

## **NIYAZ NAJAFOV** (1968)





1968 Born in Baku, Azerbaijan 1983-1986 BTF College, Baku (Azerbaijan) 1986-1988 Military service, Baku (Azerbaijan)

1988-1990 1st glazing artistic seminar, Baku (Azerbaijan)

1990-1998 Fight coach, body guard and police artificer, Baku (Azerbaijan)

2nd glazing artistic seminar (first time working with oil colors), Baku (Azerbaijan) Since 2004

2004 Group exhibition « New Circle », ACH, Moscow (Russia)

Group exhibition « Man & Woman », Sattar Bahlulzadeh Gallery, Baku (Azerbaïjan) 2005 2006 Group exhibition « Movement & Space », Ministry of Culture & Tourism of Azerbaijan, Baku 2006 Group exhibition « L'Autre Art », U.N.O, Geneva (Switzerland)

2007 Group exhibition « Patterns from Qobustan », Geneva (Switzerland)

2007 Group exhibition « Contemporary Painters of Azerbaijan », Kassel Art Museum, Germany

2007 Group exhibition «5+», Kishinev Museum of Modern Art, Moldavia

Group exhibition « Global Warming », Singvardson Gallery, Rodby (Denmark) 2008

Solo exhibition « Year of Azerbaïjan in Germany: Art is not only ugly », Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Germany, Berlin 2008

2008 Group exhibition « The Four Seasons », The Museum Center, Baku (Azerbaijan) 2009 Solo exhibition & publication - Kichik Qalart Gallery, Baku (Azerbaijan) 2009 Solo exhibition - French embassy in Azerbaijan, Baku 2009 Group exhibition - Art Basel (Fair), Pavilion of Azerbaijan, Switzerland

2009

Group exhibition « BAKuNLIMITED », Basel (Switzerland)

Group exhibition « Cogito Ergo Sum », Pavilion of Azerbaijan - 53rd Venice Biennale of Contemporary Art, Italy 2009

Since 2010 Lives and works partially in Paris (France)

Solo exhibition & opening - Permanent collection (~30 paintings), Baku Museum of Modern Art (Azerbaijan) 2010 2010 Group exhibition & residence - Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris (France)

2010 Solo exhibition - Yaradan Gallery, Baku (Azerbaijan) 2010 Group exhibition « Visions Solidaires », Galerie Brissot, Paris 2010 Solo exhibition « Niyaz-Daria », Galerie Vivienne, Paris (France) 2010 Group exhibition « Year of Russia in France », Galerie Brissot, Paris

2010 Solo exhibition - Galerie Vivienne, Paris (France)

2010-2011 Group exhibition - 12th International Cairo Biennale, Egypt

2011 Group exhibition & publication - Park Bulvar (Art Festival), Baku (Azerbaijan)

2011 Solo exhibition « Avant Première », Instant Gallery, Paris (France)

2011 Solo exhibition - Lab'Art, Melun (France)

2011 Group exhibition « Terres de Pensée », Galerie Brissot, Paris (France)

2011 Group exhibition - Galerie Da-End, Paris (France)

2011 Solo exhibition « Down to Earth », Gazelli Art House Gallery, London (UK) Solo exhibition « Illusions Parallèles », Instant Gallery, Paris (France) 2011 Group exhibition - Art London (Fair), with Gazelli Art House Gallery (UK) 2011

2011 Group exhibition « Ön söz - Foreward », YARAT! Contemporary Art Space, Baku (Azerbaijan)

2012 Solo exhibition « Modern Masters of Moma Baku », Hôtel d'Evreux (Place Vendôme), with Galerie Nikki Diana

Marguardt, Paris (France)

2012 Group exhibition - Salon Comparaison (Grand Palais), Paris (France)

2012 Group exhibition & publication « Commonist », YARAT! Contemporary Art Space, Baku (Azerbaijan)

2012 Solo exhibition & publication « Cycle Invasion », Instant Gallery, Paris (France)

2012 Group exhibition « Fly to Baku - Contemporary Art from Azerbaijan », Phillips de Pury Auction House, London (UK)

Group exhibition « 012 », YARAT! Contemporary Art Space, Baku (Azerbaijan) 2012

2012 Group exhibition « Fly to Baku - Contemporary Art from Azerbaijan », Hôtel Salomon de Rothschild, Paris (France)

2012 Group exhibition « Merging Bridges », Museum of Modern Art, Baku (Azerbaijan)

Group exhibition « Fly to Baku - Contemporary Art from Azerbaijan », ME Collectors Room, Berlin (Germany) 2012

