

Issue 1 Volume 2

OUT & ABOUT STYLE

MAGAZINE

February 2020

TAKING LESSONS FROM
M H.E. AMBASSADOR

**HJAYCEELYN
AURORA
QUINTANA**

PHILIPPINE
AMBASSADOR
TO THE UAE

**FINANCIAL
LITERACY:**
LEARN THESE
COMPONENTS

**THE
DARK
TRUTH**

ABOUT
EATING
DISORDERS

THE WORLD'S
TOP 16
BREATHTAKING
BEACHES

IGOR

SERGEEV

One of Dubai's Most Influential Russian Businessmen



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TALENT POOL

Meet the Artist:

**ALENA
VAVILINA**

 [av.artcreator](https://www.instagram.com/av.artcreator)

www.arts-av.com



1. TELL US A BIT ABOUT YOURSELF.

My name is Alena Vavilina, and I create my art under AV Art. Soon after I graduated from an academic art school in Moscow, my art and story started. I decided to create my own signature style and broke the rules which I learned in art school. It was a hard path, but after numerous experiments, my style has been shaped. I'd love to see art collectors and enthusiasts enjoy my artworks at numerous exhibitions worldwide.

I think my career developed quite fast. I started exhibiting in Moscow as a teenager, and since then, I have been invited to numerous important contemporary art events such as Miami Art Basel, Carrousel du Louvre in Paris, Art Expo Malaysia, Asia Contemporary Art show in Hong Kong, World Art Dubai and so on. I have been selected among numerous Russian artists to present at the Russian Federation Embassy at Art Expo Malaysia in 2018. Currently, I have a long list of solo and group exhibitions in galleries around the world. My artworks and sculptures have been shown in countries such as France, Belgium, Macedonia, Malaysia, Hong Kong, the UAE, and Russia. I am still exploring other countries where I can introduce my artworks.

2. WHEN AND HOW DID YOU DISCOVER YOUR ARTISTIC TALENTS?

I've been fascinated with drawing since my childhood years. My first Art teacher was my father. He taught me how to use watercolour and draw still life. I still keep my first watercolour artworks. I attended different art classes and completed five years of academic art school in Moscow, where I got all the classic skills of drawing. As soon as I graduated, I became a full-time artist.

3. WHY ART?

Authors use words and phrases; it gives them the possibility to write stories about people's life, express their philosophical thoughts, describe imaginary situations and use their fantasies. I always say artists are writers who write their stories using paint, paper and other media. It is one of the ways to deliver messages to the public and to tell your story.

4. WHAT THEMES DO YOU PURSUE?

The main idea of my artworks and sculptures revolves around nature. I ask the viewers to stop and have a break in their busy, everyday lives. I invite them to appreciate and pay attention to nature which surrounds us, helping to

find the balance in our lives. The main purpose of my artwork is not politics or everyday problems. I believe that the majority of people need more relaxation, observation, and finding inner balance.

