



## Press Release: Duo Exhibition “Realism: Two Angels”

N2N Gallery is thrilled to announce the first UAE exhibition of Crimean artists Katrina Spirtus and Andrey Dudchenko, starting 24th of November 2016 at N2N Gallery in Nation Towers, Galleria Mall, Corniche, Abu Dhabi. The exhibition "Realism: Two Angels" comprises a selection of paintings taken from the last series of their work.

The two artists, who are partners in art and love, base their artistic expression in realism, which they interpret in a different way, both iconographically and stylistically. Still, their individual poetics are connected into a common endeavor to achieve a new kind of idealized subjective realism. These similarities and differences will be the backbone of the exhibition setting.

Katerina Spirtus's oeuvre can be defined as realism with a touch of impressionism. It includes a variety of genres, such as landscape, portrait and everyday scenes from life, where the artist portrays the impressions from her personal life. Showing an intimate environment, her paintings are marked with feminine tenderness and recognized for the use of sensual color harmonies, a feeling for textures and patterns, as well as for having an ability to evoke atmosphere and reveal the mysterious charm of everyday life.

Moving away from real world and nearing surreal, the art of Andrey Dudchenko shows us how a blend of reality and dreams can transform into marvelous compositions. This young artist is undoubtedly influenced by the metaphysical painting tradition, although his painting shows a subtle understanding of alienation in the contemporary world. The reduced and unusual settings of his painting are used to create strong atmospheric scenes. Even when he leaves Surrealism, and engages into a conventional genre such as landscape, an atmosphere of alienation remains untouched in his work and it depicts sculptural, static and almost monumental approach to the painting which led his work to classical ideals of art and beauty.

The strongest common feature of these artists is an atmosphere of clarity and tranquility. Under the best tradition of the Crimean school of Academic Art, they put a great deal of effort into capturing the effects of the bright southern light, often focusing on subjects from their local surroundings which take fresh, soft and delicate tones under the sun of Black Sea. By carefully directing a single light source, they fill a potentially static scene with inner suspense. The Crimean Riviera will be the subject of a special segment of the display, where both artists will showcase a collection of works inspired by the same scenery, each one offering their own unique perspective of the same scene. By comparing their points of view side by side the viewer will be able to better understand what connects these artists, and what brings them apart.

For the first time in the Middle East, the exhibition of Andrey Dudchenko and Katerina Spirtus will be open to the public for duration of six weeks. Another rare experience will be offered to art lovers and artists of Abu Dhabi: a six-day master class under the guidance of Katerina Spirtus, discovering the complex and fascinated world of portrait painting. The master class will run from 26th of November until 1st of December, morning and evening classes are available.

Notes:

**Andrey Dudchenko** was born in 1983 in Yalta, Ukraine. He graduated from the Crimean Art School of N.S. Samokish in 2002. He continued his studies at the National Academy of Fine Arts and Architecture in Kiev, where he graduated in 2009. Since 2008 he has featured in many solo and group exhibitions in Ukraine as well overseas.

**Katerina Spirtus** was born in 1983 in Simferopol, Ukraine. After finishing the elementary school she chose her further education to be directed towards art and painting. From 1993-1996 she studied at the Simferopol Art School. She continued to study at the Crimean Art and at the National Academy of Fine Arts and Architecture in Kiev. She has been exhibiting actively since 2002, including a series of exhibitions in Italy.

#### **About N2N Gallery**

A newcomer to Abu Dhabi's art scene, N2N has been bringing inspiring art collections from Europe to the UAE and Abu Dhabi since May 2013. Founded by the Ukrainian expat Natalya Muzaleva, the gallery blends sculpture, graphic art, and paintings in a surprising fusion between realism and modernism. N2N Gallery aims to introduce to Abu Dhabi the European Academic School of Painting, as well as the high professionalism of European artists and their exceptional Art. Additionally, the gallery frequently organizes art masterclasses, inviting famous artists to teach the UAE residents and is committed to supporting the development of the local art environment.

#### **The exhibition details:**

Grand opening: 24th of November 2016, 7:30 PM.

Exhibition will run until 10h of January 2017

Opening times: Saturday – Thursday 10.00 – 22.00

#### **Location:**

1st floor Nation Galleria,  
Nation Towers,  
Corniche, Abu Dhabi  
United Arab Emirates  
E-mail: [art@n2n-gallery.com](mailto:art@n2n-gallery.com)

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