



CV

Alex Kuznetsov-Smith born in 1978, is an abstract artist based in Lisbon, PT.

Originally from Minsk, Belarus, he was drawn to painting from a young age, influenced by his mother's family ties to Vitebsk, a city with a rich artistic history, particularly in the early 20th century when artists like Marc Chagall and Kazimir Malevich contributed to its vibrant art scene. After pursuing a career in graphic design, he discovered spray paint in 1997, which led him to explore the world of street art and graffiti. He adopted various nicknames, including Liquid, Ners, Awek, Temos, and Monk, and his graffiti crew, TRUE STILO, became renowned across post-Soviet territories and Europe.

In 2010, during a visit to a Hong Kong commercial gallery, Alex was struck by the potency of pure color when he saw a large, bright-red canvas. Later that same year, a significant event in his life inspired Alex to shift his artistic focus towards Abstract Expressionism.

Alex Kuznetsov has collaborated extensively with renowned publications, brands, and private institutions, such as Vogue, AD Magazine, Absolut, Tumi, Adidas, Nike and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation.

His solo exhibitions have been held in notable venues such as Mirus Gallery in San Francisco, USA, Speerstra Gallery in Switzerland and France, Montana Gallery Barcelona, National Center for Contemporary Arts of the Republic of Belarus, Triumph Gallery, MSK Eastside Gallery and other. His work has been showcased and collected across the globe, including in New York, San Francisco, London, Seoul, Hong Kong, Brussels, Geneva, Paris, Monaco, Moscow, Minsk, and Barcelona.

AK' creative journey as an abstract artist has been fueled by a lifelong passion for art, inspired by his roots in the graffiti world. He explores the transformative power of color through his works across different mediums, including paintings, works on paper, and prints. Kuznetsov's abstractions are characterized by bold swipes of color, which bring him to a meditative state where the process is as important as the outcome. He engages with the vibrations of color, amplifying their power with the fluidity and movement of his brushstrokes, fully immersing himself in the artwork.

Kuznetsov's abstract paintings may suggest familiar urban imagery, such as outlines of futuristic cars, contours of helmets, and horizon lines with skyscrapers' spikes, but the material and medium gain independence in his work, becoming subject matter in its equal right. Departing from the works of Gerhard Richter, Barnett Newman, and Pierre Soulages, he has developed a unique body of work that strikes the viewer with its inner energy. Kuznetsov applies acrylics with giant aluminum rulers, consciously infusing each mechanical gesture and power of pressure with meaning. His process-led abstract painting practice employs a tempered gestural language, prioritizing fluidity and the process of erasure alongside

the intuitive application of paint. Through his artworks, he explores states of presence and remembrance by examining the tension between control and eventuality.

For Alex Kuznetsov-Smith, painting is a constant quest for perfection, reflecting his desire to organize the world according to an innate sense of harmony. He sublimates his visions into his artworks, bringing them to the canvas for the eventual viewer to decipher and identify with. As Sigmund Freud aptly described, "An artist is originally a man who turns out from reality because he cannot come to terms with the renunciation of instinctual satisfaction which it at first demands... He finds his way back to reality, however, from this world of phantasy by making use of special gifts to mould his phantasies into truths of a new kind, which men value as precious reflections of reality." Through his artworks, Kuznetsov strives to mold his phantasies into truths of a new kind, connecting with the viewer on a profound and transformative level.

Website: <https://www.alexkuznetsov.org>

Instagram: <https://Instagram.com/alexkuznetsov.artist>

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2023

Horizons @ Speerstra Gallery, Bursins, Switzerland
Ground Line @ Speerstra Gallery, Paris

2022

The Fear of the Fog @ Woldt Gallery, Hamburg
Closed Doors @ DK Gallery, Minsk

2021

Another Output @ Triumph Gallery, Moscow

2020

Horizons / Ground Line @ National Centre of Contemporary Art state museum, Minsk

2019

Horizons @ DK Gallery, Minsk

2018

Liaigre Show @ 5th Avenue Atelier, Moscow
Variations @ Speerstra Gallery, Bursins (Switzerland)

2016

Shift @ MSK Eastside Gallery, Moscow

2015

Visual Attractions @ Speerstra Gallery, Bursins, Switzerland
Reflections @ Charisma Art Space, Moscow
Black @ 3.14 Project Space, Moscow

