

## **Galina Shevchenko :: Artist Statement**

My practice encompasses multiple modes of expression and image processing: I am experimenting with precision of digital fabrication, visceral materiality of printmaking and fiber production, drawing, animation and video matter.

My work is preoccupied with creating and processing the image of a body: body in its beautiful disobedience. I am interested in its multiple iterations and modes of production: as a beautiful entity, body in transition, androgynous, animal body, non-human/post human body, body visceral, alive and moving, a grotesque body of a mother>>monster ever loving and procreating.

My Monsters >> Mothers inhabit the liminal world of primordial desire. Mothers in production, beautiful others, queer and playful embryos and embryo carriers, primordially ancient and omnipotent cyborgs. They contaminate each other with longings and diseases. I have perfected the deformities of their bodies: bodies that are altered, non-normative, transforming, rebellious and excessive. I am interested in creating iconographic taxonomies that transcend the human condition of "new normal" into the visually exquisite grotesque constructions. Nothing is abnormal: extruded lesions, dangerous flowers of cancerous in-growings, mothered, aged, diseased bodies, they are all bodies loving and loved.

I cannot help procreating, mothering, populating my world. My constructions are self-portraits, infants, feminine and androgynous bodies in flux. I work across media: in two dimensional, three dimensional space and in the temporal/spatial entity of projection: on screens; video monitors; laser-cut projection mapped luminous tapestries. I draw, digitize, deform, animate, laser-cut plastic, plasma-cut steel, embroider, print, dye, wash, install, audio score, construct, project, film, digitize. The cycle is infinite. It starts with intuitive drawing and continues on living through an infinite cycle of mediation. The mediums I work with lock into each other: projection is spilling into the embroidered lines and is being contained/ reflected through laser cut suspended bodies and devore velvet. My world is the utopian happy seductive and irresistible ecosystem populated with bodies within existential crisis, mobilizing and articulating desire.

My Monstrous Bodies are grotesque constructions ever becoming and transitioning between the worlds, across media, carrying art historical references and looking into the future.

Through multiple modes of expression and processing of the image of the body, I am attempting to produce multiple modes of attention and evoke visceral materiality of digital projected image of androgynous creatures unfolding our constant condition of seduction, desire, intimacy, disease. Exquisite and expressive moving lines and reflections put the work into constant rhizomatic becoming, emulating human condition, contaminating, expanding contracting space and time, immersing and extruding, glowing and reflecting... There is no resolution in the infinite dances of the monsters/ "the others". The "others" are seducing and taking the viewer into the "other" side.

I constantly deconstruct and re-contextualize my drawing, but the form, the human androgynous form in transition, metamorphosis, transparency remains. I am working on perfecting the form, its iterations. Monsters are rapidly multiplying and I am attempting to organize them into their world structure.

The world I am creating is ambiguous yet resonating on multiple levels: through movement, line, environmental integration, media processing and deconstruction. I construct and mutilate bodies. I am also connecting to my body and taking it inside out metaphorically. I muse with the idea of flesh, but I operate within the virtual matter. My matter is virtual but apparent through visceral movement. It is a vibrant matter, vibrant digital matter.