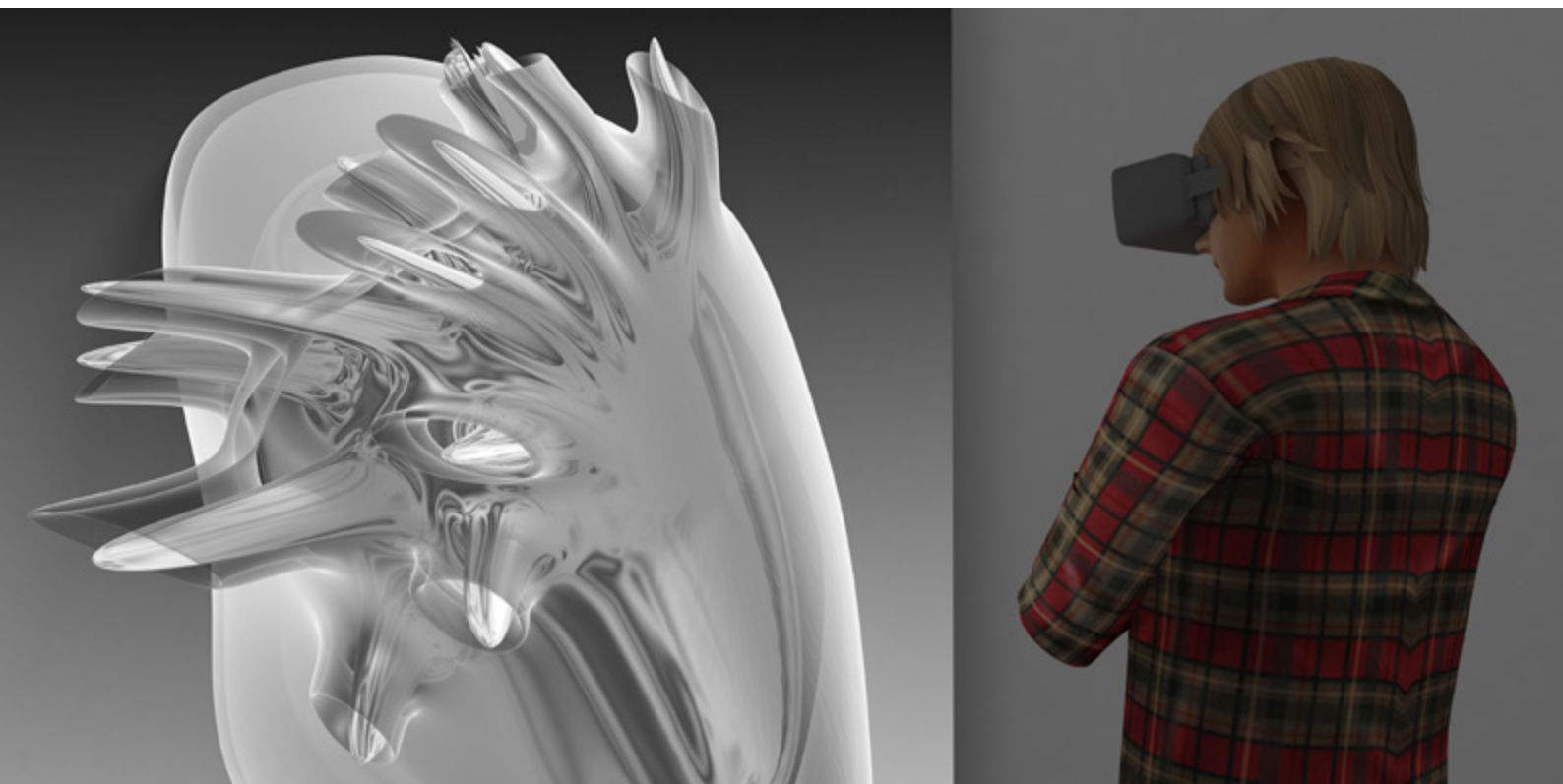


Al-Tiba9 Art Gallery LAUNCH EXHIBITION



INFOS

Title. VIRTUAL LANDSCAPES

Artist. Stepan Ryabchenko

Type. Online Solo Exhibition.

