Fonts:<br><br>

https://ofont.ru/favourites

1. Radiotechnika Regular
2. Artika Regular
3. Wizland Regular
4. Arkhip Regular
5. BrokenLed Bold
6. TS Remarker Regular
7. Miama Nueva Medium
8. First Time Writing Regular
9. Neucha Regular
10. Comfortaa Light

Color:

1. #1e1f26
2. #283655
3. #4d648d
4. #d0e1f9
5. #a10115
6. #d72c16

The lyceum in Likhachiv village. Ukraine. At the beginning of the war in 2022, this lyceum was damaged by shelling. Therefore, Brave to Rebuild Foundation and the European Commission decided to restore it. And not just restore it, but create an art installation. They invited me as an artist to create a mural on the facade of the school.

The school itself was built nearly 100 years ago, in 1927, using an ancient Ukrainian technology of clay houses. It was restored using the same technique. More than 70 volunteers from the “Brave to Rebuild” community and local residents worked together to ensure that the school could reopen its doors.

In this mural, I combined traditional Ukrainian painting with a story from the present. The grapevines are also a traditional ornament for this area.

She is waiting. And she sends the wreaths on the water, hoping to find her beloved. The strong waves of life rise above her head, but the most important thing for her is inner peace. The echo glows, reflecting the sunlight, and somewhere there burns a star that will show the way forward. The storks fly off to warm lands, but for someone, it's time to stay at home.

**He, like Atlas, firmly holds the sun that shines on all of us. He cannot give in to the waves that try to knock him down. In him shine all those stars—the souls he has saved. Soon, the fern will bloom for him, bringing happiness and peace. The wreaths set afloat on the water, to find love, will reach their future owner.**

**A transformed Javelin — turned into an art object after being used on the battlefield. Created for an auction at the House of Cinema in Kyiv, Ukraine.**

**The piece is rich with symbolism. The eyes represent the idea that the universe — and justice — sees all. Nothing goes unnoticed, and everyone will ultimately receive what they deserve. The viburnum (kalyna) is a powerful Ukrainian symbol of national identity and deep-rooted heritage. It speaks to our cultural consciousness and connection to the land. The burrs symbolize human flaws and vices — the inner obstacles we must overcome in order to build a better world.**

**All elements are interconnected: our actions and their consequences, our labor and its outcome.  
This connection is visually expressed through entwined vines painted across the object — a metaphor for the invisible threads that bind cause and effect, self and society, destruction and rebirth.**

**Spent shell casings that have been given a new purpose,  
created as part of the *Weapon Transformation* project.**

**These objects, once tools of destruction, are now reimagined as carriers of meaning and memory — transformed into symbols of resilience, reflection, and renewal.**

**Biography**

**Sofiia Kandaurova was born and raised in Kyiv, Ukraine. After the beginning of the Russian invasion in 2022, she was forced to evacuate from her home country—first to Poland, then back to Ukraine, and eventually to Japan.**

**Sofiia graduated in 2023 from Kyiv University of Culture.**

**Since 2016, she had been a member of the VillGanovski Art Studio, where she spent six years developing her own ideas and artistic style. In 2023, Sofiia completed a course in traditional Ukrainian painting known as “Kyiv painting.” As a result, her works reflect a fusion of contemporary themes and traditional ornaments.**

**She now lives and works in Kyoto, Japan.**

**Artist statement**

**The central theme of my artistic practice is the search for one’s place in the world. I explore emotions such as disorientation, uncertainty about the future, and a deep sense of loneliness. These feelings often manifest in my figures — faceless, fragmented, as if torn apart by their own fears and inner conflicts. They lack wholeness, yet they instinctively reach out to one another, driven by a quiet hope to find connection and harmony amidst the chaos.**

**Equally important in my work is the relationship between humans and nature. In an age dominated by technology and social media, we are slowly drifting away from reality, losing touch with our surroundings and ourselves. Through my art, I strive to reawaken this bond. Nature appears not just as a background, but as a living force — a mirror and a guide in the internal journey toward balance and self-discovery.**

**My work reflects a deep longing to reconnect: with others, with the natural world, and with the forgotten parts of ourselves.**

**Cv**

**Sofi Kandaurova**

**(b. June 2002, Kyiv, Ukraine)**

**Education:**

**2019-2023 department of tv-journalistic and tv-hosting,**

**Kyiv University of Culture**

**Other education programs:**

**2016-2021 VillGanovski art school, Kyiv**

**2022 Contemporary art course by TheNakedRoom gallery**

**Exhibitions:**

**2024 “Winter’s miracles” Museum of charity’s history, Kyiv,**

**Ukraine**

**2023 “Arte Contemporanea Ukraina”, 17 art gallery, Rome, Italy**

**2023 “From the origins to the present”, National Museum of**

**Taras Shevchenko, Kyiv, Ukraine**

**2023 “Tryplian origins of Kyivan traditions”, city library,**

**Kyiv, Ukraine**

**2023 “Weapon Transformation”, D12, Kyiv, Ukraine**

**2023 “Harmony of the univers”, Singing field, Kyiv, Ukraine**

**2021 “Creativity and happiness of genesis”, Art hub Mozhlivist,**

**Kyiv, Ukraine**

**Personal exhibition:**

**2022 “Ordinary landscapes”, bomb shelter, Kyiv, Ukraine**

**Mural:**

**2023 “Kupala’s night”, on school in Lykhachiv, Ukraine, (within**

**the U-lead program and support of European Commission)**