2014

Metalism @ MSK Eastside Gallery, Moscow

2013

Abstractism @ Speerstra Gallery, Bursins (Switzerland)
Abstract Spray Painting @ Montana Gallery, Barcelona

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2022

Intersections @ Mobilab Gallery, Lausanne, Switzerland
Paper Works @ Speerstra Gallery, Paris
Public Art @ Gallery Belyaev, Moscow

2021

Moscow – Seoul: Common Ideas @ Museum of Moscow
Pioneers @ Lida Historical and Art Museum (Belarus)
House NR.6 @ MIIT, Moscow

2020

Group show @ Lida Historical and Art Museum (Belarus)
"The 101" @ Adda Sarto Gallery, Paris
Nothing Box @ Basmany Dvor, Moscow

2019

Exposición cajita/libro objeto @ Desván Blanco, Santa Cruz de Tenerife
Border @ National Palace of Art, Minsk

2018

Camino Hacia Oriente @ La Recova art center, Santa Cruz de Tenerife

2017

UPAW @ Prince Albert II of Monaco foundation, Monaco
Mirus Gallery Anniversary @ Mirus Gallery, San Francisco

2015

New Wave Uncut @ MSK Eastside Gallery, Moscow
Urbanism @ Museum Moscow, Moscow

2014

A Major Minority @ 1AMSF Gallery, San Francisco

2013

ST.Art 2013 European contemporary art fair, Strasbourg
Summer Group Show @ Speerstra Gallery, Bursins (Switzerland)

2008

Paint Methods, Krasnoyarsk
Just Write My Name, Saint-Petersburg

2007

Write 4 Gold, Chemnitz (Germany)
Write 4 Gold, Moscow
Write 4 Gold, Warsaw
Graffiti Art group show @ Winzavod Contemporary Art Centre, Moscow

2006

Street Art group show @ The State Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow
Write 4 Gold, Warsaw
Meeting of Styles intl., Chemnitz (Germany)
Meeting of Styles intl., Lyon (France)

2005

Meeting of Styles Minsk

2004

Vodka & Fish Tail @ National Palace of Art, Minsk
Meeting of Styles Gomel (Belarus)

2003

Realization @Extreme Centre, Moscow
Meeting of Styles Gomel (Belarus)
Kofemolka, Cheboksary (Russia)

2002

Meeting of Styles intl., Antwerp
Meeting of Styles intl., Almere / Amsterdam
Meeting of Styles intl., Lodz (Poland)

1999

Graffiti 2000, Moscow

ART FAIRS

2022

Cosmoscow Art Fair

2021

Vienacontemporary
Cosmoscow Art Fair

2020

Cosmoscow Art Fair

2017

Art Up! Lille (France)

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

Planning 2023 @ Pouch Cove Foundation, NL - Canada

2014

Distil Ennui Studio, London

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

2020

GUM Redline / Artiq.art / Dostyp.project, Special guest
SVBD.me Interactive Festival, Special guest

2015

British Higher School of Art and Design, Moscow

COLLABORATIONS

2020

Vogue magazine, June 2020 / Editorial project

2017

TUMI / Artist Suitcase, Monaco

2015

Idroom Project / Artist Room @ Windsor Hotel, Geneva

2014

Absolut Artist Collaboration

Adidas X Sole Soul

2006

Nike X Faces & Laces

HONORS AND AWARDS

Bridgeman Studio Award, shortlist, 2019

Write 4 Gold Russia, Winner, 2006

BOOKS & MAGAZINES

Arquitectura y Diseno, March 2023

BL8D, September 2022

LE MILE magazine, October 2021

AD Architectural Digest magazine, Dec-Jan 2018/2019, March 2020, March 2021

Elle Decoration magazine, Nov 2018

"Mural Art 1", the Book, Publikat, Germany

"27 Addicts" the Book (Boris Schmelter), Munich, Germany

"Graffiti World: Street Art from Five Continents" the Book (Nicolas Ganz), Germany

Flofferz Magazine, Summer 2014

Dandylab Magazine, 2009

Molotok Magazine, 2003

"True Stilo" magazine, 2001