Tatiana Tikhonova
2D Studio Art: Printmaking

Nostalgic Tales

November 15, 2019
Faculty Advisor: Beauvais Lyons
Capstone Exhibition Statement

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2D: Printmaking
Nostalgic Tales

My current body of work reflects an inner uncertainty about my identity. I immigrated from Russia when I was a young adult. My upbringing, my family and relationships within it formed my views about life and the world in general. I have been living in the United States only one third of my life, my twenties. However, I feel like this period changed the course of my life and greatly transformed my character. I often feel like I have two identities and I ask myself a lot: who am I? Am I Russian or American, or both? This uncertainty allows me to look at myself from outside. It even allows me not to associate myself with any nationality.

The state “in between” finds a way in my art. I create my work about my journey and my experience. I incorporate symbols and imagery from my past and insert them in my current reality. I compare and contrast my past and my present, my life in Russia and in the US. I often use humor in my work. It helps me to answer many questions I have been asked on a daily basis, many of which reflect stereotypical views of Russians. But sometimes my answers are not clear. Do I confirm or deny the stereotypes by laughing at them? I let the viewer decide if I am ironic or tell the truth. I use a lot of traditional imagery, symbols and patterns from Russian culture to play on this ambiguity. It is the way to not forget my roots and introduce my cultural background to the audience.

Even though my own life and my background is the main source of the ideas for my work, I find the external sources of inspiration as well. Frida Kahlo is my personal hero and a favorite artist. Her authenticity inspires me to embrace my national identity. I learn how not to be afraid to use a visual vocabulary of my culture, which is often not familiar to the audience or may seem cliché. This is why the viewer can see lots of nesting dolls, bears, and vodka bottles in my prints and animations. I enjoy creating
narrative work. My fascination with storytelling comes from my childhood in the 1990s, when the only sources of entertainment were books and making up stories in my head.

My work presents a wide range of printmaking techniques: relief, lithography, intaglio, letterpress and silkscreen. I incorporate these methods not only to create two-dimensional pieces, but also to make time-based art such as artists books and animation.
Tatiana Tikhonova  
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EDUCATION

2017 - 2019  University of Tennessee. Knoxville, TN  
BFA in 2D Studio Art/Printmaking  
Minor in Art History

2015 - 2017  Walters State Community College. Morristown, TN  
Associate Degree in Studio Art

2005 - 2010  Omsk State University. Omsk, Russia  
Diploma of Specialist in Economic Theory

WORKSHOPS at Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts

2018  Printmaking workshop with Ashton Ludden  
2017  Community class in screenprint with Grant Benoit  
Printmaking workshop with Althea Murphy-Price  
Printmaking workshop with Thomas Lucas

2014  Community class in bookmaking with Ashton Ludden  
2013  Community class in drawing with Erin Castellan  
Figure drawing workshop with Katarina Riesing  
Oil Painting workshop with Gary Chapman

2012  Charcoal Drawing workshop with Gary Chapman  
2011  Community class in pottery with Shawn O'Connor  
Oil painting workshop with Lisa D. Line  
Oil painting workshop with Gary Chapman

JURIED EXHIBITIONS

2019  “19th Sevier County Biennial Juried Exhibition,” Sandra J. Blain Gallery, Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts (award of merit in printmaking).  
2019  “72nd Annual Student Competition,” Ewing Gallery of Art and Architecture, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

2018  “71st Annual Student Competition,” Ewing Gallery of Art and Architecture, University of Tennessee, Knoxville (jurors award in book arts).  
2017  “18th Sevier County Biennial Juried Exhibition,” Sandra J. Blain Gallery, Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts (award of merit in printmaking).
GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2019  “UT Printmaking Summer Showcase,” School of Art, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.
2019  “School of Art Honors Exhibition,” Ewing Gallery, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.
2019  “Domestic Oasis”, Gallery 1010, Knoxville, TN.

FILM SCREENINGS

2018  “American Dream” (animation) and “One Man’s Reality” (animation), Handheld Film Festival, Knoxville Museum of Art, Knoxville, TN.

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

2019  Mary Lynn Glustoff Memorial Scholarship, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.
2019  Award of Merit, 19th Sevier County Biennial Juried Exhibition, Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts.
2018  Kimberly D. Iles Art Scholarship in Printmaking, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.
2018  Pre-Portfolio Award, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.
2017  President’s Most Outstanding Student Award, Walters State Comm. College, Morristown, TN.
2017  Outstanding Student Award in Visual Arts, Walters State Community College, Morristown, TN.
2017  Outstanding Student Award in Spanish, Walters State Community College, Morristown, TN.
2017  Award of Merit, 18th Sevier County Biennial Juried Exhibition, Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts.

PUBLICATIONS


CITATIONS


TECHNICAL SKILLS AND LANGUAGES

I have specific expertise in drawing, ceramics, bookmaking, stone and plate lithography, letterpress, screen-printing, intaglio. I have experience working with Adobe software programs such as Photoshop and Premier Pro. I have competency in English, Russian and Spanish.
EMPLOYMENT

2015-present  Waitress, Crockett’s Breakfast Camp, Gatlinburg, TN.
2012-2015   Waitress, Smokey Mountain Brewery, Gatlinburg, TN.
2010-2012   Cashier, Fudge Shoppe, Gatlinburg, TN.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2019  Muralist, CARS 4 U LLC, Knoxville, TN.
2018  Muralist, CARS 4 U LLC, Knoxville, TN.
2017  Artist assistant to Charlotta Westergren in assembling a mosaic at Hyatt Place, Knoxville.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

2018-2019  President of the UT Print Club, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.
2017-2018  Secretary of the UT Print Club, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.
2016-2017  President of Art Club, Walters State Community College.
2015-2016  Treasurer of Art Club, Walters State Community College.

RELATED EXPERIENCE

2019  Attended SGCI printmaking conference in Dallas, Texas.
2018  Attended SGCI printmaking conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.
Project Documentation

*BE A Rock star.* metal engraving. 5 x 7 inches

*Midst Branches Shines the Mermaids Tail.* Ex Libris. lithography. 11 x 15 inches
My Journey. lithography. 11 x 15 inches

Tea Time. lithography. 8 x 11 inches
I Was Born in the Country That Doesn’t Exist Anymore. artist book. 4.5 x 5.5 inches

Cliché Russians. artist book. 5.5 x 7.5 inches
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y2OTfI4nw4

*Patterns*. animation. 0:37 seconds

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qjc1LTdV72g

*A Bear Walks Into the Bar*. animation. 0:58 seconds
A Bear at the Bar. mixed media (relief printmaking and watercolor). 11 x 15 inches

Drinking Bears. mixed media (relief printmaking and watercolor). 11 x 15 inches