

BENJAMIN VASSERMAN

PRINTMAKER

Born on 11 June 1949, in Sovetsk in Kirov province in Russia, in the family of an employee deported from Estonia. In 1956 arrived in Estonia. In the years 1957-1964 studied in Tootsi 8-year School, thereafter in Tallinn Technical School of Construction and Mechanics, graduated from it in 1968. Continued studies in 1973 in Estonian Academy of Art in the faculty graphic arts, graduated from it in 1979. In 1979-1982 worked in Tallinn in the Scientific Methodology Centre of Folk Creation and Cultural Work. In 1982-1990 worked in the publishing house "Kunst" ("Art") as art editor, thereafter was a freelancer artist. Since 1989 was a member of the Estonian Artist's Union and since 1992 a member of the Association of Estonian Printmakers. Began to exhibit in 1978. Cultivates freegraphics in intaglio printing (etching, aquatint) and digital print. Has also created water colours, placards, book illustrations and designed catalogues and covers of records.

Married with graphic artist Naima Neidre. Daughter and son, four grandchildren.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 1987** Tallinn Art Salon, Estonia
1989 Cafe Viru, Moscow, Russia; Gallery Sammlung Villany, Brandenburg, Germany
1990 Gallery Sininen Talo, Hämeenlinna, Finland
1992 Gallery G, Tallinn, Estonia; Sylvia-home, Lahti, Finland
1993 Art Hall, Seinäjoki, Finland
1993, 1995, 1998 Gallery Neuendorf, Memmingen, Germany
1994 Gallery Munkinseudun, Helsinki, Finland; Gallery Katariina, Turku, Finland
1996 Gallery Wanhan Galleria, Tampere, Finland
1998 House of Holy Spirit, Randers, Denmark; Gallery La Galerie Passage, Tallinn, Estonia
1999 "Real Fiction", Tallinn Art Hall Gallery, Estonia
2001 Gallery of Embassy of Estonia, Riga, Latvia
2003 "Symbolic Threshold", Gallery Haus, Tallinn, Estonia
2009 "Real Fiction/Volume II", Toompea Castle Art Hall, Tallinn, Estonia; "Diagnosed Comeback", Tallinn Art Hall Gallery, Estonia

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS

- 1994, 1996** (1997), **1998, 2002** 3rd, 4th, 5th & 7th International Engraving Biennial, Ourense, Spain
1995, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2009 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th & 15th International Print Biennial, Varna, Bulgaria
1995 Mini-Print Triennial, Lahti, Finland
1995, 2001 10th & 12th Tallinn Print Triennial, Estonia
1995, 2005 1st & 4th Tokyo International Mini-Print Triennial, Japan
1996, 1998, 2001 2nd, 3rd International Biennial & 4th International Triennial of Small Graphic Forms, Vilnius, Lithuania
1996 *Graphica Creativa*, 8th International Print Triennial, Jyväskylä, Finland
International Mini-Print Exhibition, Nagoya, Japan
1996, 1999, 2002 9th, 10th & 11th International Triennial of Small Graphic Forms, Lodz, Poland
1997 International Print Exhibition, Portland, Oregon, U.S.A.
22nd International Print Biennial, Ljubljana, Slovenia
S.N.A.P.'s International Printmaking Co-operative Exhibition, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
Osaka Triennale 1997 – Print, 8th International Contemporary Art Competition, Japan
1997, 1999, 2003 2nd, 3rd & 4th Egyptian International Print Triennial, Cairo – Giza – Alexandria
1997, 1999 2nd & 3rd Malaysia Annual Exhibition of Contemporary Prints, Kuala Lumpur
1997, 1999, 2001 1st, 2nd & 3rd International Mini-Print Biennial, Cluj, Romania
1997, 2000, 2003, 2009 Triennale'97, Triennial 2000, Triennial 2003 & Triennial 2009, International Print Triennial, Cracow, Poland
1997, 2000, 2003 Intergrafia'97, Intergrafia 2000 & Intergrafia 2003, World Award Winners Gallery, Katowice & Niepolomice (2003), Poland
1998 International Midi-Print Exhibition, Pärnu, Estonia
Agart World Print Festival, Ljubljana, Slovenia
Consumentart'98, Triennial Cracow-Nuremberg'98, Nuremberg, Germany
1999 Premio Internazionale Biella per l'Incisione, XIV edizione, Italy
12th Norwegian International Print Triennial, Fredrikstad
1999, 2002 4th & 5th Kochi International Print Triennial, Ino, Japan
2000 2nd Mini-Graphic & Painting World-Wide Show "Pisa 2000", Italy
Mostra – Premio "Artisti Finalisti", Group Show at 4 Artists (Finalists), Pisa, Italy
1st Cheju International Print Arts Festival, Korea
International Print Exhibition "East meets West", Opole, Poland
International Print Triennial Cracow-Nuremberg, Nuremberg, Germany
International Print Exhibition "Graphic Constellation – Szczecin 2000", Poland
2000, 2003, 2009 3rd, 4th & 6th International Triennial of Graphic Art, Bitola, Republic of Macedonia
2001 Biennale internationale d'estampe contemporaine de Trois-Rivières, 2^{ème} édition, Québec, Canada
Triennial of One Hundred Cities, Dzierzoniow, Poland
3rd Mini-Graphic & Painting World-Wide Show "ITART 2001", Pisa, Italy
International Print Exhibition "Continents – 2001", Walbrzych, Poland
Exhibition of Prize Winners of the 3rd Biennial of Small Graphic Forms, Vilnius, Lithuania
"ITART 2001", Prize-Show for Finalists, Livorno, Italy
5th Bharat Bhavan International Biennial of Print Art – 2001, Bhopal, India
International Print Exhibition "Selection of Works from IPT – Krakow 2000", Graz, Austria
2001, 2004 10th & 11th International Print & Drawing Biennial, Taipei and Taichung, Taiwan R.O.C.
3rd & 4th International Triennial of Graphic Arts, Sofia, Bulgaria
2002 7th International Biennial of Graphics of the Baltic Sea Countries, Kaliningrad-Königsberg, Russia
Korea International Print Arts Festival, ChangWon, Busan
12th SPACE International Print Biennial, Seoul, Korea
2003 10th International Biennale of Small Forms & Ex-Libris, Ostrow Wielkopolski, Poland
International Print and Drawing Exhibition "Interprint", Bangkok, Thailand
International Print Biennial 2003, Beijing, China
International Print Exhibition "Aquafora Contra Cyfra", Opole, Poland
International Print Exhibition "Asia Print Adventure 2003", Sapporo, Japan
International Print Exhibition "Eurografik Kyiv 2003", Ukraina

