy
- 2008 "I Dream of the Stans" / Winkleman Gallery, New York, USA
- 2007 "Live Cinema / The Return of the Image: Video from Central Asia" / Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, USA
- 2007 "Destination Asia" / Galerie 88, Mumbai, India
- 2007 "Central Asian Project" / Almaty, Kazakhstan
- 2007 "Central Asian Project" / Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

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- 2007 "Central Asian Project" / Tashkent, Uzbekistan
- 2007 "Peristan" / Venice Biennale, Central Asian Pavilion, Venice, Italy
- 2007 "Time of the Storytellers" / Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki, Finland
- 2007 "Thermocline of Art: New Asian Waves" / ZKM Museum of Contemporary Art, Karlsruhe, Germany
- 2007 "The Paradox of Polarity: Contemporary Art from Central Asia" / Bose Pacia Gallery, New York, USA
- 2007 "Central Asian Project" / Cornerhouse, Manchester, UK
- 2006 "CATODICA" / Trieste, Italy
- 2006 "Actual Archives: Central Asian Contemporary Art" / Rosamira Festival, Moscow, Russia
- 2006 "Zones of Contact" / Biennale of Sydney, Sydney, Australia
- 2006 International Biennial of Photography, Brescia, Italy
- 2006 "Art and Conflict in Central Asia" / Haggerty Museum of Art, Marquette University, Milwaukee, USA
- 2006 "Polyzentral" / Art Festival of Kampnagel, Hamburg, Germany
- 2006 "Art from Central Asia" / Centre for Contemporary Art, Ujazdowski Castle, Warsaw, Poland
- 2006 "The Syndrome of Tamerlan: Art and Conflicts in Central Asia" / Haggerty Museum of Art, Milwaukee, USA
- 2005 "On the Road" / Venice Biennale, Central Asian Pavilion, Venice, Italy

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- 2005 Biennial of Graphic Arts, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 2005 "Vom Roten Stern zur Blauen Kuppel: Islamic World Art and Architecture from Central Asia" / IFA Gallery, Stuttgart, Germany
- 2005 "The Syndrome of Tamerlan: Art and Conflict in Central Asia" / Palazzo dei Sette, Orvieto, Italy
- 2004 "Sacred Places of Kazakhstan" / Centre for Contemporary Art, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- 2004 "M and Others" / Bishkek International Exhibition of Contemporary Art, Bishkek State Museum, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
- 2004 Art-Novosibirsk, Novosibirsk, Russia
- 2004 "International Visions" / The Gallery, Washington, D.C., USA
- 2004 "Vom Roten Stern zur Blauen Kuppel: Islamic World Art and Architecture from Central Asia" / IFA Gallery, Berlin, Germany
- 2004 "Pueblos y Sombras" / Canaja Gallery, Mexico City, Mexico
- 2004 "Natural Women, Visible Voice" / Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2003 Art-Novosibirsk, Novosibirsk, Russia
- 2003 Almaty Art, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- 2003 "Caravan Café" / Rocca di Umbertide, Centro per l'Arte Contemporanea, Perugia, Italy
- 2002 "Catmania" / Illuzeum, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2002 State Museum of Modern Art, Almaty, Kazakhstan

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- 2002 "Nomad Land: Art and Culture from Central Asia" / Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin, Germany
- 2002 First Festival of Video Art, Soros Foundation, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- 2002 "Re-orientation: Art on Central Asia" / ACC Gallery, Weimar, Germany
- 2002 Biennial of Graphics, Novosibirsk, Russia
- 2001 "Inner Asia" / Tashkent, Uzbekistan
- 2001 "Inner Asia" / Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
- 2001 "Inner Asia" / Novosibirsk, Russia
- 2001 "The Days of the Culture of Kazakhstan in Moscow" / Moscow Central House of Artists, Moscow, Russia
- 2000 "International Vision" / The Gallery, Washington, D.C., USA
- 2000 "Communication and Experience of Interaction" / Central Asia Festival of Contemporary Art, VDNH, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- 2000 "Handmade" / Pushkinskaya 10, Saint Petersburg, Russia
- 2000 "Nomads Culture at the End of the Centuries" / State Museum of Modern Art, Almaty, Kazakhstan

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SELECTED FILM FESTIVALS

2013	KINO DER KUNST International Film Festival, Munich, Germany
2012	Kinoshock International Film Festival, Anapa, Russia
2012	Les Rencontres Internationales, Paris, France
2012	Les Rencontres Internationales, Madrid, Spain
2012	Les Rencontres Internationales, Berlin, Germany
2012	Pesaro Film Festival, Pesaro, Italy
2011	Les Rencontres Internationales, Paris, France
2011	Les Rencontres Internationales, Madrid, Spain
2011	Les Rencontres Internationales, Berlin, Germany
2011	Winterthur International Short Film Festival, Winterthur, Switzerland
2011	São Paulo International Short Film Festival, São Paulo, Brazil
2011	Rotterdam International Film Festival, Rotterdam, Netherlands
2010	Centre Pompidou, Paris, France
2010	Oberhausen International Short Film Festival, Oberhausen, Germany
2009	Rotterdam International Film Festival, Rotterdam, Netherlands
2009	Golden Drum Video Festival, Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia

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- 2008 Oberhausen International Short Film Festival, Oberhausen, Germany
- 2007 Centre Pompidou, Paris, France
- 2006 Rotterdam International Film Festival, Rotterdam, Netherlands

HONORS & AWARDS

- 2017 Awarded Chevalier Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (Order of Arts and Letters), French Ministry of Culture, France
- 2013 Main Award, KINO DER KUNST International Film Competition, Munich, Germany
- 2011 KfW Audience Award, Videonale 13, Kunstmuseum Bonn, Germany
- 2010 Prize de la Nuit, "Exodus", Signes de Nuit Festival, Paris, France
- 2009 Gold Tambourine Prize (Video Art), Golden Drum International Video Festival, Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia
- 2003 3rd Prize, Sacred Places of Kazakhstan, Soros Foundation Contemporary Art Center, Kazakhstan
- 2002 2nd Prize, First Video Festival, Soros Foundation Contemporary Art Center, Kazakhstan
- 2002 TARLAN Independent Prize, Patrons' Club of Kazakhstan, Kazakhstan
- 1995 ASIA ART Grand Prix, 2nd Central Asia Biennial, Tashkent, Uzbekistan
- 1995 DARIN State Grand Prix for Artists, Kazakhstan

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COMMISSIONS AND GRANTS

2022	Commissioned by Sharjah Art Foundation for Sharjah Biennale 2023
2022	Commissioned by Tselinny Center of Contemporary Culture
2020	Institute für Auslandsbeziehungen (IFA), Germany
2020	PCAI, Lahore Biennale 2020
2019	Trust for Mutual Understanding, USA
2019	International Art Development Association (IADA)
2013	Open Society Institute Budapest, Art and Culture Network Program Grant

Museums and Collections

Housed in public and private collections worldwide.