

Elena Posokhova

Exhibition Curator

Artistic Director of the Art & Science Program, Catholic University of Valencia

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Biography

Elena is a contemporary art curator and cultural project manager based in Paris. A resident curator at the POUISH cultural center, she develops a curatorial practice grounded in research, attentive to creative processes and to forms of collaboration between artists, researchers, and audiences. Her work focuses particularly on the relationships between territories, artistic practices, and scientific knowledge, with a special emphasis on Mediterranean contexts.

She holds a Master's degree in Art & Vision (MAVI) from Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University and is currently pursuing a PhD at Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University. Her research examines methodologies of collective creation and curatorial frameworks as spaces for knowledge production, placing particular emphasis on research-driven practices led by artists.

For more than ten years, she has conceived and supported artistic residencies, research-creation projects, and exhibitions in France and internationally (Spain, Italy, Cyprus, Malta). She regularly collaborates with cultural institutions, art schools, and research laboratories, notably at the University of Valencia, as well as with European programs such as Creative Europe. Her curatorial work encompasses a variety of media — sculpture, painting, performance, and video — and favors experimental, evolving, and context-based formats.

She has initiated projects supported by the European Union and the United Nations, including *MARITIMA 01* and *MARLANDS*, which explore the ecological, cultural, and political dimensions of Mediterranean island territories. Through these projects, Elena develops an engaged curatorial approach based on experimentation, sustainability, and the invention of new modes of collaboration between artists, scientists, and local communities.

Education

Since 2024

PhD (in progress) – Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University, Paris, France

2022

Master's Degree (M2) in International Arts and Creation (MAVI) – Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University, Paris, France

2012

Master's Degree in Art History and Expertise of Ancient Works– Institute of Art et Antiquities, Moscow, Russia

2003

Master's Degree in History and Culture– Moscow State Pedagogical University, Université, Moscow, Russia

Current Projects

2024 – 2027

PhD in Research-Creation, Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University – Paris, France

Elena is conducting doctoral research that combines theory and curatorial practice, focusing on the influence of natural, cultural, and territorial factors on artistic creation processes. Her work examines the conditions under which artworks are produced, as well as research-creation methodologies and curatorial frameworks as spaces for experimentation and knowledge transmission.

Since 2024

MARLANDS PROJECT 02 — European Research-Creation Project

Project conception and development of the funding application in collaboration with UCV-IMEDMAR, with the aim of securing support from the European Union's Creative Europe Programme.

MARLANDS PROJECT 02 is part of a research-creation approach that intersects artistic practices, scientific knowledge, and Mediterranean island territories. The project is scheduled to launch in 2025 and will run for a duration of 22 months.

Since 2022

Catholic University of Valencia (UCV) — Valencia, Spain

European Projects Manager in Arts, Culture, and Research-Creation — Creative Europe Programme

Project development, support, and coordination of research-creation initiatives bringing together artists, researchers, and European cultural institutions. The role involves designing artistic and curatorial frameworks, overseeing production processes, and building networks among partners from the fields of art, research, and science.

Curatorial Projects

POUSH – Aubervilliers, France

Since 2020

Associate Curator

POUSH POUSH is a space for artistic creation and production dedicated to supporting more than 260 artists, hosting exhibitions, events, and experimental projects within a context that is both locally rooted and internationally oriented. As an associate and resident curator, Elena supports artists in their research and production processes and develops exhibitions that highlight their practices, experiments, and artistic worlds.

Exhibitions

2025 -

Vivarium Imaginem – Science and Art Exhibition Center, Catholic University of Valencia, Valencia, Spain.

2024

Beyond landscape - Alex Marco and Hector Garosco, Exhibition at POUSH, Paris, France.

Car Talks - Alex Harsley, Exhibition at POUSH, Paris, France

2023

This Corrosion – Sergei Rostropovich, Exhibition at POUSH, Paris, France

Parfum blanc – Mehdi Besnainou, Performance at POUSH, Paris, France

There is No lonesome wave – Group exhibition at POUSH, Paris, France

This exhibition explores the currents and qualities of water in both literal and metaphorical contexts.

Elena Posokhova presents I Landed, an exploration of the impact of the Mediterranean on the local imaginary, featuring the participation of Lucy Orta, Edgar Sarin, Max Fouchy, Olga Sabko, and Klitsa Antoniou.

