

Saint Petersburg, Russia

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Varvara Zankovich

PORTFOLIO

EDUCATION

2014-2021 Academy of Fine Arts in Saint Petersburg
2018-2019 Beaux - Arts de Paris

BIOGRAPHY

Born in Saint Petersburg, Russia,
where she currently lives and works

Works of Varvara Zankovich are held in state museum collections in China and Russia, as well as in private collections in the United States, China, Azerbaijan, United Kingdom.

EXHIBITIONS

2024 Jackson's Art Prize 2024 Winners Exhibition, Bankside Gallery, London, United Kingdom
2024 Exhibition of illustrations "Summer Edition", The Brick Lane Gallery, London, United Kingdom
2024 Exhibition "The creation of a book. Exhibition of the illustrations of the publishing house Rare Book Saint Petersburg", State Hermitage, Saint Petersburg, Russia
2023 Exhibition of illustrations from the archives of the Research Museum at the Russian Academy of Arts "Unpublished", Academy of Arts, Saint Petersburg, Russia
2023 Exhibition "New Names", Gallery "Colours of Life", Saint Petersburg, Russia
2023 Exhibition of illustrations by finalists of the international festival "Mors", Moscow, Russia
2022 Graphic Biennale "Kubachi Tower", Kubachi, Dagestan
2022 Group exhibition "Abstract Energies", The Russian Ark Gallery, Singapore
2019 "Collaboration of Russian and Chinese Artists. 70th Anniversary of China-Russia Friendship", Haikou National Museum, Haikou, Hainan Island, China
2019 "Exhibition of Foreign Students", Beaux-Arts, Paris, France
2018 "Jean - Michel Alberola Workshop", Beaux-Arts, Paris, France
2018 "Breakthrough", Ekaterina Cultural Foundation, Moscow, Russia

ART FAIRS AND AWARDS

2026	"From a Professor's Apartment by KGallery", Graphic Art Festival, Saint Petersburg, Russia
2024	Judge's Choice Award, Jackson's Art Prize 2024, London, United Kingdom
2024	Affordable Art Fair, Hampstead, London, United Kingdom
2023	Finalist at the international festival "Mors", Moscow, Russia
2023	Recipient of the grant from the Art Support Foundation "Colours of Life, Saint Petersburg, Russia

PROJECTS

2025-2026	Multimedia exhibition "70 Years in Detail", dedicated to the anniversary season of the Moscow Sovremennik Theatre. Principal artist, illustrator. Main Stage, Sovremennik Theatre, Moscow, Russia
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PUBLICATIONS

2024	Jackson's Art Blog, interview with the Judge's Choice Award winner
2026	Modern Renaissance Magazine Issue 33

ARTIST STATEMENT

Varvara Zankovich is an artist and illustrator whose practice combines a strong academic foundation in drawing and painting with contemporary digital techniques. Trained in traditional media, she brings an understanding of anatomy, composition, colour, and observational drawing into her digital work, using these skills as a basis for a more flexible and contemporary visual language. Her illustration practice focuses on subjects related to psychology, lifestyle, sport, and science.

Varvara Zankovich explores the idea of a life journey through textile-based works reflecting on both the acceptance of life's flow and the possibility of resisting it. Landscape and human presence merge into a continuous current, but she also explores the possibility of acting against it, the possibility of dissenting from it.

She depicts the places that have shaped her, translating memory into physical sensation - the splash of water, the rustle of waves, the cold, enveloping emptiness. These qualities extend into her linocut practice.

Strongly influenced by abstractionist teachers in Paris, the artist transforms all the monotonous stages of working with linocut into a creative process - applying multiple colours simultaneously to a single engraved block using her fingers, various rollers and fabrics, adding additional engraving, drying the paints thoroughly with magnesia for effects. She combines offset, linocut and lithography. An attempt to convey synaesthesia leads the artist to use fabrics to create volume, moving away from the flat canvas, and to use impasto monotypes over the engraving, thus creating a moment of chance - how paint reacts under pressure.