

CONTEMPORARY

LITHUANIAN

JEWELLERY

PROJECT OUT OF SUITCASE JEWELLERY



GALLERY
MENO NIŠA

9 October- 13 November, 2010

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MENO NIŠA

Gallery "Meno niša"

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CONTEMPORARY LITHUANIAN JEWELLERY

It is professional and sometimes drastic. It is made diligently and constructed conceptually. It is created by taking into consideration specific qualities of materials and stones, but directed toward a sophisticated spectator, searching for visual experiences, and, sometimes, for show elements. It is often ironic and very seldom sentimental. These are the key qualities of the contemporary Lithuanian jewellery.

Solveiga and Alfredas Krivičiai, Eglė Čėjauskaitė-Gintalė, Jurgita Erminaitė, Sandra Malaškevičiūtė and Austėja Arlauskaitė are well known authors, perfectly representing the current Lithuanian jewellery. From an immediate touch with a body, body deformations and religious aspirations to a virtual jewellery project – this is the range of the contemporary Lithuanian jewellery.

Three authors present objects where human body is involved as a direct partner. Certainly, a body in need for decoration belongs to Čėjauskaitė. When working with her favourite silver wire needlecraft technique, the author creates openwork and transparent objects

designed for a human body. They embrace various parts of the body. Twinkling and rippling in the eyes they remind the gloves of spider-webs, which used to beautify the courtiers in the reign of Louis XIV.

Austėja Arlauskaitė is absolutely different: for her, human body serves as a stage for creation of various deformations. She models deformations by using transparent and very aesthetic organic glass; however, objects redolent of the cold aesthetic, appeal to the sphere of medicine rather than decoration. They remind medical devices of the unknown purpose: though perfect visually, they don't seem promising to their wearer.

Jurgita Erminaitė, one of the most conceptual Lithuanian jewellers, presents the accessories – body supplements and “escorts” – where the dose of sarcasm is in harmony with everyday inclusions. A purse from the pan bottom, golden trays to collect sulphur from ears, shining rope – a hangman's noose, turning into a necklace or a silver navel-string symbolising an eternal affection. A peculiar religiosity is also characteristic of the author; but in her hands

religious symbols ambiguously outcrop and demonstrate their plastic insides and casings of the artificial gold; still they remain sacred and deserve a respectful look.

Sandra Malaškevičiūtė also works with the organic glass which has already become the symbol of her works. In her hands the glass turns into flowers, fruits and fragments of op art. This time it is a collection of optical brooches, where glimmering ornaments appeal to the op art painting.

The most ephemeral in this collection are Solveiga and Alfredas Krivičiai. With their challenges controversial artists often shake the Lithuanian jewellery world. A virtual project „Total Jewellery“ investigates the theme of a jewellery object as an expression of the public status. Jewellery objects and their suggested codes are embodied in the shapes of public icons and „celebrities“. Their instantly changing kaleidoscope, paintings and film, i.e. the composite parts of the project, turn into a criticism of the consumer society. The society, where things and signs are worth as much as status symbols.

Contemporary Lithuanian jewellery has many faces: five authors present five different options.

Dr. Jurgita Ludavičienė

SOLVEIGA AND ALFREDAS KRIVIČIAI

SOLVEIGA KRIVIČIENĖ

Was born in 1965 in Rokiškis
1986-1991 studied at Vilnius Academy of Arts

ALFREDAS KRIVIČIUS

Was born 1961 in Trakai
1980-1985 studied at Kaunas University of Technology
Both live in Vilnius, Lithuania
Have been working together since 1995



PERSONAL EXHIBITIONS

1996 "Dedication"

1997 "Nets"

1999 "Fragments"

2000 "Visions"

2001 "Disposable life"

2002 "s5.com"

2003 "Votives"

2008 "Total jewelry"

2008 "For Sale"

2009 "CIRRHOsis"

2009 "Bestiariumus" (with Mi-Mi Moscow)

2010 "White box"

Solveiga and Alfredas arranged over 70 group exhibitions in the country and abroad

TOTAL JEWELLERY

According to one of the definitions, jewellery is a mark on the body which has not only an aesthetic value, but also defines the place of a person in the social hierarchy. We were always interested in this expression of status/mark in jewellery, and in the search for the bounds of jewellery. Actually, physical bounds of jewellery are determined by a human body. Though it is more difficult to determine the bounds of jewellery as of mark/symbol.

In every at least minimally free society not considering the applied "marking" systems there is always freedom to choose and there will always be people who will not want to be "marked" and will not allow "marking" them. Therefore, the total jewellery leastwise theoretically is possible only in the totalitarian country...

And then we remembered the concentration camps of the Nazi Germany and the concentration camp badges - the "aesthetic" system for marking prisoners - the triangles, the system providing for the immediate identification of persons, i.e. the ideal "status jewellery". And we thought: "what if..."

This gave birth to our project.

A project covering everything - total jewellery, a project, exceeding the bounds of jewellery, a project, which has become some kind of anti-Utopia, a test of beholder's tolerance and political correctness.