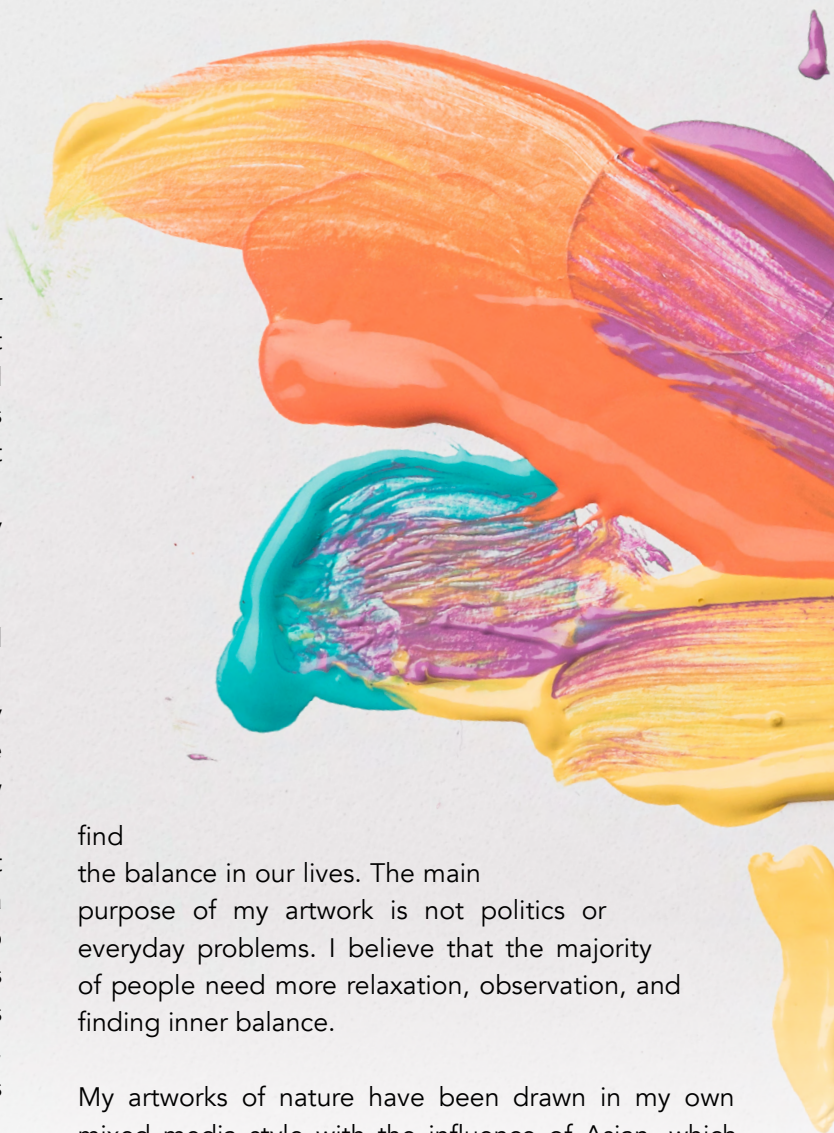
My artworks of nature have been drawn in my own mixed media style with the influence of Asian, which is mainly Chinese art, and a minimalistic approach. Chinese philosophy has a great impact on my art.

5. HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR ARTWORK?

As I mentioned earlier, I have a mixed media style on paper and canvas. I always use a minimum of three media in a painting. Moreover, gold leaf and silver leaf are my favourite media.

I do have paintings where I used red wine (*No boundaries*, Collection 4 and 3), which is absorbed in paper and left incredibly beautiful dark red spots.

In my latest artworks on canvas such as *Cherry Blossom*, *Red Balloon* and *Elephant*, I used artificial fur and wire along with silver leaves and acrylic paint. I like the mixed media approach as it makes the paintings more interesting and sophisticated; it attracts viewers to spend more time investigating every centimetre of the artwork. The same mixed media concept is what I also use in sculptures. For example, my collection of *Ocean Drops* and *Ocean Drops Little* are done from cement and gypsum; the wings are metallic, and the body of the sculpture is covered with acrylic paint.





6. WHAT'S THE BEST THING ABOUT BEING AN ARTIST?

I would say being an artist is not a job; it's a lifestyle. You are absolutely dedicating all your life to art.

7. HOW DO YOU KNOW WHEN A PIECE OF ARTWORK IS DONE?

It's the hardest part for most artists, as far as I know. I would say it is an inner sense which tells you to stop. Sometimes, I take a day off to have a rest from painting a particular artwork and then looking at it from a different angle. If I am happy about what I see, I stop working on it.

8. WHICH ARTISTS ARE YOU MOST INFLUENCED BY?

I love numerous artists from around the world such as Gustav Klimt, Takashi Murakami, George Condo, Givi Vashakidze—the list can be endless.

I appreciate their styles and paintings, but my main approach is not to be influenced by any artist. You may end up copying the artist with minor changes, or you might always be associated with his art and stay in his shadow. My target is to be recognised by my own style.