2022

Amphibies – Exhibition at POUSH, Paris, France

This exhibition examines the Mediterranean as a singular natural and cultural entity, interweaving histories, ideas, nature, and narratives within a landscape that is both geographic and imaginary.

Artists: Mariagrazia Pontorno, Ustina Yakovleva, Xenia Dranysh, Max Fouchy, Sena Basöz, Kalie Granier, Fermin Jiménez Landa, Quentin Germain, Vanessa Enriquez, Yann Toma, Theo Massolier, Ana Matey, Taylor Smith, Quentin Lefranc, Laurine Wagner.

MARLANDS

Since 2020

Coordinator and Curator

www.marlandsproject.com – Supported by the Creative Europe Programme, European Union.

Initiated in 2020 and launched in 2022 with the support of the European Union, **MARLANDS** is an experimental project aimed at promoting sustainable development within the cultural sector while supporting the environmental preservation of Mediterranean islands (Cyprus, Mallorca, Ibiza, Sicily, and Malta). The program includes multidisciplinary artistic residencies on these islands, complemented by local exhibitions and presentations in major European cities such as Paris and Barcelona.

Partners: Catholic University of Valencia; Es Baluard Museu d'Art Contemporani de Palma (Mallorca); Spazju Kreattiv Cultural Center (Malta); Cyprus University of Technology; Isola Catania; Sorbonne Université; LOOP Festival Barcelona; Villa Belleville (Paris); University of the Balearic Islands; CREA Cultural Center. (Venise)

Artists: Lucy Orta, Klitsa Antoniou, Olga Sabko, Max Fouchy, and Edgar Sarin.

Artistic Residencies and Workshops

The artists involved in the **MARLANDS** project took part in residencies on the islands of Malta, Sicily, Mallorca, Cyprus, and Ibiza, collaborating with local scientists and artists to develop unique artistic projects.

2022 — Individual Artistic Residencies

- **Klitsa Antoniou** –Artistic residency, Cyprus
- **Lucy Orta** –Artistic residency, Ibiza, Spain
- **Lucy Orta et Olga Sabko** –Artistic residency, Mallorca, Spain,
- **Max Fouchy** –MARLANDS artistic residency in Catania, within the Isola Catania program, Italy
- **Edgar Sarin** – Artistic residency at Spazju Kreattiv, Centre for Creativity, Malta

2022 — Workshop “Meditating on *Corallium rubrum*”

Workshop led by Lucy Orta as part of *The Lost Species (Vol. 2)*, raising awareness about endangered species such as red coral (*Corallium rubrum*) and monk seals. Participants shaped coral branches in terracotta under the guidance of a ceramist, concluding with a symbolic gesture of returning them to nature.

Locations: Spazju Kreattiv, Valletta, Malta — Isola Catania, Sicily — Es Baluard Museu d'Art Contemporani de Palma, Palma de Mallorca.

Exhibitions

2023 – *Known Sea* – Loop Festival Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain

An immersive multimedia exhibition exploring the cultural significance of the Mediterranean, its hybridizations, and the unifying role of the sea across cultures.

Artists: Klitsa Antoniou, Lisa Boostani, Anne Commet, Kalie Granier, Macha Pangilinan, Sergei Rostropovich.

2023 – *I LANDED* –Nicosia, Mallorca, Catania, Palma

An innovative exhibition presented across four Mediterranean islands, highlighting the region's natural and cultural heritage and showcasing projects developed by the artists during their residencies.

Each artist designed a reproducible protocol for their work, encouraging a sustainable approach to curating while strengthening connections between local artistic communities.

Artists: Lucy Orta, Klitsa Antoniou, Olga Sabko, Max Fouchy, Edgar Sarin

Venues: Teatro Polis — TACA Studio — Isola Catania, Catania, Sicily — Es Baluard Museu d'Art Contemporani de Palma, Palma, Spain

MARITIMA01

2019 – 2020

Founder and Curator
maritima01.com

Marítima'01 is an artistic initiative centered on a residency program exploring the environmental challenges of the Mediterranean Sea and its surrounding region. The project brings together contemporary artists and scientists, fostering dialogue and collaboration and leading to the creation of impactful artistic works.

Partners: Art Made Cultural Association; University of Valencia; Jardín Botánico de Valencia; Institut Français de Valence; La Nau Cultural Center; Centre del Carme Cultura Contemporània; UCV-IMEDMAR Scientific Research Institute; Visit València.

