

Maya Golyshkina (2001)

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“The best way to get rid of pain is to laugh at it”

In a world constrained by judgement and conservatism, self-taught artist Maya Golyshkina creates her own reality in which societal norms are defied and expectations inverted.

Golyshkina found her artistic voice amid the confinement of 2020’s lockdowns. During this time, her room became a stage for her fantastical and dissonant photographic self-portraits in which she embodied anthropomorphic renditions of various everyday objects (a tube of toothpaste, a fried egg, an ear).

Central to Golyshkina’s practice is her body, a tool she employs to provoke the viewer while simultaneously exposing her vulnerability. Following a lineage of artists such as Claude Cahun, Cindy Sherman and Gillian Wearing, Golyshkina challenges stereotypes, particularly those promoted by social media in an increasingly image-obsessed world.

Golyshkina’s work is deliberately imperfect: Her costumes are hand-made from cheap materials with crudely-applied paint and her photographs bear visible traces of digital manipulation. By embracing the rough edges that are typically excluded from sanitised public personas, she confronts the superficiality of social media and the excesses of modern society.

AWARDS

2023 ART PARTNER CREATECOP, honourable mention,
UK

2021 Collective East Award (Winner), performance art,
UK

Solo exhibitions:

09/25 Martin Parr x Maya Golyshkina, Galerie Nicola von Senger, Zurich, CH

09/24 Embodying Dissonance: A Journey Beyond the Norm, Seventeen gallery, London, UK

05/24 Something is wrong with Maya, Moosey art, London, UK

02/23 First solo exhibition at Galerie Nicola von Senger, Zurich, CH

Group exhibitions:

11/25 “Photos on fridges”, Harkawik, New York, USA

11/25 “Under my skin”, Liza Fetissova gallery, Paris, FR

09/25 “Soft anchor”, Homecoming gallery, Amsterdam, NL

09/24 “Currency of the future”, Bank of England museum, London, UK

12/22 “M3 STUDIO”, Zurich, CH

08/22 “Please Knock exhibition”, Chinatown soup gallery, New York, USA

03/22 “Live stream in your head”, SXSW NFT GALLERY, TX, USA

01/22 “Me every time when I see this world”
Redan covid cinema, **video show**, Redan Gallery, SW