9. WHAT INSPIRES YOUR ARTWORK?

It can be absolutely everything that I see or surrounds

me. For example, one of my artworks was inspired by a cup of tea. I was pouring black tea in a cup, and it left a few bubbles on the surface of the tea. I found it interesting, and I took it as a subject or main element for my artwork. Definitely, nature is one of the biggest sources of inspiration.

10. BIGGEST ACHIEVEMENT SO FAR?

My biggest achievement is quick career development and recognition by numerous art curators of international galleries. The *Butterflies* series brought about my 2018 award. The most recent development is an invitation to an art exhibition held in Florence, Italy, known as Florence Biennale, or the Biennale Internazionale Dell'Arte Contemporanea. I am honoured to have been invited by Pasquale Celona, the president of this exhibition.

11. DO HABITS HELP (OR HINDER) CREATIVITY?

I have a habit of spending at least two hours a day drawing, no matter if I'm working on the sketches or details of paintings. I think this habit is very useful as it pushes me to create more and deliver more artworks to art enthusiasts.

12. COMPLETE THIS QUOTE: "EVERY ARTIST....."

Every artist is a mirror which reflects his own world.

13. WHAT IS AN ARTISTIC OUTLOOK ON LIFE?

From my point of view, the artistic outlook on life is the perception of beauty and an attempt to reflect that unique perception in his or her art. While I have been travelling and presenting my artworks around the world, I figured out that it's important to involve more people in the art world as it develops a sense of beauty and harmony.

14. WHERE CAN WE FIND YOUR ARTWORK?

My artworks can be found in several galleries around the world which include: International Artists Management (IAM) Gallery in Andaz Capital Gate Hotel, Abu Dhabi; Art WeMe Contemporary Gallery in Kuala Lumpur; Artistry's Gallery in Vienna; and the art auction at Winzavod Art Gallery in Moscow.

Moreover, you can visit my booth at the upcoming big contemporary art exhibition on April 8 — 11 in World Art Dubai, where I'm going to present new sculptures and paintings.

For more information about me and my upcoming exhibitions, visit my official website at www.arts-av.com

ARTWORK DESCRIPTIONS

1. OCEAN DROP GYPSUM, METALLIC WIRE WINGS

The artist has always been fascinated by the elements of nature and "ocean (water)", and it has a special place in it. "Ocean drop" is another piece which reveals the contemporary vision of the ocean. It is the soul of the ocean. Such representation of the ocean is based on Japanese culture and believes that each object and nature has a soul (what also vividly can be seen in anime). The sculpture has a shape of water drop in anime style, while eyes and wings are the sign of all living ocean beings.