Artists: Yann Toma, Fabrice Monteiro, Ana Matey Marañon, Sena Başöz, Fermín Jiménez Landa, Mariagrazia Pontorno, Kalie Granier, Taylor Smith, Enrique Ramírez, Marco Godinho.

The participating artists took part in the Marítima residency, conducting research in collaboration with scientists and producing new works. Each artist created a video work or a photographic series presented within the Marítima01 event program, followed by international presentations and exhibitions.

MARÍTIMA 01 — Artistic Residency

June – July 2020 — Artistic Residency, Valencia, Spain.

This residency combined research activities, online and on-site conferences, laboratory work, and collaborative meetings. It enabled the artists to develop their projects, experiment with new methodologies, and produce artistic works in dialogue with scientific research.

Exhibitions and Events — MARÍTIMA 01

- **October 2020** — Video screenings, La Nau Cultural Center, Valencia, Spain
- **October 2020** — Video screenings, Centre del Carme Cultura Contemporània, Valencia, Spain
- **November 2020 – January 2021** — *Mare Nostrum: fragili vita*, exhibition, Colegio Mayor Rector Peset., Valencia, Spain
- **October 2020** — Conference and video screenings, GoodPlanet Foundation, Paris, France
- **November 2020** — Video screenings, LOOP Festival Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain.
- **May 2021** — Video screenings and artist talk, Centro de Arte y Naturaleza (CDAN), Huesca, Spain.
- **May 2021** — Video screenings, discussion with the artists, and acquisition of works by the GoodPlanet Foundation collection, Paris, France.
- **July 2021** — *Maritima01 Video Art Festival*, Es Baluard Museu d'Art Contemporani de Palma, Palma, Mallorca, Spain

Programme A program of video screenings and a series of conversations with artists and scientists, inviting the public to reflect on environmental urgencies in the Mediterranean (14 video projects)

- **October 2021** — *Nobilis Golden Moon*, video screening at **La Mostra de València – Cinema del Mediterrani, Valencia, Spain.**

Film produced during the Marítima residency by Mariagrazia Pontorno and presented as part of the festival program.

Artistic Residency — Art Made Cultural Association

Non-profit cultural association, Valencia, Spain.

Organization of artistic residencies within Art Made, dedicated to promoting cultural exchange between contemporary art and other disciplines.

2013 – 2024 — Artistic Residency Programs, Valencia, Spain

- Organization of artistic workshops for more than 50 residents since 2013
- Support and promotion of emerging contemporary artists
- Curating exhibitions and developing several program editions and publications

Conferences, Meetings, and Artist Talks

April 2023 — Roundtable discussion, Villa Belleville, Paris, France

Theme: “*New Working Methods and Experiences in Artistic Residencies*”

Discussion on curatorial practices and support frameworks within artistic residency programs.

February 2022 — Conference, Descartes Amphitheatre, Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University, Paris, France

Theme: *Appropriate Use of Natural Elements and Species in Works of Art*

Participants:

- Nacima Baron — Member of the Scientific Council of the Conservatoire du Littoral
- Jorge Diogène — Head of the Marine and Continental Waters Program, IRTA
- Agnès Foiret-Collet — Member of the Scientific Council of the Conservatoire du Littoral, artist, researcher, and lecturer at Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University
- Yann Toma — Artist-observer at the United Nations, professor at Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University, director of the Sorbonne Art Gallery
- **Artists:** Quentin Germain, Mariagrazia Pontorno, Victoria Alexa, Taylor Smith.

June 2021 — **Online Conferences** (with participation of artists and scientists):

- **7 June:** *Rethinking Nature: The Value of the Arts within the Theme of Nature.*
- **9 June:** *Video Art: Collecting, Exhibiting, Producing*

October 2020 — Conference, Institut Français de Valence, Valencia, Spain.

Video screenings of works from the Maritima01 project, followed by a roundtable discussion and a press conference, including the presentation of the *Maritima01* book

Publications

Press

- **September 2024** – *The Islander Magazine*
The Boat of Vociferous Winds
<https://theislander.online/2024/09/islander-life/the-boat-of-vociferous-winds>

Edited and Directed Publications

- **2020** — *Maritima 01 (Book)*
A collection of scientific projects and artworks created through collaborations between artists, the Maritima team, and scientists.
[Version numérique](#)
- **2022** – *MARLANDS (Catalogue)*
[Catalogue MARLANDS](#)