

ALMAGUL MENLIBAYEVA

CV

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EDUCATION

Academy of Art and Theatre, Almaty, Kazakhstan

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2026 I Understand Everything (Solo Retrospective: Chapter II), Almaty Museum of Arts, Kazakhstan
- 2025 I Understand Everything (Solo Retrospective: Chapter I), Almaty Museum of Arts, Kazakhstan
- 2024 Almagul Menlibayeva: My Silk Road to You and Nomadized Suprematism, Aga Khan Museum, Toronto, Canada
- 2019 Transoxiana Dreams, De. Groen Fine Art Collection, Arnhem, Netherlands
- 2019 Genius Loci of Central Asia, Andakulova Gallery, Dubai, UAE
- 2018 #98 Almagul Menlibayeva, Videoart at Midnight Cinema Babylon, Berlin, Germany
- 2018 Green, Yellow, Red and Green again, TSE gallery, Astana, Kazakhstan
- 2017 Transformation, Grand Palais-Salon d'Honneur, Paris, France
- 2015 Transoxiana Dreams, Videozone, Ludwig Forum, Aachen, Germany
- 2015 My silk road to you, ART LEXING, Miami, USA
- 2015 Union of the Fire and Water, Yarat Foundation, 56th Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy
- 2015 Transoxiana Dreams, Videozone, Ludwig Forum, Aachen, Germany
- 2013 Empire of the Memory, Ethnographic Museum, Warsaw, Poland
- 2013 An Ode for the Wastelands and Gulags, Kunstraum Innsbruck, Austria
- 2010 Lonely at the Top, Europe at large #6 (Refrains from the Wasteland), Museum van Hedendaagse Kunst (M HKA), Antwerp, Belgium
- 2009 Kurban, Priska C. Juschka Fine Art, New York, NY, USA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2018 V.I.E (Video Image Evolution), Albert Benamou Gallery in collaboration with Galerie W, Paris, France (Upcoming)
- 2018 bitch MATER-ial, Group show at Studio 1, Kunstquartiers Bethanien, Berlin, Germany

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- 2018 Active Forms: Works from the Sharjah Art Foundation Collection, Al Mureijah Square, Arts Square and the Old Sharjah Planetarium, Part of March Meeting 2018
- 2016 Urgent Conversations: Athens-Antwerp, collections EMST-M HKA, Athens, Greece
- 2016 Daegu Photo Biennale 2016, Daegu Metropolitan City, South Korea
- 2015 Balagan!!! CONTEMPORARY ART FROM FORMER SOVIET UNION AND OTHER MYTHICAL PLACES, Kühlhaus Berlin, Max Liebermann Haus, MOMENTUM, Berlin, Germany
- 2015 The Nomads, Artwin gallery, Moscow, Russia
- 2014 Changing words: Contemporary Art from central Asia, Singapore Art Stage 2014, Singapore
- 2013 Female Power. Matriarchy, Spirituality & Utopia, Museum of Modern Kunst, Arnhem, Holland
- 2013 TRANSOXIANA DREAMS, EXPO1: New York, MoMA PS1, New York, NY, USA
- 2013 Paganism, Kalmar Konstmuseum, Kalmar, Sweden
- 2011 Between Heaven and Earth, Calvert22, London, UK

ART FAIRS

- 2011 Between Heaven and Earth, 4th Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art, Moscow, Russia
- 2011 Expanded Cinema, Part 1, Moscow Museum of Modern Art, Moscow, Russia
- 2011 Off the Beaten Path: Women, Art and Violence, David J. Sencer CDC Museum, Atlanta, GA
- 2009 Unconditional Love, 53rd Venice Biennale, Arsenale Novissimo 89, Venice, Italy
- 2007 Live Cinema/The Return of the Image: Video from Central Asia
- 2007 Peristan, performance and screening for the opening of the 52nd Venice Biennale, Central Asian Pavillion, curated by Uyliya Sorokina, Venice, Italy
- 2007 Time of the Storytellers, Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki, Finland
- 2006 The Tamerlane syndrome: art and conflicts in Central Asia, Haggerty Museum of Art, Milwaukee, WI, USA

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- 2005 Art from Central Asia: A Contemporary Archive, On the Road, 51st Venice Biennale, Central Asian Pavilion, Venice, Italy
- 2004 Vom roten Stern zur blauen Kuppel, Islamic World Art and Architecture from Central Asia, Ifa Gallery, Berlin, Germany
- 2002 No Mad's Land. Art and Culture from Central Asia, Haus der Kulturen der Wel, Berlin, Germany
- 2002 4th Novosibirsk Graphic Art Biennial, Novosibirsk, Russia

AWARDS AND GRANTS

- 2018 Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (Order of Arts and Letters) of France
- 2013 Main Award, KINO DER KUNST in the International Film Competition, Munich, Germany
- 2011 KfW Audience Award, Videonale 13, Kunstmuseum Bonn, Bonn, Germany
- 2011 Open Society Institute Budapest, Art and Culture Network Program Grant
- 2010 Prize de la Nuit (Night) Award for Exodus at the 8th International Festival Signes de Nuit, Paris
- 2002 First Video Festival, 2nd Prize, Center of Contemporary Art, Soros Foundation, Kazakhstan Tarlan, an independent prize of Kazakhstan
- 1995 Asia Art, Grand Prix, Second Biennial of Central Asia, Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Kurchatov 22

2012

Kurchatov 22, a five-channel video installation with surround sound, was shot in the heartland of the former "Iron Curtain of the Soviet Union", formally known to insiders by its code name Kurchatov 22 (or Moscow 400, Bereg, Semipalatinsk-21, Stanciya Konechnaya), a secret territory with the size 18,500 square kilometers in the North West of Kazakhstan, established under the strict control of Joseph Stalin and L. (Lavrenti) Beria in 1948.

During a period of 40 years, this place was an experimental field for military and scientific research with 456 above ground and below ground nuclear tests (in total, 2500 times more powerful than were dropped on Hiroshima). In addition to the nuclear bombs, about 600 thermonuclear and dozens of hydrodynamic and hydro nuclear devices were also tested at this site over time. These nuclear tests were experiments, not only affecting the environment, plants and animals, but included deliberately the local population, mainly indigenous Kazakhs and unknowing Soviet workers who were cohabitating in the area of Kurchatov 22.

This video installation combines historical facts, stages footage and current eyewitness reports in the form of interviews and video installation. The work investigates a memory of the land as a collective living formation in the society, impacting the political and social developments in the post-Soviet, the memory of the 'colonial experiment' and totalitarian past.

Kurchatov 22
LIST OF THE SHOWS

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| 2018 | March Meeting 2018, Active Forms, Spring Exhibition, Collection of Sharjah Art Foudation, Sharjah, UAE |
| 2018 | Guangwon Biennial, 2018, South Korea |
| 2016 | Transformation, Grand Palais, Paris, France |
| 2013 | Balagan!!! Contemporary art from Former Soviet Union and Other Mythical Places curated by David Elliot, Momentum, Branderburger Tor, Max Lieberamnn Haus, Kühlhaus am Gleisdreieck, Berlin, Germany |
| 2013 | Empire of the Memory, Ethnographic Museum, Warsaw, Polland |
| 2012 | Lost to the Future: Contemporary Art from Central Asia, curated by Charles Merewether, Lassale, College of Arts, Singapore, Singapore |
| 2012 | The 7th Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art (APT7), Gallery of Modern Art (GOMA) & Queensland Art Gallery (QAG) |
| 2012 | Arsenal 2012, Kiev Biennial, Ukraine |