- International Mini-Print Exhibition "Symbolical Communication", Timisoara, Romania
- 2004** International Print Triennial Krakow-Oldenburg, Oldenburg, Germany
 International Print Exhibition "Eurografik Moscow 2004", Russia
 International Print Exhibition "Eurographic Leipzig", Germany
 International Print Exhibition "Eurographic Krynica 2004", Poland
 Triennial of One Hundred Cities, Poznan, Poland
 4th Ural Print Triennial, Ufa, Bashkortostan, Russia
- 2004, 2005** International Print Exhibition "MTG Krakow Pays a Visit to Hungary", Győr, Budapest, Hungary
- 2005** 4th International Small Engraving Exhibition – Cremona 2005, Italy
 International Small Engraving Salon 2005, Baia Mare, Romania
- 2006** 7^{ème} Mondial de l'Estampe et de la Gravure Originale - Triennale de Chamalieres, France
 5th International Print Triennial Colour in Graphic Art: NOW!, Torun, Poland
- 2007** USM International Print Exhibition 2007, Penang, Malaysia
 USM International Print Exhibition 2007, Hatyai, Thailand
 European Masters of Modern Art 2007 (EMMA 2007), Burgau, Austria
 Artperiscope.com Second Internet Artwork Competition, Czestochowa, Poland
 Penang International Art Festival 2007, Malaysia
 Artoteque.com Online Global Art Annual 2 ART NOW 2007, London, United Kingdom
 International Print Triennial - Krakow BIS 2007, Katowice, Poland
 Prize Winners Show of Artperiscope.com Second Internet Artwork Competition, Czestochowa, Poland
 4th International Engraving Biennial - Douro 2007, Alijo, Portugal
 6th International Triennial of Small Graphic Forms, Vilnius, Lithuania
 Seoul International Print, Photo & Edition Works Art Fair SIPA 2007, Korea
 Curators Show of International Printmaking Conference IMPACT 5, Tallinn, Estonia
- 2007, 2009** 9th & 10th International Biennial "The Masters of Drawing and Graphic Art", Győr, Hungary
- 2008** Artoteque.com Online Annual of Contemporary Art 2 ART TIME 2008, London, United Kingdom
 Artoteque.com Online Global Art Annual 3 ART NOW 2008, London, United Kingdom
 The 5th Great Group Exhibition "Ancient Palace in Acquasparta 2008", Italy
 Artperiscope.com Third Internet Artwork Competition, Czestochowa, Poland
 7th Lessedra World Art Print Annual – Mini-Print 2008, Sofia, Bulgaria
 Prize Winners Show of Artperiscope.com Third Internet Artwork Competition, Czestochowa, Poland
 International Print Exhibition "Asia Print Adventure 2008", Otoiueppu, Japan
 International Print Exhibition Yunnan 2008, Kunming, China
 1st International Graphic Arts Triennial IMPRINT 2008, Warsaw, Poland
- 2008, 2010** 1st & 2nd International Digital Graphic Arts Biennial Gdynia, Poland
- 2009** 2nd Bangkok Triennale International Print and Drawing Exhibition, Thailand
 1st Minsk International Digital Art Festival "Terra Nova", Minsk, Belarus
- 2012** 3rd Tartu International Graphic Festival, Estonia
 32nd Mini Print International of Cadaqués, Spain
 7th International Print Triennial Colour in Graphic Art: DIGITAL EDITION, Torun, Poland

