

Elena Posokhova

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Biography

Elena is a contemporary art curator and project manager based in Paris and a resident curator at POUSH cultural center in Paris, specializing in the Mediterranean region's natural and cultural relationships. Her work focuses on the creative process through collaborative projects with artists, scientists, and the public. Elena aims to create spaces for co-creation and new works, analyzing the factors influencing creativity.

Elena holds the Master's degree in Art & Vision (MAVI) from Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne and she is pursuing a doctorate at the University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne. Her research and curatorial practice focus on multidisciplinary projects and contemporary art, with an emphasis on artists' inquiries.

With over 10 years of experience, Elena has organized art residencies in Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus and Malta, collaborating with international institutions. Her recent projects include partnerships with scientific labs at the University of Valencia and the EU under the Creative Europe program, integrating diverse disciplines into the artistic process. Elena has also curated exhibitions in various European cities featuring sculpture, painting, performance, and video.

Elena initiated EU and UN-supported projects like MARITIMA 01 and MARLANDS, focusing on the ecological and cultural dimensions of Mediterranean Islands, promoting collaboration among artists, scientists, and local communities. Her approach emphasizes sustainability, creativity, and new methods of collaboration in the arts.

Education

2024 Currently pursuing a doctoral degree; University of Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne, Paris, France.
2022 Master 2 in Arts and International Creation (MAVI) in University of Paris 1 - Panthéon Sorbonne, Paris, France
2012 Master's Degree in Art History and Antique Expertise Institute of Art and Antiquities, Moscow, Russia
2003 Master's Degree in History and Culture in State Pedagogical University, Krasnodar, Russia

Current Projects

2024 – 2027 Doctoral degree; University of Paris 1 - Panthéon Sorbonne - Paris, France

Elena is pursuing a PhD at the University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne. Her research explores the influence of natural and cultural factors on the creative process.

Since 2024 MARLANDS PROJECT 02

Preparation of the project application in collaboration with UCV-IMEDMAR for funding under the European Union's Creative Europe program. MARLANDS PROJECT 02 is scheduled to launch in 2025 with a duration of 22 months.

Since 2022: UCV - Catholic University of Valencia

European Cultural, Arts, and Science Project Manager – Creative Europe Programme

At the Catholic University of Valencia, responsible for coordinating, implementing, and developing cultural, arts, and science projects related to the European Union's Creative Europe programme.

Curatorial

POUSH, Since 2020

Associated curator

POUSH is a dynamic creative space dedicated to artistic production and exhibition, supporting over 260 artists and hosting exhibitions and events in a vibrant neighbourhood with both local significance and global reach. As a resident curator at POUSH, Elena's role is to support resident artists and curate exhibitions that highlight their work and vision.

Exhibitions

2024 « *Beyond landscape* » by Alex Marco and Hector Garosio, Exhibition at POUSH, Paris, France.

2024 « *Car Talks* » by Alex Harsley, Exhibition at POUSH, Paris.

2023 « *This Corrosion* » by Sergei Rostropovich, Video screening at POUSH, Paris, France.

2023 « *Parfum blanc* » by Mehdi Besnainou, Performance at POUSH, Paris, France.

2023 « *There is No lonesome wave* », Group Exhibition at POUSH, Paris, France.

There is No Lonesome Wave explores water's currents and qualities in both literal and metaphorical contexts.

Elena Posokhova presents *I Landed*, an exploration of the Mediterranean's impact on local imagination, with contributions from Lucy Orta, Edgar Sarin, Max Fouchy, Olga Sabko, and Klitsa Antoniou.

2022 “*Amphibies*“, Exhibition at POUSH, Paris, France.

Amphibies aims to explore the Mediterranean as a unique natural and cultural entity, blending histories, ideas, nature, and narratives within both a geographic and imaginative landscape.

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, curator

www.marlandsproject.com - Supported by: Creative Europe, European Union

Initiated in 2020 and launched in 2022 with funding from the European Union, this experimental project aims to drive sustainable development within the cultural sector while supporting environmental preservation across Mediterranean islands, including Cyprus, Mallorca, Ibiza, Sicily, and Malta. The program encompasses multidisciplinary artistic residencies on these islands, complemented by exhibitions both locally and in major continental cities such as Paris and Barcelona

Partners: Universidad Católica de Valencia; Es Baluard Museu, Mallorca; Spazju Kreattiv Cultural Center, Malta; Cyprus University of Technology; Isola Catania, Sorbonne University, LOOP festival, Villa Belleville Paris, University of Balearic Islands, CREA cultural center, Venice.

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

Art residencies and workshops

The five artists participated in the MARLANDS residency, visiting Malta, Sicily, Mallorca, Cyprus, and Ibiza, collaborating with local scientists and artists to create five unique art projects.