Duration. 19.12.2020 - 31.01.2021

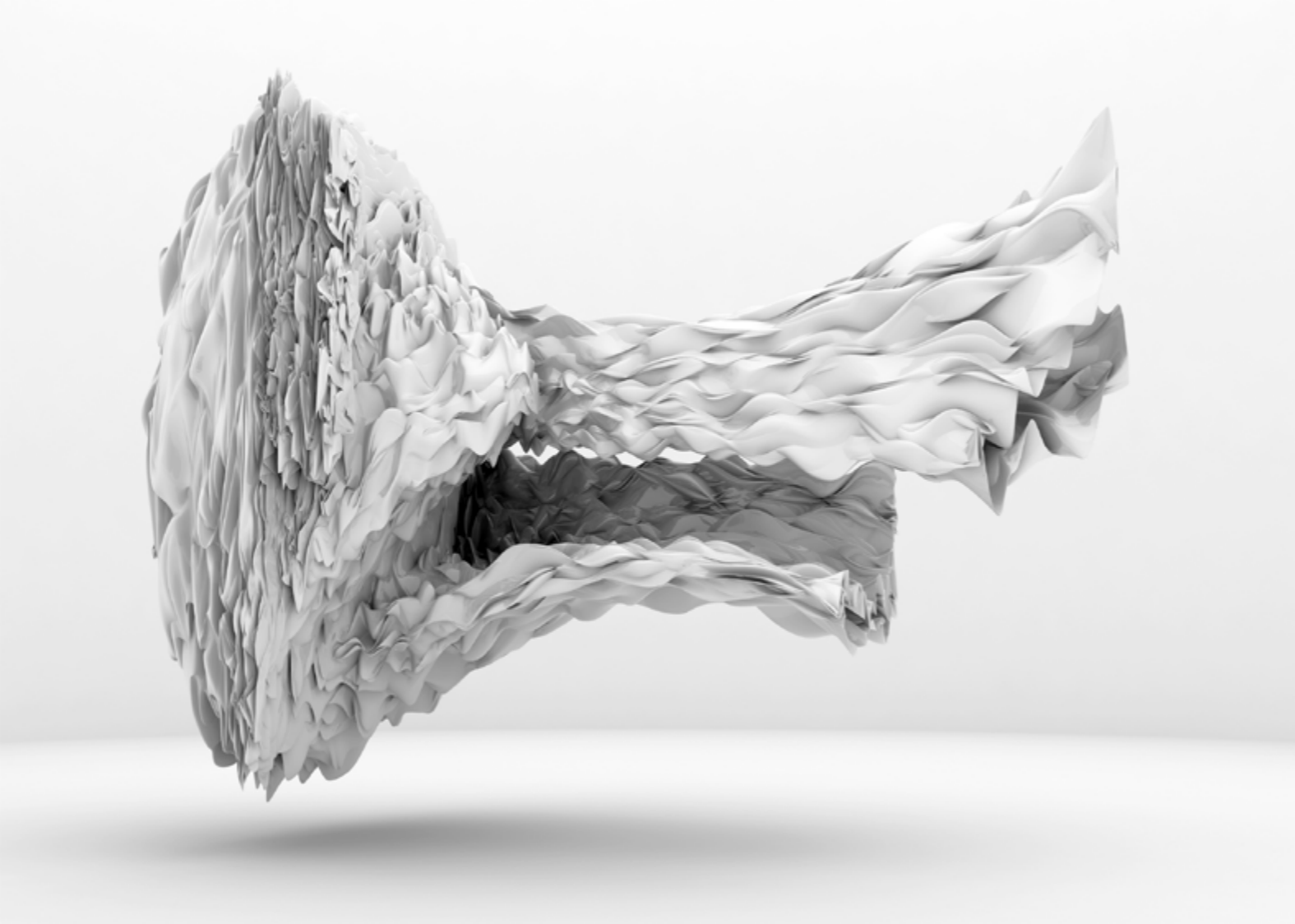
Opening. 19.12.2020 at 18H gmt+1 www.altiba9.gallery

Art Curator. Mohamed Benhadj

Admission >> Free

Al-Tiba9 gallery takes a new approach to contemporary art in a digital space. Based on the ideology of the Al-Tiba9 Platform, the Al-Tiba9 art gallery emphasizes emerging international artists. The gallery aims to highlight the vision of the future executed by outstanding artists through visual arts, digital and experimental art, virtual art, music and architecture.

Founded by Mohamed Benhadj, curator and art advisor with decade long experience in working with established artists, galleries, museums, and collectors, AL-Tiba9 gallery runs several programs to promote international artists and invites art professionals through online exhibitions, collector publications, participation in art fairs, and digital events via social media, and much more.



EXHIBITION STATEMENT | Virtual Landscapes

We consider that which is the smallest part of life to be so distant that we hold no relationship with it. The smallest living particle is not even considered a life form. And yet, our relationship with it is profound. A virus can change the course of human existence, and is so small we may not even consider it part of our immediate natural environment.