Tens Estonian art exhibitions in home country and abroad

AWARDS

- 1994, 1998** Honourable Mention – 3rd & 5th International Engraving Biennial, Ourense, Spain
- 1995** Special Prize – 10th Tallinn Print Triennial, Estonia
- 1997** Special Prize – 9th International Print Biennial, Varna, Bulgaria
- 1998** Diploma – 3rd International Biennial of Small Form Graphics, Vilnius, Lithuania
- 2000, 2001** Diploma "Finalist" – 2nd & 3rd Mini-Graphic & Painting World-Wide Show "Pisa 2000" & "ITART 2001", Pisa, Italy
- 2001** Diploma – 3rd International Triennial of Graphic Arts, Sofia, Bulgaria
 Honorary Mention – 3rd International Mini-Print Biennial, Cluj, Romania
 Printmaker of Year 2001 – Annual Prize of Estonian Printmaking
- 2003** Second Prize – 10th International Biennale of Small Forms & Ex-Libris, Ostrow Wielkopolski, Poland
Gold Prize (Main Prize) – International Print Biennial in Beijing 2003, China
- 2007** First Prize – Artperiscope.com Second Internet Artwork Competition, Czestochowa, Poland
 Honorary Mention of the Jury - 9th International Biennial "The Masters of Drawing and Graphic Arts", Győr, Hungary
 Second Prize - 6th International Triennial of Small Graphic Forms, Vilnius, Lithuania
 Honourable Award - ARTOTEQUE's Online Global Art Annual 2 ART NOW 2007, London, United Kingdom
- 2008** Premio ALBA 2008 – 2008 International Encyclopaedic Dictionary of Modern and Contemporary Art, Ferrara, Italy
 First Prize – Artperiscope.com Third Internet Artwork Competition, Czestochowa, Poland
 Corresponding Academician – Accademia Internazionale „Greci-Marino”, Accademia del Verbano, Vinzaglio, Italy
 Third Prize - 1st International Digital Graphic Arts Biennial, Gdynia, Poland
- 2009** Gallery-G Annual Art Prize, Tallinn, Estonia
- 2010** Kristjan Raud Art Prize of Estonian Art
 Prize of Excellence - ARTOTEQUE's Online Global Art Annual 2 ART NOW, London, United Kingdom

WORKS IN COLLECTIONS

Estonian Art Museum, Tallinn; International Print Triennial Society, Cracow, Poland; National Museum, Cracow, Poland; Centre of International Cultural Exchange, Beijing, China; Institute of Art Association of Academic Culture, Cracow, Poland; Contemporary Engraving Museum, Alijo, Portugal; Municipal Museum of Art, Győr, Hungary; Association Mouvement Art Contemporain, Chamalieres, France; Amicidell'Arte - Famiglia Artistica, Cremona, Italy; International Centre of Fine Arts, Cairo, Egypt; Collection of Silpakorn University, Bangkok, Thailand; Central Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; Tama Art University, Tokyo, Japan; Sakimi Art Museum, Okinawa, Japan; Herman Hebler Graphic Art Collection, Fredrikstad, Norway; Art Museum of M.V.Nesterov, Ufa, Russia; City Art Gallery, Lodz, Poland; Contemporary Graphic Fund, Cluj-Napoca, Romania; Graphic Centre Collection, Vilnius, Lithuania; Visual Arts and Technology Foundation, Sofia, Bulgaria; Florean Museum, Baia Mare, Romania; Kaleva Collection, Oulu, Finland; University of Western Sydney, Australia; Caixa Ourense, Ourense, Spain; Associazione Premio Internazionale Biella per l'Incisione, Italy; Randers Kunstforening, Denmark; Aarhus Amt, Denmark;
 Several Estonian (State) Institutions;
 Private Collections in Estonia, Finland, Sweden, Germany, Italy, Russia, U.S.A., Australia etc.