

## Aspan Gallery

---

### Gulnur Mukazhanova

Born in 1984 in Semey, Kazakhstan. She lives and works in Berlin.

Gulnur Mukazhanova works with traditional Central Asian materials, like felt and brocade, for example, subverting their conventional uses in domestic environments and using them to create complex installations and props for her photo and video projects. In her works the focus shifts from the material itself to its performative quality, catching the material in its transitional state. Her home country of Kazakhstan, which itself is in the process of transition, is often a subject of her inspection through the perspectives of globalization and identity politics. The resulting works have a very strong physical presence and allow the artist to make powerful statements on the state of global affairs through the example of her own country.

Notable recent exhibitions include *The Wind Makes The Sky: La Biennale di Venezia on the traces of Marco Polo* at the Ca' Giustinian in Venice (2024), *Eluding Capture: Three Artists From Central Asia* at the MAA MoCA in Massachusetts (2024), *transfeminism, Chapter IV Care and Kinship* at the Mimosa House in London (2024), *Racing the Galaxy*, Astana Show in Astana (2019), *Bread & Roses* at the Momentum in Berlin (2018), *Postnomadic Mind* at the Wapping Project in London (2018), 4<sup>th</sup> International Biennale for Young Art in Moscow (2014) and Central Asia Pavilion at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Venice Biennale (2007).

#### Education:

2009-2013 – School of Art and Design Berlin Weissensee, Berlin

2006 – Kazakh National Academy of Arts, Almaty

#### Selected solo exhibitions:

2024

*Shadows of Hope*, Aspan Gallery, Almaty

2017

*Yellow Matters*, SOMA Art Gallery, Berlin

2016

*Post Nomadic Reality*, Artwin Gallery, Moscow

2010

*Iron Women*, Tengri-Umai Gallery, Almaty

*Wertlosigkeit der Tradition*, German-Kazakh Society, Berlin

#### Selected group exhibitions:

2024

*The Wind Makes The Sky: La Biennale di Venezia on the traces of Marco Polo*, Ca' Giustinian, Venice

*transfeminism, Chapter IV Care and Kinship*, Mimosa House, London

*Eluding Capture: Three Artists From Central Asia*, MAA MoCA, Massachusetts

*Soft Power*, DAS MINSK, Potsdam

2023

*Interweaving Travelers*, New Taipei City Art Museum, Taipei

*Manifestations*, Sharjah Islamic Art Fair, Sharjah

9<sup>th</sup> Asia Now Paris Art Fair, Paris

2021

## Aspan Gallery

---

The Female Side Of The Moon, Galerie Z22, Berlin, Germany

2019

*Racing the Galaxy*, Astana Art Show, Astana  
Festival of Islamic Culture, Art Lane Gallery, Almaty

2018

*Bread & Roses*, Kunstquartier Bethanie | Momentum, Berlin  
*Post-Nomadic Mind*, Wapping Project, London  
*All the World's a Collage*, Aspan Gallery, Almaty  
*Astana Art Show*, Astana  
*Strukturveränderungen*, Kostbar Gallery, Berlin  
*Blue Container on the New Silk Road: Interlocal*, Duisburg

2017

*Time & Astana: After Future*, National Museum of Kazakhstan, Astana  
*The Story Retells*, Daegu Art Factory, Daegu  
*Future Energy*, Expo 2017, Astana

2016

*METAMORPHOSES*, Pörnbach Contermporary, Pörnbach  
*"Did You Know...?"*, Wild Project Gallery, Luxembourg

2015

*The Practices of Contact*, 11<sup>th</sup> Krasnoyarsk Biennale, Krasnoyarsk  
*The Nomads*, Artwin Gallery, Moscow

2014

*Dissemination*, Stadt Gallery, Brixen  
*A Time for Dreams*, 4<sup>th</sup> International Biennale for Young Art, Moscow

2013

Felletin Felt Festival, Felletin  
*SubStance*, Haus des Handwerks, Leipzig  
*HochZeiten*, Schloss Belvedere Pfingstenberg, Potsdam  
*A Big Show*, Freies Museum, Berlin

2011

*Refugium*, DIE ARBEIT, Berlin

2010

*IN DEFENCE: Artists from Africa, Asia, Europe, Russia, USA and Middle East*, Fondazione 107, Turin

2009

*A est di niente: Contemporary Art from Post-Soviet Asia*, Fondazione 107, Turin  
*STILLS-Attraction*, Tengri-Umai Gallery, Almaty

2007

*Muzykstan: Media Generation of Contemporary Artists from Central Asia*, Central Asia Pavilion, 52<sup>nd</sup> Venice Biennale, Venice

## Aspan Gallery

### **Bibliography:**

2014

A Time for Dreams, exhibition catalogue. Moscow: 4<sup>th</sup> International Biennale for Young Art, 2014.

2011

A est di niente: Contemporary Art from Post-Soviet Asia, exhibition catalogue. Turin: Fondazione 107, 2011.

2007

Muzykstan: Media Generation of Contemporary Artists from Central Asia, exhibition catalogue. Central Asia Pavilion, 52<sup>nd</sup> Venice Biennale. Venice: 2007.