

KATIA MOTYLOVA

Storytelling that from personal experience becomes part of the collective

Katia Motylova is a visual artist and a researcher, born in Luhansk, Ukraine and based in The Hague, Netherlands. In her practice, she works with analogue photography, archives and books. She explores themes of injustice and the struggle to reconcile with reality, often reflecting on the loss of control over one's destiny. Currently, Katia is working on a project about technologies that ultimately destroy the world that created them.

WEBSITES

katemotyleva.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

www.instagram.com/motylova_katerina/

OPLEIDINGEN

- 2018 - Photography Den Haag, Koninklijke
- 2022 Academie van Beeldende Kunsten Diploma behaald

TENTOONSTELLINGEN

- 2025 Shared Home.Shared Fight Arti et Amicitiae Amsterdam, Nederland
arti.nl/en/agenda/28-06-2025/shared-homeshared-fight
Groep
- 2025 Taken roots KUT artist-run space Kyiv, Oekraïne
instagram.com/p/DODdUWJDQn4/?img_index=1
Duo
- 2024 Her Presence (Womanhood in Ukraine) Capture Photography Festival Vancouver, Canada
capturephotofest.com/exhibitions/her-presence-womanhood-in-ukraine/?cf_chl=tk=9Mmawts9SVxzomUSagZleSjv8bCMkgpikgzUQEn6k-1767269459-1.0.1.1-emlCdG5FENOYm0O5huk0EZo9krzNw3xa0sx7VCNeLAX

PROJECTEN

- 2024 Decay of Matter the Hague, Nederland
katiamotyleva.cargo.site/Decay-of-Matter
Exploring the illusion of control and how technological progress often conceals responsibility for irreversible consequences. In this project, I film and photograph native plants from my home region in Eastern Ukraine (currently occupied by Russia) as a way to reconnect with my roots and reclaim a sense of belonging. Photography becomes both a gesture of remembrance and re-own, but also a self-reflection on how my own practice is part of the technological continuum. The images undergo irreversible transformations —exposed to X-rays or burned — to create new, other visuals that question responsibility, existence, and the costs of destruction. These altered images become symbols of our time, survival, and adaptation in a world marked by irreversible damage, forcing us to confront how we

2023	Whispers & Shouts: Voices of Ukrainian Women Photographers, Fotodok, the Netherlands Fotodok Utrecht, Nederland fotodok.org/en/whispers and shouts voices of ukrainian women photographers Groep	coexist with the aftermath.
2022	Rotlicht Festival Vienna, Australië rotlicht-festival.at/artist/katia-motyleva/ Groep	2023 Mother tongue the Hague, Nederland growingpains.nl/Makers A starting point for this project was a question: «How could post-war trauma be translated to future generations?» I got my baby girl a few months before the Big Ukrainian-Russia war. Bringing a child into this world is impossible not to think about the future. What kind of world can I build for her, and what narrative to surround? Our relationship for now mostly consists of feeding. My baby girl is the recipient of care and nutrients from her mother, and I noticed that I kept gravitating towards feeding her the same foods my mother and grandmother used to feed me. This particular cuisine is rooted in Soviet culture, yet as a Ukrainian mother, I find myself wanting to break the link with the Soviet expansion on my table. This struggle runs through my body and brain. The empire seeps through my tongue and food, subsequently claiming my life. I can already see the war in the porridge and fairy tales. The semolina and sausages are not simply food, but a strong, bony hand of the past that has taken us by the throat and will not let us go. It is like a poison that has soaked into all our food and drinks, leaving a bitter aftertaste.
2022	Elsewhere Bratislava Off Festival Bratislava, Slowakije offbratislava.sk/news/shortlist-2022/ Groep	
2020	FRESH EYES Westergas Amsterdam, Nederland fresheyesphoto.com/katerina-motyleva-my-annexed-family Groep	
		2022 Loss the Hague, Nederland katiamotyleva.cargo.site/Page-8 This project is a personal story about the war in Ukraine, the life of a woman and her family in the midst of hostilities. Events that began in 2014 with the occupation of Donbas have escalated into a full-scale war and continue to deteriorate, causing one loss after another. In the millstone of the unfolding drama, I continue to cling to what little remains, constantly going back to the lost photo album in search of an answer to the question of why it all happened?

PUBLICATIES

2024	Schuldige smaken De Groene Amsterdammer Jan Postma Amsterdam, Nederland www.groene.nl/artikel/schuldige-smaken In het huis op de foto van Katia
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PRIJZEN EN STIPENDIA

2025	Robert Bosch Stiftung, Goethe-Institut Oekraïne Scattered communities project grand Asortymentna Kimnata, Visual Culture Research Center
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	Motylova wordt geleefd, maar tegelijkertijd voelt het leeg aan. Is het een thuis?	2025	Stroom Spot Grand the Hague, Nederland
2023	PF Professionele Fotografie Elsje van Ree Nederland pf.nl/interview-nederlands-fotomuseum-in-pf-2/	2023	2023 Kassel Dummy Award shortlisted Kassel Dummy Award Cologne, Duitsland 2023 Kassel Dummy Award shortlisted
2023	Oekraïense fotografe Katia Motyleva: 'De oorlog pakt alles van mij af' NRC Miroslawa van der Boom Nederland www.nrc.nl/nieuws/2023/05/05/oekraïense-fotografe-katia-motyleva-de-oorlog-pakt-alles-van-mij-af-a4163878#photo=LTE2ODc	2023	2023 DuPho Student Award New Dutch Photography Talent Award Amsterdam, Nederland 2023 DuPho Student Award
2023	A Ukrainian artist's vision of conflict, propaganda and loss E-boek The British Journal of Photography PHILIPPA KELLY Verenigd Koninkrijk www.1854.photography/2023/02/a-ukrainian-artists-vision-of-conflict-propaganda-and-loss/ British Journal of Photography	2022	2022 edition, the theme "The Meaning in the Making" BLURRING THE LINES Paris, Frankrijk Winner of Blurring the Lines 2022 edition Katia Motylova
		2022	Aperture Paris Photo Book Award Aperture, New York New York, Verenigde Staten Shortlisted for Aperture Paris Photo Book Award

ARTISTIEKE NEVENACTIVITEITEN

2024 - -- <https://podcasts.apple.com/ua/podcast/%D0%B7%D1%81%D1%83%D1%84/id1766281403>
Loopt nog



Decay of Matter, 2025
color negative film photograph, 100x60



Decay of Matter, 2025
color negative film, inkjet print, 20x15



Decay of Matter, 2025
analog photography, 20x30



Decay of Matter, 2025
analogue photography, 20x30



Fluister en schreeuw. Stemmen van vrouwelijke
Oekraïense fotografes, 2023
Expositie backstage, Tekst, Digitale fotografie, Analoge
fotografie, Inkjetprint, 100x80 cm, 90x70 cm, 60x40 cm



Rotlicht Festival, 2022
Digitale fotografie, Analoge fotografie, Inkjetprint,
200x100cm, 70x50cm, 30x40cm



Verlies (boek), 2022
Spread uit boek, Zelfgepubliceerd Engels , Oplage: 10
stuks Formaat: 21x27cm 60 pagina's



Verlies, 2022
Digitale fotografie, 50x40cm



Verlies (boek), 2022
Zelfgepubliceerd Engels , Oplage: 10 stuks Formaat:
21x27cm 60 pagina's



Verlies, 2022
Tekst, Boek, Digitale fotografie, Analoge fotografie,
Inkjetprint, 120x90cm, 15x10cm