

# voskhod

Operating in the intersection of the archaic and man-made environment, Anna Taganzeva-Kobzeva's works offer a multi-faceted perspective on the 21st century New Mythology. Inspired by the history of her family, knowledge of traditional healing and shamanism, that was passed down through generations, Anna uses hieroglyphs, runes, cuneiform, Nabatean writing and transforms archaic symbols with modern science and technology.

John Searle's famous 1980 experiment "Chinese Room" was refuting the hypothesis that a digital machine can have consciousness in the same sense that humans do. Referencing that experiment in her new project, SOFT ROOM, Anna places Golem, a mythical anthropomorphic creature associated with the mindless exercise of functions, in a closed space of the vitrine. The room is filled with the almost cozy softness of soft fabrics and is illuminated by a warm moonlight - the only reminder of the temporal context of the outside world. As the centerpiece of the exhibition, Golem takes on a role of atemporality, the Avatar, the character who acquires his features depending on the context and becomes trapped in a moment where the present remains hostage to the "great past" and the utopian future at one time.

Making an attempt to "reassemble the future," Anna invites us to observe a new experiment where past and future are perceived as modifications of the present, and the glittering shop windows around us cast doubt on which of us is the Golem.

## About our artist

Anna Taganzeva-Kobzeva - multimedia artist from St. Petersburg. She studied at St. Petersburg State University and ICA Moscow and currently continues her studies at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna at the faculty of visual arts.

Anna uses different media - from painting, sculpture, installation, to digital and video art, AR. Her research also includes immersive, performative and net art practices. Her visual language combines elements of hieroglyphic and runic writing and appeal to the history of ancient symbols and symbolism. Turning to the ideas of magic, she builds the magical into the field of modern science and philosophy.

In her works, one can often find mythological and occult motifs, rethought with artificial intelligence, digital forms of control, digitalization and, as a result, a change in the social structure of society and a shift in anthropocentrism. For Anna, it is important to combine the archaic and technogenic environment as temporary shifts and the deconstruction of the very concept of time within the works.

Personal exhibitions in the gallery "Fabula" and the fund "Sphere" in 2021. winner of the Digital Dreams 2020 competition with the support of the Embassy of Qatar with an exhibition made during a pandemic in a field sown with wheat, participant of "Time Stopped" as part of the 7th Moscow International Biennale for Young Art at MoMMA, a parallel program of the 7th and 6th Moscow International Biennale young art, as well as "The New art Fest 2020" Maker art pandemia Lisbon, Portugal. Participated in Art Week SPB 2020, Copenhagen Art Week 2019, Budapest Art Week, held a solo exhibition and residency in a shopping center with the support

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of the Austrian Cultural Forum (2019), Participated in many group exhibitions at various venues in Moscow and St. Petersburg.

## Quotes from the artist:

“ I like the approach when art is immersed in the surrounding context, when it is hard to understand – whether it is accidental, or it was intended that way”

“There is a certain logic (in which I work): that this is creepy - creepy to the point of fright. But works of art are not meant to frighten viewers, they just let you down, like silence in a horror movie - when you know something is going to happen, but you don't yet know what. It gives a kind of silence of presence. Intuitively, I strive to bring the work to this topic.”

In my work, it is important for me to define a field in which a viewer can construct their own meanings... I want to avoid providing a strict conceptual background that would explain each particular structure. This is important for me. This is rather a designation of the topic - a certain history, certain sensation, without imposing strong beliefs. There is already too much persuasion in the world right now....”

## About Voskhod

Voskhod was founded out of Basel by Daria Lobyntseva, an art lover, collector and practitioner, with two distinctive goals: engage a broader audience into understanding and communicating through art and make the process of buying art more accessible. Secondly, to help talented young artists advance their careers and get more exposure on the international stage.

To merge these two goals, Voskhod operates as an online art platform offering a fine selection of curated works from talented young artists. While the mission is to focus primarily on online sales through the platform, we are happy to leverage a small exhibition space in Basel to help connect with the local audience. The new vitrine is a relatively small exhibition place (2.6 x 6m) that allows compact exhibitions and shows and will help us to introduce our artists to the local Basel community.

We had never expected that our first exhibition would take place in such extreme circumstances. And it is now important to note, that while the project is taking roots from Russia through its founder, the view on the war has been very clear. We are condemning the war that is happening and we stand with Ukraine. We remain committed to supporting and nurturing our artists.

## Soft Room Installation

“Golem” 120 x 155 cm Oil on canvas 2021

"Crying Moon" 15x30 wood, metal, glass, colored pencil 2022

Blankets, IKEA, stickers and balls of foil

For any inquiries, please email: [info@voskhod.ch](mailto:info@voskhod.ch) and check our website for more works  
voskhod.ch