

# eastcontemporary

**Robertas Narkus (b. 1983, Vilnius, Lithuania) lives and works in Vilnius.**

Robertas Narkus is an interdisciplinary artist graduated from the Vilnius Academy of Arts with a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Photography and Media Art.

Employing performance, new media, humour and entrepreneurship, he brings together the ordinary and the absurd to explore notions of technology and human desires.

Narkus describes his art practice as contingency management in changing economic circumstances. By hyperbolizing and lightly ironizing the existing nebulous neoliberal world systems of power, entangled by other mechanisms as well, and often generously using the tools they offer, the artist creates his own unique new order. Leveraging existing systems of societal functioning, he uses them as strategies aimed at creating an aesthetic, relational, or performative product. His creative work can be understood as independent art objects, different media projects, or as a social sculpture as a whole. Narkus is an exceptional artist working with different genres and forms, and such hybridity and systematicity make his work uniquely linked to the systems in which it operates - the art world, the art market, and society itself.

He recently exhibited at the CAC Vilnius, XII Baltic Triennial, KIM? in Riga, de Appel Art Center, Stedelijk Museum, Whitechapel Gallery, Ballroom Marfa and David Dale Gallery in Glasgow, among others. Narkus is the founder of the Institute for Pataphysics in Vilnius and artist day care center "Autarkia".

In 2022 Robertas Narkus represented Lithuania at the 59th Venice Biennale.

## EDUCATION

2019 PHD candidate Vilnius Academy of arts  
2013-2015 MFA at "Sandberg institute", Amsterdam  
2012 "Rupert" project-based, para-academic educational program.  
2006 BA Photography and Media Art, Vilnius Academy of Fine arts.

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2022 *Gut Feeling*, Lithuanian pavilion at the Venice Biennale of Contemporary Art in 2022  
2020 *The board*, Vartai Gallery, Vilnius  
2019 *Prospect Revenge*, David Dale gallery, Glasgow  
*Sphynx*, Editorial project space, Vilnius  
2017 *Träger*, Contemporary Art Center Vilnius  
*Guest*, KIM? Riga  
2016 *Doghme*, "Neverland" gallery Amsterdam  
2015 *easy CUTZ*, Juliette Jongma gallery, Amsterdam  
2014 *Turbulence-3*, Tenderpixel gallery, London

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2021 *Encounters biennale*, Timissoura  
*Ars Electronica Festival 2021 - A New Digital Deal*  
*XIV Baltic Triennial*, Vilnius, 2021  
2019 *Seventeenth century*, group show, Autarkia  
*I had amnesia once or twice* - Polansky gallery, Prague  
2018 *Waiting for Another Coming* - Ujazdowski Castle, Warsaw  
*How can large mountains enter small ice* - Delfina foundation, London

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*Artist film international (video screenings)* - Whitechapel gallery (London), "Ballroom Marfa" (Texas)

*Future is certain it's the past which is unpredictable*, - Blaffer museum, Houston

2016 *Unresolved* - de Apel art center, Amsterdam

*Economy is spinning* - Onomatopoeia gallery, Eindhoven

2015 *XII Baltic Triennial*, Contemporary Art Center, Vilnius

*Spell to Spelling Spelling to Spell*, de Apple Art center, Amsterdam

*A Day in a Life of Thomas*, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam

*Making sense*, Juliette Jongma Gallery, Amsterdam

2014 *Ex Libris for a library not yet begun* - Podium, Oslo (NO)

*a Cab*, Kunsthalle Athena, Athens (GR)

*Elusive Earths*, Etablissement d' En Face Projects, Brussels (BE)

*WeberWoche*, Stroom Den Haag art center, Hague (NL)

*Father can't You See I'm Burning*, De Appel Art Center, Amsterdam (NL)

*Porn for the Blind*, Juliette Jongma Gallery, Amsterdam (NL)

*Marrakech biennale 5th edition*, 'Half Hotel, Marrakech (MA)

2013 *ANNE*, Contemporary Art Center, Vilnius (LT)

*FAST FLUX*, Studio - X, New York, (USA )

## RESIDENCIES

2022 MMCA Seoul at National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art (South Korea)

2021 IASPIS Stockholm

Amant foundation residency (Siena)

2018 Delfina foundation residency (London)

FACT artist in residency (Liverpool)

2016 Skafffell Art Center residency program (Iceland)

2014 Performing Arts Forum, St.Erme, (FR)

2012 "Bregenz Kunsthaus AIR" Bregenz, (AU)

POT Kassel, (DE)

2011 Nida art colony AIR, Nida, (LT)

## AWARDS

2014 "Young Artist Award" from Ministry of Culture of Lithuania

2013 State scholarship for the artist by Ministry of Culture of Lithuania

2010 "Vilnius City Mayor award for emerging artists"

## PRESS

2019 "The New Wave of Anti-Authority Performing Artists" Frieze Magazine, Mimi Chu

2017 "If exhibition would be a factory it would be producing glue" - Mousse Magazine, Elvia Wik

"Postcards from Vilnius", Frieze magazine

"All options are better options. Robertas Narkus in conversation with Borbála Soós" - [www.echogonewrong.com](http://www.echogonewrong.com)