



Macedonian Artist Finds Inspiration and Community in Bushwick





What are five hashtags that describe your work?

#fabricart, #painting, #sculpture, #threadart #minimalism

About the Artist

Klimentina Jauleska-Vasilev was born in Struga, Macedonia. She received her BFA degree in Painting and Drawing at the University of Fine Arts “St. Cyril and Methodius”, Skopje, Macedonia. After her acceptance into the MFA program in Studio Art at the Montclair State University, Montclair, NJ she was awarded a full two-year scholarship; During her studies and upon graduation Klimentina has exhibited her work internationally in a number of group and individual shows in Macedonia, Serbia, Croatia, Turkey, Czech Republic, Germany, Belgium, and the USA.

Her visual narrative falls into the minimalistic and conceptual aesthetics, and while exploring the boundaries between two and three-dimensional spaces she creates wall objects that contain elements of painting and sculpture. She often repurposes discarded materials like furniture and clothes — objects highly charged with intimate content, with an intention to portray a personal history.

What is your artist origin story?

I was born in Struga, Macedonia, a small town divided by a river that streams out from the oldest lake in Europe, Ohrid Lake. Being surrounded by nature strongly inspired my creativity. As a child, I would climb a tree and write poetry up in the branches. I can also remember my 4-year-old self deeply entangled in drawing. I guess that's how it all started and continued through my childhood until my teenage years when it became a more serious obsession. I had no real influences until my college years. I believe that contributed to an intuitive originality.

What is your favorite medium right now and why do you love it?

What excites me most about my medium is blurring the line between sculpture, painting and drawing, while merging the spaces between two and three-dimensional techniques. The use of threads as drawing lines when applied in a single manner, and as painting planes when a thread is multiplied, keeps me exploring.

What is on the horizon for your work in the next year?

I have two different directions I could go that might meet at some point — they definitely started at the same conjunction. After the series of Portraits I made of recycled clothes, I began thinking about decomposing the fabrics to their components, namely threads. That led me to experiment with how I use the threads in my new work. On one side, as a sculptural geometric installation titled Lines that allows me to express myself on a larger scale. And on the other, the silk watercolor and stitching wall objects. Both directions include the space as an important element.

How has being in Bushwick influenced your work?

Being surrounded by so many artists in a strong community setting makes you proud to be a part of it, keeps you inspired to create more and better, and definitely makes you feel relevant in the making of the current art climate that writes history.

What Bushwick artists do you admire and why?

I admire the whole community, the equality and coexistence are felt everywhere. If you live in Bushwick you get surprised on a daily basis, it is a creative force of change and acceptance, a subculture birthplace.

Tell us your most memorable exchange during Bushwick Open Studios.

The exchange with the street, the unconstructed and free-spirited open space available for all artists. It was the unexpected and small street art interventions that are almost unnoticeable. What I love about them is that they are so original that the work comes before the artist's name, not vice versa.

In a parallel universe, if you weren't doing what you are doing, what would you be doing?

I would have been a psychologist or an athlete. 😊

Was there something you want to share that was not asked?

How influential and life-changing living in Brooklyn/Bushwick has been. The things you intend to learn and the things you had no idea existed, irreversibly change you and your art.

You can learn more about Klimentina Jauleska-Vasilev [here](#).

As part of the Arts in Bushwick activities and events, like [Community Day](#) and [Bushwick Open Studios](#), we are showcasing the many artists participating.



[The Playful Dialogues of Rachael Gorchov](#)

['Cracking Up, Breaking Down' Alludes to Angst, Excess and Emptiness](#)

[Second Round of applause at Trans-Cen-Der](#)



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