

‘Working primarily with sculpture and large sculptural installations, Nika Neelova’s work seem to inhabit a post-human world in which human needs and definitions have long since been forgotten, remaining only as a vestigial memory in the forms of the sculptural subjects. Abstracted and seemingly evolved over countless generations from their ancestors; recognisable everyday objects have moved past the functionality once imposed upon them and become something new and different. Neelova’s work, imaginatively speaking, steps outside the Holocene radically shifting the temporal frames of reference within which we would locate art, appearing as a dream about a future space and time.’

‘Sailing on Solaris’ by Nick Hackworth

**Osnova** is a young and dynamic Moscow art space that provides a vital platform for emerging artists from countries worldwide. Osnova strive to bring new artist names to the forefront of the contemporary art scene, and engage extensively with the local community integrating it to the international art scene.

Nika Neelova  
Lemniscate VIII  
2018  
Reassembled bannister handrails  
250 x 120 x 70 cm (97.5 x 46.8 x 27.3 in) NINE-011

Nika Neelova  
Lemniscate VI  
2018  
Reassembled bannister handrails  
190 x 80 x 24 cm (74.1 x 31.2 x 9.36 in) NINE-009

Nika Neelova  
Lemniscate VII  
2018  
Reassembled bannister handrails  
300 x 120 x 25 cm (117.0 x 46.8 x 9.75 in) NINE-008

**osnova gallery**

+7 926 887 39 87

+7 977 167 55 17

hello@osnovagallery.com

4th Syromyatnichesky Pereulok 1/6

105120, Moscow, Russia

**DAMA**

1-4 November

NIKA NEELOVA

**OSNOVA**

Pulled from raw material through the history of its function, the object made from an entire reclaimed bannister records the movements of the body through space when the body is no longer there. It acts as mediator between the space and the body, a guide for the hand into three dimensional space. The object meets the hand. the hand meets the object.

Recalling the rhythms of the hand, the even movement that fashioned tools from stones, the flows that shaped the contours of things, the object is embedded into the gestures of being made. Hands are impressed into its surface, changing its form. Hands impressed into its surface, guided by its form.

The object has absorbed the memory of people, -it has absorbed their absence. It has become the artificial ruin of their existing architectures.

A staircase where descending and ascending overlap. A staircase leading inward, upward and nowhere, cutting through timelines, spaces and geological folds. The alchemical serpent eating its own tail suggesting eternal returns and mathematical infinities. The figures of eights. A spiral that turns into a loop, suggesting the possibilities of things happening simultaneously on non linear timelines. time that folds into space suggesting a future that has already happened and a past that was yet to come.

“More or less what follows: Midnight sounds - the Midnight when the dice must be cast. Igitur descends the stairs of the human mind, goes to the depths of things: as the ‘absolute’ that he is.

Tombs-ashes (not feeling, nor mind) dead center.

He recites the prediction and makes the gesture.

Indifference. Hissings on the stairs. ‘You are wrong’: no emotion.

The infinite emerges from chance, which you have denied.

You mathematicians expired - I am projected absolute.

I was to finish an Infinite.

Simply word and gesture.

As for what I am telling you, in order to explain my life.

Nothing will remain of you - The infinite at last escapes the family, which has suffered from it - old space - no chance.”

“A peu près ce qui suit : Minuit sonne - le Minuit où doctent être jetés les dés.

Igitur descend les escalier, de l’esprit humain, va au fond des choses : en “absolu” qu’il est.

Tombeaux - cendres (pas sentiment, im esprit) neutrality.

Il recite la prediction et fait le geste.

Indifference. Sifflements dans l’escalier. ‘Vous avez tort’ - nulle emotion.

L’infini sort du hasard, que vous avez nié.

Vous, mathématiciens expirâtes - moi projeté absolu.

Quant à ce que je vous dis, pour expliquer ma vie.

Rien ne restera de vous - L’infini enfin échappe à la famille, qui en a souffert - vieil espace - pas de hasard.”

Extract from IGITUR (OU LA FOLIE D’ELBEHNON) par Stéphane Mallarmé

Born in Moscow, Russia;  
lives and works in London

Education:

2011 MA Fine Art Sculpture, Slade School of Art, London  
2008 BA Fine Art Interdisciplinary, Royal Art Academy, The Hague  
2004 Stage Design Formation Course, Lenkom, Moscow

Selected solo exhibitions:

2018 drifts (there is always ground, even at night), MLF Brussels  
2017 lemniscates, Independent, Brussels  
2016 FAULTS / FOLDS / FALLS, Vigo Gallery, London  
2015 Land Securities Public Art Commission, London  
2014 I lean to you numb as a fossil. Tell me I'm here, Ron Mandos Gallery, Amsterdam  
2013 Fragments Shored against the Ruins, Vigo Gallery, London  
2013 Northern Taurids, Royal British Society of Sculptors, London  
2011 Fractions, Jarmuschek + Partner, Berlin  
2011 Monuments, Charlie Smith Gallery, London  
2009 Attitudes to a Miss, Christus Triumphator, The Hague

Selected group exhibitions:

2018 She sees the shadows, curated by Olivia Leahy and Adam Carr. DRAF & Mostyn, UK  
2018 Prevent This Tragedy, Post-Institute London, UK  
2017 XVII. The Age of Nymphs, Mimosa House, London  
2017 Theatre of the Absurd, Green Art Gallery, Dubai  
2017 lithic, Osnova gallery Copenhagen  
2017 Artist Rooms, Copeland Gallery, Bussey Building London  
2017 The opposite of Now, Guest Projects, London  
2017 Contemporary Sculpture Fulmer, UK  
2017 Micro Salon (1957-2017) Iris Clert Legacy, l'inlassable Paris  
2017 Blue Seventeen, Osnova, Winzavod Centre of Contemporary Art, Moscow  
2017 Seventeen, Centrala, Birmingham  
2017 Leidenschaft, Museum Art Plus, Germany  
2017 New Material, Art in Perpetuity Trust, Arts Council England, London  
2017 London Fashion Week in collaboration with Qasimi, Somerset House London  
2016 Habitus, curated by Matthew Burrows, The Observer Building, UK  
2016 Antislip, Royal British Society of Sculptors, London  
2016 Playroom, Union Club Soho, London  
2016 A city without a sound, curated by Karina El-Helou, Averard Hotel, London  
2015 ARCHEOLOGIA E ARCHITETTURA, Fondazione 107, Turin  
2015 The Sky is a mountain, organised by Stifelsen 3,14, Norway  
2015 The Presence of Absence, Berloni, London  
2015 Art Rotterdam, Van Nellefabriek, Rotterdam  
2014 Brand New Second Hand, Vigo Gallery, London  
2014 Lichtspiele, Museum Biedermann, Germany  
2014 Warp and Woof, The Hole Gallery, New York  
2014 The Crisis Commission curated by Laurence Sillars, Christie's London  
2014 Art 14 London, exhibiting with Vigo Gallery, London  
2013 Great Men Die Twice, Mario Sequeira Gallery, Portugal  
2013 Gaiety is most outstanding feature of the Soviet Union, Saatchi Gallery London  
2013 Russian London, PERMM Museum of Contemporary Art, Russia  
2013 Dismantling, Jarmuschek+Partner, Berlin  
2013 Volta Basel, exhibiting with Jarmuschek+Partner, Basel  
2013 It's About Time, curated by Paul Carey-Kent, ASC gallery, London  
2013 The Future Can Wait, Victoria House, London  
2012 Royal British Society of Sculptors Bursary Award Exhibition, London  
2012 The Crisis Commission, Somerset House and Christie's London

2012 Saatchi New Sensations and The Future Can Wait, Victoria House, London  
2012 Recasting the Gods, Sumarria Lunn Gallery, London  
2012 Dividing Line, curated by Sumarria Lunn Gallery, High House, Oxfordshire  
2012 RAW Rotterdam, Charlie Smith Gallery, Rotterdam  
2011 Reworking Memories, Group Show, Federica Schiavo Gallery, Rome  
2011 The Future Can Wait, Victoria House, London, UK  
2011 Polemically Small, Torrance Art Museum, United States  
2011 Charlie Sierra Lima, Group Show, Charlie Smith, London, UK  
2011 3 Worlds in 1, London International, Lithuania  
2011 The Future Can Wait presents: Polemically Small, Charlie Smith London  
2011 Paris Fashion Week, Qasimi Homme, Paris  
2011 Volta Basel, Jarmuschek + Partner Gallery, Basel  
2010 Saatchi Gallery and Channel 4's New Sensations, Boswall House, London  
2010 The Future Can Wait, Shoreditch Town Hall, London  
2010 Young Gods, Charlie Smith Gallery, London, UK  
2008, Paraat #4. Ron Mandos gallery, Amsterdam, NL

Awards & residencies:

2017 Syllabus residency Wysing Art Centre, UK in association with Studio Voltaire, Spike Island Bristol, New Contemporaries, S1 Space, Eastside Projects  
2016 Awarded Nova Art Commission London, UK  
2015 Stiftelsen 3,14 Residency, Norway  
2013 Sculpture Shock Award & Royal British Society of Sculptors  
2013 Villa Lena Art Foundation Residency, Tuscany, Italy  
2012 Royal British Society of Sculptors Bursary Award, London  
2011 Olga Roubinskaya Foundation Award, Moscow  
2011 The Land Securities Prize Award, London  
2010 The Saatchi Gallery and Channel 4 New Sensations Prize, London  
2010 Kenneth Armitage Foundation, The Fifth Annual Young Sculptors Prize  
2010 Residency at the Kurt Schwitters Merzbarn Foundation, Lake District

Publications & press 2016-17:

2017 Art Monthly Review of Seventeen Centrala Birmingham review  
2017 this is tomorrow review 'Seventeen' Centrala Birmingham review  
2017 Art Research Map, review of Independent Brussels 2017  
2017 White Hot Magazine, review of Independent Brussels 2017  
2017 AroundArt.org review of Blue Seventeen by Y. Ginsbourg  
2017 Scandale Project magazine and publication Art is.  
2016 Sailing on Solaris, by Nick Hackworth  
2016 Sculpture Shock Publication, RBS London  
2016 Interview, FMS magazine London

Commissions:

2017 NOVA public art commission, Victoria, London  
2015 Land Securities Commission, One New Ludgate, London  
2012 The Crisis Commission, Somerset House, London

Collections:

DRAF David Roberts Art Foundation Collection, London  
Saatchi Gallery Collection, London  
PERMM Museum of Modern Art Collection, Russia  
Museum Biedermann Collection, Germany  
Beth de Woody Collection, New York  
Jason Martin Collection, Portugal  
Levett Collection, London  
Land Securities Commission, London  
Beckers Collection, Sweden  
Private collections in UK, Germany, France, Russia, The Netherlands