GALYA STAMBOLIEVA

(b. 1978, Sofia, Bulgaria)
Lives and works in Sofia, Bulgaria

Artistic Practice

Contemporary artist working across sculpture, drawing and spatial investigation.
Her research-based practice, developed since 2000, explores the relationship between body, identity and spatial belonging.

Selected Exhibitions

2026 — *Portrait Online Group Exhibition* - No.35 Gallery, London, UK
2026 — *Visual Art Open 2026 (VAO 2026) - Shortlisted artists*, London, UK
2019 — *Summer Salon*, Islington Art Factory, London, UK
2018 — *Secret Art Basingstoke*, Basingstoke, UK
2015 — *The Paper in Contemporary Art*, Paris, France
2014 — *Yordan Parushev National Contemporary Art Contest*, Bulgaria
2009 — *Man and Nature*, Dobrich, Bulgaria
2004 — *St. St. Cyril & Methodius Foundation Exhibition*, Sofia, Bulgaria
2003 — *Maryn Varbanov Exhibition–Contest*, Bulgaria
2003 — *Bulgarian Village Dream Project*, Varbovo, Bulgaria
2002 — *Varna Summer International Theatre Festival*, Varna, Bulgaria
2002 — *Young Artists Sculpture Exhibition*, Sofia, Bulgaria
2000–2001 — group exhibitions, Sofia, Bulgaria

Residencies & Symposiums

2005 — National Metal Sculpture Symposium, Silistra, Bulgaria
2005 — National Metal Sculpture Symposium, Radnevo, Bulgaria
2002 — International Ceramics Sculpture Symposium, Constanta, Romania
2002 — International Paper Symposium, Kranevo, Bulgaria

2001 — National Wood Sculpture Symposium, Barzia, Bulgaria

2001 — National Wood Sculpture Symposium, Yasna Poliana, Bulgaria

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Awards

2004 — Third Prize, St. St. Cyril & Methodius Foundation, Bulgaria

2003 — First Prize, Maryn Varbanov Exhibition–Contest, Bulgaria

2000 — Drawing Award, Sofia, Bulgaria

Research Practice

2016–ongoing — Independent artistic research and development

Long-term investigation structured through three interconnected research fields:

• Body / Form

• Self / Portrait

• Belonging / Space

Education

2001–2002 — MA Sculpture, National Academy of Arts, Sofia, Bulgaria

1997–2001 — BA Sculpture, National Academy of Arts, Sofia, Bulgaria