Austė Arlauskaitė "Body correction", plastic, silver, 20x15 mm (2pieces), 2009

AUSTĖ ARLAUSKAITĖ

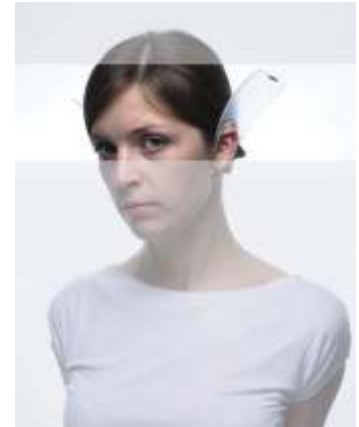
Was born in 1984 in Kelmė, Lithuania

2003- 2007

Bachelors in Design (specialisation in Jewellery and Smithery),
Vilnius Academy of Arts, Telšiai Faculty of Arts, Lithuania

2007- 2009

Masters in Design (specialisation in jewellery),
Vilnius Academy of Arts, Faculty of Design, Lithuania



PERSONAL EXHIBITIONS

2008 "Exhibition of One Work", gallery RRRRRRRRRRRRRR,
Šiauliai, Lithuania

2009 "Body Correction", gallery ARGENTUM, Vilnius,
Lithuania

SYMPOSIUMS. CREATIVE CAMPS

2007 "Signs of Seacoast", international enamel
symposium , Kintai, Lithuania

*Austė Arlauskaitė arranged over 66 group exhibitions
in the country and abroad*



Eglė Čejauskaitė-Gintalė, "Confidential", silver, gold, coral, synthetical hair, 280 x 620 x 200 mm, 2009

EGLĖ ČEJAUSKAITĖ-GINTALĖ

Was born in 1978 in Telšiai, Lithuania

2000-2003

Bachelor of Arts, Department of metal Plastic,
Telšiai Division of Applied Art, Vilnius Academy of Arts, Lithuania.

2003-2005

Master of Arts, Department of Architecture and Design,
Vilnius Academy of Arts, Lithuania.

Since 2006 a member of the Lithuanian Artists' Association

Since 2010 a member of International Art Medal Federation FIDEM



PERSONAL EXHIBITIONS

2004 "Carrying Structures", Jewellery and computer graphic
exhibition, museum GALLERY OF AMBER, Vilnius, Lithuania

2005 "Silver cloak", Jewellery exhibition, gallery KAUNO VARTAI,
Kaunas, Lithuania

2006 "Jewellery exhibition", gallery UŽUPIS, Vilnius, Lithuania

2007 "Race of plots", jewellery exhibition, gallery ARGENTUM,
Vilnius, Lithuania

AWARDS

2001 "Micromeg", exhibition-competition (special prize),
TELŠIAI EXHIBITION HALL, Lithuania.

2002 "100th anniversary of P.Genys", medal exhibition, (2nd
prize), museum ALKA, Telšiai, Lithuania

Eglė Čejauskaitė-Gintalė arranged over 66 group exhibitions
in the country and abroad



Jurgita Erminaitė "Mana", silver, steel, 110 x 145 x 60 mm, 124, 46 g, 2008

JURGITA ERMINAITĖ

Was born in 1980 in Telšiai, Lithuania

1998-2002

Bachelor of Arts, Department of metal Plastic,
Specialization in Jewellery, Telšiai Division of Applied Art
Vilnius Academy of Arts, Lithuania.

2002-2004

Master of Arts, Department of Architecture and Design,
Specialization in Jewellery, Vilnius Academy of Arts, Lithuania

PERSONAL EXHIBITIONS

2007 "Race of plots", gallery ARGENTUM, Vilnius, Lithuania

2007 "Jewellery exhibition", UTENOS MUSEUM, Utena, Lithuania

2007 "Confession", jewellery, gallery UŽUPIS, Vilnius, Lithuania

AWARDS

2000 "Turn", Photo art exhibition, (Winner), ART GALLERY
OF ŠIAULIAI UNIVERSITY, Lithuania

2001 "Turn", Photo and video art competition, (Grand Prix),
ART GALLERY OF ŠIAULIAI UNIVERSITY, Lithuania



2002 "Amber In Interior", International amber artwork
exhibition, (Second prize)