In virtual space, "nature" can be redefined. Elements can be reconstructed, repositioned, reinterpreted, providing endless possibilities, making the virtual very real. The same principle was applied in the renaissance period with the liberation of the body in the western world, which has become the basis for today's contemporary society.

Science and Art are both interpretations of nature, our nature, our environments, and relationships with each of these. As we consider any past, we must consider the present and acknowledge it as a past for any future. So, as we are present in the future of our own past, we are also living in the history of our own future.

Through this "Virtual Landscapes" exhibition of Stepan Ryabchenko, the curator has been struck wondering if the future might have its lens focused toward this moment. Imagine, virtual technology and advanced science looking at human history, myth, our relationships to the physical world. And we are looking right back at it. How we relate to this question of time and space, to life and resonance, to our own seeds of empathy and compassion, to the forces of life and light which we all imbue, may be the most compelling reminder that we are all virtual expressions, contrasts of light, of mass, density and form.

Did future technology come from a distant past? Are we looking in the right direction? Is this present moment a virtual composite of every piece of coded information and wisdom compiled and transposed across space and time? We are living on the cusp of a new virtual history. Are we doing all that we can to carry the message of our humanity forward, to ensure our survival?

Mohamed Benhadj, Art Curator



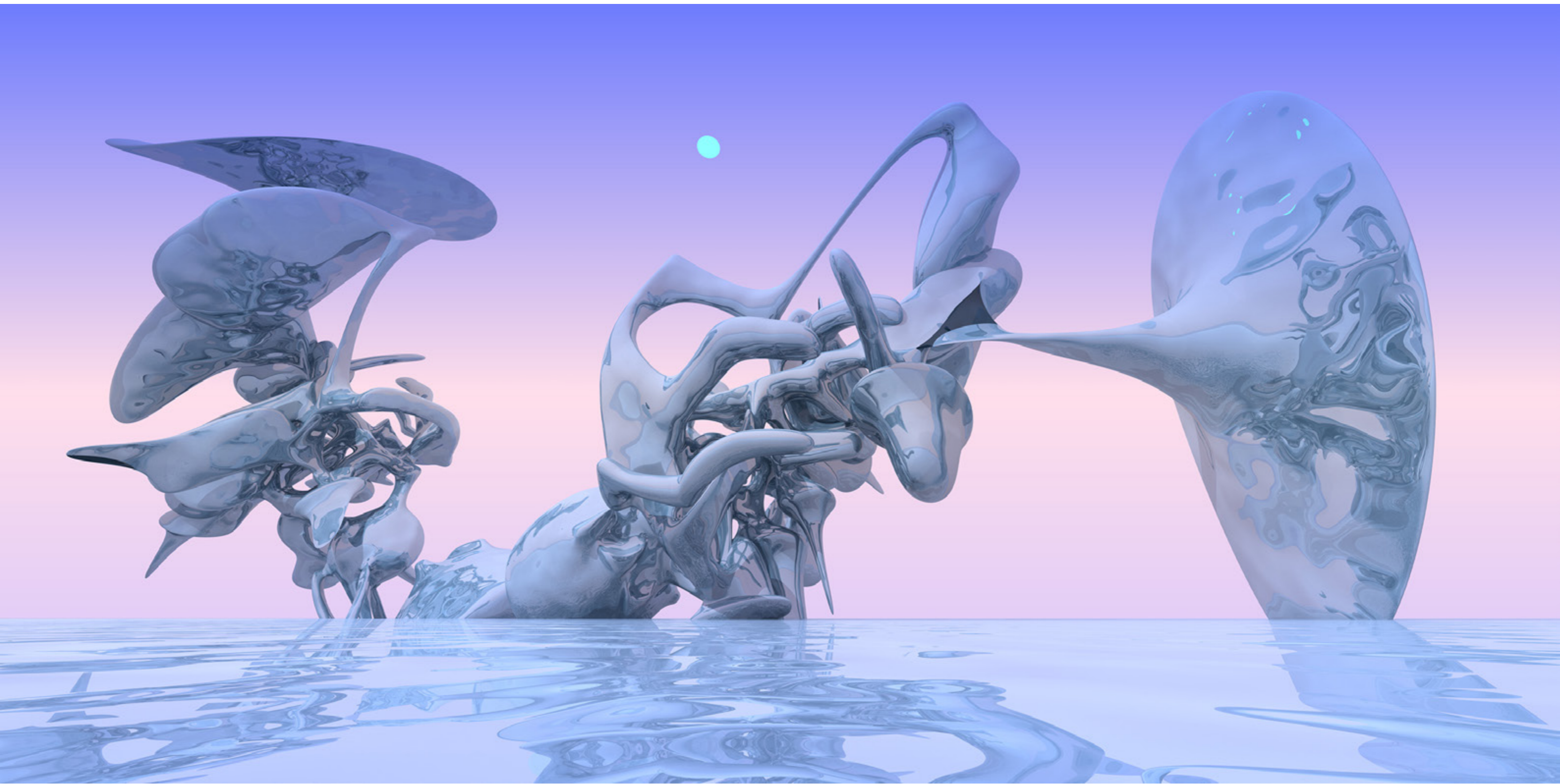
BIOGRAPHY | Stepan Ryabchenko

Born 1987 in Odessa, Ukraine, Stepan Ryabchenko is a leading Ukrainian media artist and Art Laboratory chief curator. His work spans conceptual architecture, sculpture, and light installations. The focus of his attention is the boundary between the real and virtual world and the new nature of art. In his artwork, the artist creates his digital universe with its heroes and mythology. Well-known for his monumental prints and video-art installations of non-existent characters, including Computer viruses, Electronic winds, Virtual flowers, etc.

In his art practice, Stepan Ryabchenko always tries various forms of art and technology, giving priority, especially to innovative technology. With the rapid development of technology in recent decades, art and science are more closely linked than ever before. The cutting-edge integration of the two has brought forth a myriad of new phenomena that Stepan Ryabchenko believes merit further research and analysis.

Like science, art is also a tool for understanding the world around us. Science and art use different methods, but they have a lot in common in that they need to be open, creative, and have an endless interest in learning new things. Furthermore, knowledge itself is an infinite process, an engine that stimulates the development of various human activities.

