

Alexandra Gromova

Once Upon A Time

Embassy Tea Gallery

29 September- 4 October



Tea Embassy Gallery is thrilled to present an exhibition of new works by Russian artist, Alexandra Gromova (Saint-Petersburg). This is Alexandra Gromova's second solo exhibition in London and brings together a new series of works she created in 2015.

This collection was inspired by a combination of fairy tales from Gromova's childhood and reflections on the civil unrest and battle hungry VIII-XV centuries in Russia's history; a period heavily featured in Russian literature and folklore.

These works also portray an exploration into innovative techniques of painting as Gromova finds new and satisfying ways to visualize her ideas. First, she experimented with acrylic paints on transparent plastics for her Degree Show, before, finally mixing acrylic with PVA glue and eggs. This method produced a body of work that played with colour, shapes and lines that fused to form puzzling characters which create a composition presenting a previously unknown narrative.

Gromova's work explores madness, chaos and agony with a particular interest in battles and human conflicts, either historical or fictional, inspired by the literature and folklore she read and was influenced by as a child in Russia. She employs her memory, fantasy and dreams to transfer pieces of texts, which involve encounters or conflict, into an imaginary representation which recreates original characters and synthesises them with her new storyline.

The recurring motif in all her works is the use of a vivid palette. Vibrant colours fill the surface of her works, providing psychedelic atmospheres which highlight the fantasticality of figures, revealing their inner complexities, vulnerability and alienation. The ambiguous two-dimensional humanlike or bestial figures create depth in the work through their overlaid destabilized lines, doodles and marks which ultimately fuse into a composition. The works are open for multiple interpretations, aiming to evoke either questions or answers which ultimately echo her Russian background.

Alexandra Gromova received her BA in Fine Art (2014) from the University of the Arts (London), previously trained at the Russian Academy of the Arts (Saint-Petersburg) and earned an MBA degree from Stockholm School of Business (Stockholm).

Alexandra Gromova's work has been exhibited in a number of group shows while doing her degree in London and she had her first solo show at Vyner Street Gallery in London (2013).

Alexandra has been interviewed for Garde Magazine (2014). She has also curated her own exhibitions.