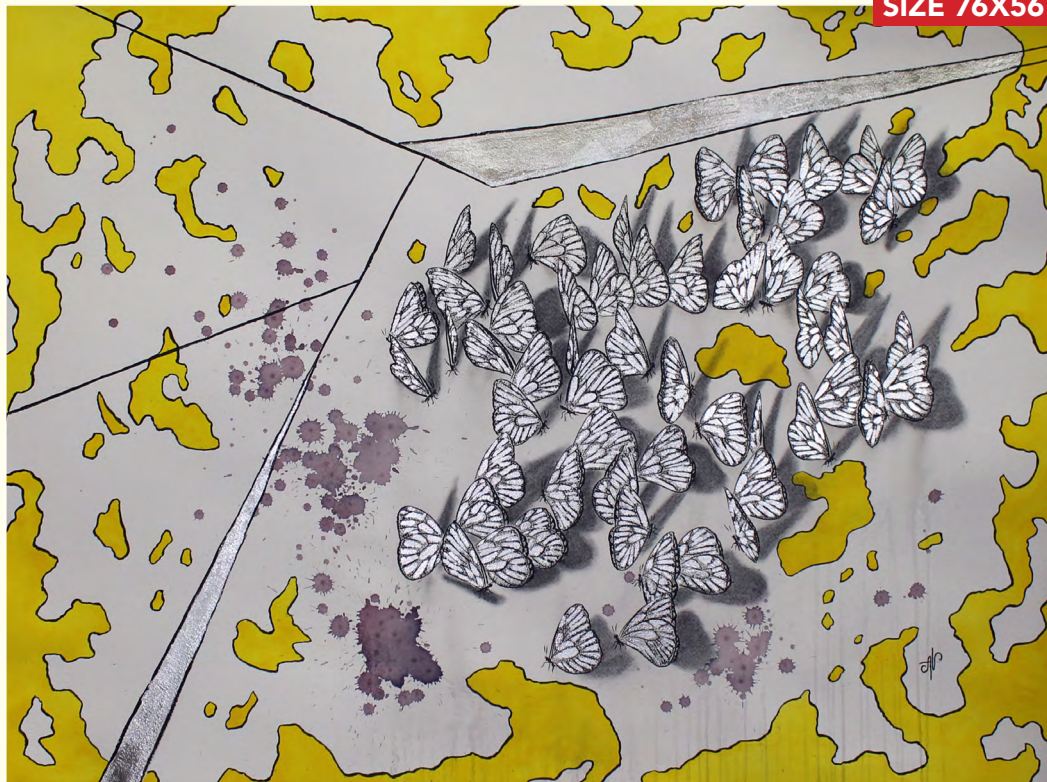
SIZE 30X20X15



2. NO BOUNDARIES 3

MEDIA: PAPER, INK, CHARCOAL, WINE, SILVER LEAF, WATERCOLOUR

SIZE 76X56 CM



3. NO BOUNDARIES 4

MEDIA: PAPER, INK, CHARCOAL, WINE, SILVER LEAF, WATERCOLOUR

SIZE 100 X 65 CM

The *No boundaries* collection is one of the most recent creations of the artist. The presence of butterflies represents the fragility of people's lives, while the yellow borders symbolise geographical boundaries. The artist is trying to deliver the idea that our lives should not perch on someone's boundaries. We should find our unique ways and enjoy our individual way of living.



**4. THREE BUTTERFLIES,
MEDIA: PAPER, INK, WATERCOLOUR, SILVER LEAF**

SIZE 76X56 CM



Butterflies have been drawn in the favourite colour palette of the artist. The effect of transparency represents the fragility of these mystical winged creatures. The artist visualises the sky through silver leaf waves on the left side of the artwork.

5. **RED BALLOON MEDIA,
CANVAS, ARTIFICIAL FUR, ACRYLIC, SILVER LEAF, METALLIC WIRE**

SIZE 101 X 152 CM



The artist has always been fascinated by the elements of nature, and *Red Balloon* confirms this fascination. The main inspiration dawned on the artist after observing partially-abandoned gardens in Sicily, and unknown to the artist at first, wildflowers covered the grey walls. *Red Balloon* is a philosophical rethinking of observing nature. The artist's admiration with water can be seen through the water drops and little puddles. Water is one of the natural elements that can be observed in perpetuity, while a red balloon symbolises an element of a man-made creation that can only be observed in a fleeting moment.

6.

CHERRY BLOSSOM,**MEDIA: CANVAS, ARTIFICIAL FUR, ACRYLIC, SILVER LEAF, METALLIC WIRE****SIZE 101X152 CM**

The fall of cherry blossom petals is considered to be one of the most beautiful moments in nature. The artist took the opportunity to show her contemporary vision of the shower of cherry blossoms. Little, fluffy white "Cherry Monster" invites the curious eye to watch the grandeur of summer and stop for a while. He stands by a grey wall that represents our monotonous busy lives.

**7. BUBBLES, BLACK COLLECTION,
MEDIA: BLACK PAPER, GOLD LEAF, CHARCOAL, ACRYLIC**

SIZE 100 X 70 CM







OUT & ABOUT STYLE MAGAZINE

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