Stepan Ryabchenko's works have been widely exhibited internationally, including the Ludwig Museum exhibition in Budapest, Saatchi Gallery in London, Krolkarnia in Warsaw, Museum of Contemporary Art in Zagreb and Danubiana Meulensteen Art Museum in Bratislava, Manege and Gostiny Dvor in Moscow, etc. His works have also been exhibited in many places in Ukraine, including PinchukArtCentre, Mystetskyi Arsenal, National Art Museum, M17 Contemporary Art Center, Museum of Odessa Modern Art, Modern Art Research Institute, etc.



Tranquil

Digital print on aluminum under plexiglass (Diasec)

The Tranquil piece represents a state of calmness, fixed in its temporary stability. It is a pause between the storms of the turbulent present. Tranquil is simultaneously the long-awaited peace and rest, the lack of movement, development, as well as the ability to fill the sails with the winds of change. It contains the ambivalence and unknowing of the coming moment. Despite the arbitrary nature of the scene, the setting retains elements of realism and proximity to a natural landscape. The streamlined shapes resemble liquid metal. Those shapes reflect in the smooth waters, with barely noticeable ripples, frozen in anticipation of the unknown. Natalia Matsenko, art critic



Evening Drift

Digital print on aluminum under plexiglass (Diasec)

Stepan Ryabchenko-Melissa (Keeping the Balance Works from the Art Collection Telekom, Ludwig Museum, Budapest, Hungary)



MOHAMED BENHADJ

ART CURATOR

Mohamed Benhadj, one of the influential art curators in Algeria, is the icon of performance art known for his audacious and avant-garde style. Being the booster of the International Cultural Exchange in contemporary art in Algeria, he strengthened the possibilities of change and growth for Algerian and international artists by exchanging and promoting art on a broader level.

Driven by his vision of a common global platform to provide growth opportunities to emerging artists in contemporary art, Benhadj established Al-Tiba9 in 2013. His focus has been on the international exhibition of modern art, performance, and fashion design, promoting the exchange between art institutions and artists gathering in an Arab social-cultural environment.

In 2014, Mohamed extended his philosophy to Barcelona, Spain, where he gave his art exhibitions in 2017 a new touch by merging performance and fashion design as an alternative platform for independent designers to freely express themselves and introduce them to the art world.

Mohamed Benhadj has been carrying on his journey for over ten years now where he has collaborated with the Ministry of Culture, Museums, Art Institutions, Embassies, and Art Centers, became the most active curator from Algeria, a cultural partner, and Ambassador of the Arte Laguna Prize, a famous art competition in Arsenale of Venice, Italy.

His goal is to create a new pole of contemporary art in North Africa, offering the world a unique experience of creativity, possibility, and growth like no other around the globe.

Curator@altiba9.com

www.altiba9.gallery

www.altiba9.com

Barcelona, Spain.