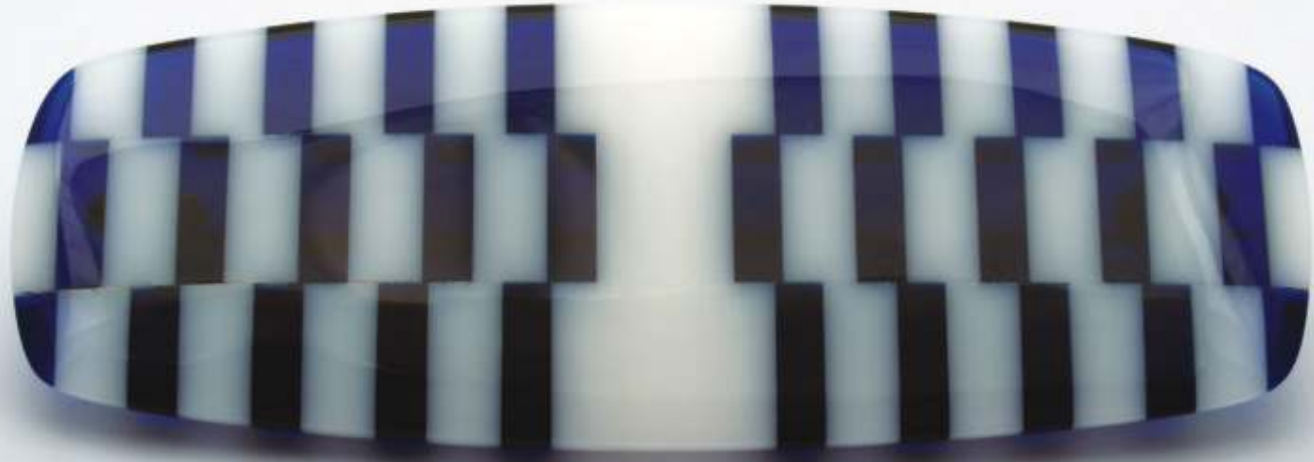
museum GALLERY OF AMBER, Vilnius, Lithuania

2004 "Turn", Photo art exhibition, (Grand Prix), ART
GALLERY OF ŠIAULIAI UNIVERSITY, Lithuania

2005 "Alatyr-2005", 1st International contest of amber
goods, (Grand Prix), KALININGRAD AMBER MUSEUM,
Kaliningrad

2008 "Stay moment! You are so fair!", Jewellery art Contest,
V International Baltic Jewellery Show "Amber Trip", (Special
diploma) Reval Hotel Lietuva, Vilnius, Lithuania

Jurgita Erminaitė arranged over 69 group exhibitions
in the country and abroad



Sandra Malaškevičiūtė "Optical brooch", plexyglass, silver, 85 x 31 mm, 2006

SANDRA MALAŠKEVIČIŪTĖ

Was born 1975 in Klaipėda, Lithuania

2004

Design (jewellery and blacksmiths studies), Telšiai
Department of Applied Art, Vilnius Academy of Arts,
Telšiai, Lithuania

2006

Master of Arts, Design, Vilnius Academy of Arts,
Vilnius, Lithuania

Since 2007 is a member of the Lithuanian Artists' Association

PERSONAL EXHIBITIONS

*2003 personal exhibition "Org", gallery UŽUPIS, Vilnius,
Lithuania*

*2004 personal exhibition "Org", gallery LANGAS, Kaunas,
Lithuania*

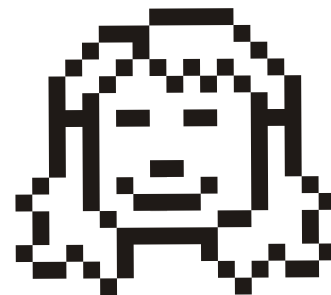
*2006 personal exhibition "Op brooches", gallery UŽUPIS,
Vilnius, Lithuania*

*2009 personal exhibition "Spektrum", gallery of Vilnius
Academy of Art ARGENTUM, Vilnius, Lithuania*

*2009 personal exhibition "Optical vegetables", gallery
UŽUPIS, Vilnius, Lithuania*

*2010 personal exhibition "Spektrum", gallery LANGAS,
Kaunas, Lithuania*

*Sandra Malaškevičiūtė arranged over 30 group exhibitions
in the country and abroad.*





Gallery „Meno niša“ was established in 2002. The niches which were found during the establishment period determined the title of the gallery. „Meno niša“ presents diverse professional art fields: painting, graphic, sculpture. The gallery's programme embraces various interesting artists involved in different activities. The majority of „Meno niša“ authors are winners of the National awards (Linas Katinas, Dalia Kasčiūnaitė, Feliksas Jakubauskas, Šarūnas Sauka). The gallery is also open to young and gifted artists and their projects.

During eight years of its activity „Meno niša“ arranged three international biennales of the enamel art which attracted participants from the most exotic countries of the world. The gallery has been constantly pursuing educative goals: here one can get acquainted with the subtleties of the enamel technique and try own abilities in this art.

Specialisation in the sphere of jewellery also adds to the individuality of the gallery. „Meno niša“, while considering itself a successor of the goldsmith guild, is constantly exhibiting works of Lithuanian and foreign jewellers and initiates major jewellery projects. Since 2004 the Lithuanian jewellery is presented to the international audience under the title “Juvelyrika lagamine” (“Out of Suitcase Jewellery”). This project is a collection of works of the famous Lithuanian artists, which is travelling around the world. The project and its symbolic title served their purpose: “Jewellery in Portmanteau” has already visited the following countries: Spain, Italy, Sweden, Russia, France, Georgia, Germany, Portugal, Belgium etc. The collection of the “Out of Suitcase jewellery” changes together with the expanding geography. A new collection does not confine with the traditional jewellery. It also presents contemporary artists who search for other forms of expression in jewellery, i.e. they not only choose materials and try to highlight the link between jewellery and other fields of art, but also change the concept of jewellery as an ornament (adornment). A new collection under the title “Out of Suitcase Contemporary Art” is currently travelling around the world.

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