2013 Solo exhibition & publication « Dancing on Bones », Gazelli Art House Gallery, London (UK)

2013 Group exhibition « Fly to Baku - Contemporary Art from Azerbaijan », Multimedia Art Museum, Moscow (Russia) 2013 Group exhibition « Fly to Baku - Contemporary Art from Azerbaijan », Museo nazionale delle arti del XXI secolo

(MAXXI), Rome (Italy)

2013 Group exhibition « Home Sweet Home », Azerbaijani Cultural Center in Paris (France)

2013 Solo exhibition & publication « Fourchette », Yay Gallery, Baku (Azerbaijan)

Solo exhibition - Galerie Nikki Diana Marquardt, Paris (France) 2013

2013 Group exhibition - Salon Business'Art (Espace Pierre Cardin), Paris (France)

2013 Group exhibition - Les Hivernales de Montreuil, France

2013 Group exhibition - Zona MACO Mexico Arte Contemporaneo, Mexico





Feathers (Перья), 2011



Cutting the poppy (Kocapu), 2013 90x95cm





Теѕреу (Теспей), 2013-14



Le coiffeur (1) (Парикмахер).

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•	2014	Group exhibition « MEGAPOLIS », Baku Museum of Modern Art, Azerbaijan
•	2014	Group exhibition « E*phem*er*a », Baku Museum of Modern Art, Azerbaijan
•	2014	Group exhibition - Ningbo Museum of Art, China

2014 Solo exhibition - Galerie Nikki Diana Marquardt, Paris (France) 2014 Group publication - Contemporary Art from Central & Eastern Europe

Group exhibition « Gözü Yaşlı Hocalım - My Khojaly of Sorrow », Beşiktaş-based 2015

Palace Collections Museum, Istanbul (Turkey)

2015 Solo exhibition « The Approach », Gazelli Art House Gallery, London (UK)

Group exhibition « Plant it! », Galerie Mansart, Paris (France) 2015

2015 Solo exhibition « HET - NON », Museum of Modern Art, Baku (Azerbaijan)

2015-2016 Group exhibition « 8 +/- 2 », Galerie Mansart, Paris (France)

«...Niyaz is a sportsman; he used to be a professional boxer. He is painting the same way that he runs a marathon: quickly and regularly. He never stops and can produce 6 paintings a night! Not as a performance, but just because he needs it. He is painting the same way that he was boxing: strongly and without losing time on the details. As a result, he makes us Knocked Out!



The world he is describing, his world, is a ring where he is fighting with himself, with everything he carries inside himself: his fears and his desires.

This workaholic autodidact who proudly says that he never graduated from any art academy doesn't follow any trend and he occupies a specific place in the local art production...»

## Olivier Mestelan

(art critic)

«...Niyaz is an artist, a fanatic. Painting is his life. While the sun is up he prepares the canvases, when it goes down - he works. He starts to panic if there are less than 100 prepared canvases waiting for him at home. He has hundreds of canvases and ideas and he is afraid of not having enough time to embody them.

When I first saw his paintings I was excited - this always happens when you see something real. That is the personal drama which has been properly reflected in composition and color - his artworks make an extremely entire impression. Most of all he is afraid of being alike. His characters are often lonely and unhappy, they act strangely, absurdly and sometimes even cruelly. But life is diverse - it can be both ugly and beautiful. When Niyaz paints flowers or landscapes we understand that life is beautiful. When it comes as to the painting itself - I should say that Niyaz's honesty, openness and thoroughgoingness have found reflections in his artworks.

His paintings make huge emotional impression. He ails for mankind - falsehood, violence, injustice, hypocrisy, cruelty - these are the blemishes he is fighting against in his creativity...»

100x81cm (40F)





Sausage jumper (Прыгун с колбасой), 2013 130x97cm (60F)



Black chicken (Черная курица), 2014



Les pins (Сосны), 2016 70x75cm



130x81 (60M)

Paysage de nuit (Ночной пейзаж), 2016 100x65cm (40M)



Life carnival (Маски), 2011-12 95х91ст



Fly killer (I) (Мухобойщик), 2012-14 81x100cm (40F)



100x75cm (40P)

Public collections: Baku Museum of Modern Art (Azerbaijan); Rovereto Modern Art Museum (Italy). Private collections: United Kingdom, Switzerland, France, Germany, Italy, Denmark, Russia, Israel, Egypt, United States, Mexico, ...