2022 Klitsa Antoniou's artistic residency in Island of Cyprus.

2022 Lucy Orta's artistic residency in Island of Ibiza, Spain.

2022 Lucy Orta and Olga Sabko's artistic residency in Mallorca Island, Spain.

2022 Max Fouchy's Marlands artistic residency in Catania Island at Isola Catania, Art Space and Residency Program, Italia.

2022 Edgar Sarin's artistic residency in Malta Island at Spazju Kreattiv, Center for Art and Creativity, Valletta, Malta.

2022 "Meditating on Corallium rubrum", Workshop: by Lucy Orta.

Part of Lucy Orta's The Lost Species (Vol. 2), this workshop raises awareness of endangered red coral and monk seals. Participants hand-mold coral branches from terracotta, guided by a ceramic artist, ending with a symbolic return to nature.

Venues: Spazju Kreattiv, Valletta, Malta - Isola Catania, Sicily - Es Baluard Museu d'Art Modern i Contemporani de Palma.

Exhibitions:

2023 « *Known Sea* », Exhibition at Loop Festival, Barcelona, Spain.

The exhibition showcases immersive multimedia works, exploring the Mediterranean's cultural significance, hybridization, and the sea's role in uniting cultures.

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

2023 « *I LANDED* », Nicosia, Mallorca, Catania, Palma.

I LANDED is an innovative exhibition held across four Mediterranean islands, highlighting the region's natural and cultural heritage and showcasing projects created by artists during their residencies on each island.

Each artist developed a replicable protocol for their work, promoting a sustainable approach to curation and fostering connections between the islands' art communities:

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

Venues: Theatro Polis, Nicosia, Cyprus - Taca Studio, Mallorca, Spain - Isola Catania, Catania, Sicily - Es Baluard Museu d'Art Modern i Contemporani de Palma, Palma, Spain.

MARITIMA01, 2019 – 2020

Founder, curator
maritima01.com

Marítima'01 is an art initiative centered on a residency program focused on the environmental challenges facing the Mediterranean Sea and its surrounding region. This project brings together contemporary artists and scientists, fostering dialogue and collaboration that result in the creation of impactful art pieces.

Partners: Art Made Cultural association, University of Valencia, Valencia Botanical Garden, Institut Français Valencia, La Nau Cultural Center, Centre del Carme Contemporary Museum Comunitat Valenciana, UCV – IMEDMAR Scientific Research Institute, VLC Turismo de Valencia

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

Artists participated in the Maritima Artist Residency, conducting research in collaboration with scientists and producing their work. Each artist created a video art piece or photo series to be showcased in the Maritima01 events program, followed by international presentations.

Art residency of the project:

June – July 2020 Artistic Residency, Valencia, Spain.

This residency includes research activities, online and on-site conferences, work in lab and meetings, aiming for artists to develop projects for production and production of art works.

Exhibitions and events of the project:

October 2020 Video art works screening, La Nau, Valencia, Spain.

October 2020 Video art works screening, 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 art screening, Good Planet Foundation, Paris, France

November 2020 Video art screening, LOOP festival, Barcelona, Spain.

May 2021 Video art screening and Talk, CDAN, Huesca, Spain

May 2021 - Screening, Artist Talk, and Artwork Submission to the Foundation's Collection, Good Planet Foundation, Paris, France

July 2021 Video Art Festival Maritima01, Es Baluard Museu d'Art de Palma, Mallorca, Spain.

Video art screening program and a series of meetings with artists and scientists that invite the public to reflect on environmental urgencies in the Mediterranean Sea (14 video art projects)

October 2021 "Nobilis golden moon", video art screening at La Mostra de València, Festival of Mediterranean Cinema, Valencia, Spain.

Film produced in Maritima residency by Mariagrazia Pontorno's and screened at La Mostra de València – Cinema del Mediterrani.

Art Made Art Residency.

Organization of artist residency within the non-profit cultural association Art Made, based in Valencia, focused on fostering cultural exchanges between contemporary art and other discipline

2013 -2024 – Art residency programs, Valencia, Spain

- Organization of art workshops (over 50 residents from 2013)
- Promotion and support of young contemporary artists.
- Exhibition curation, multiple editions, and publications.

Conferences – Talks

April 2023 Round table Résidence de Paris Belleville, Paris, France
“New working methods and experience in artistic residency”.

February 2022 Conference at Amphitheatre Descartes, Sorbonne University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, France. Theme about the correct use of natural elements and species in art works.

Guests:

- Nacima Baron (member of the scientific council of Conservatoire du Littoral
- Jorge Diogène, head of the Marine and Continental Waters programme at Institute of Agrifood Research and Technology
- Agnès Foiret-Collet, member of the scientific council at Conservatoire du Littoral), artist, researcher and teacher at Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne
- Yann Toma, artist-observer (the UN), professor (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne), director (Sorbonne Art Gallery)
- Artists: Quentin Germain, Mariagrazia Pontorno, Victoria Alexa, Taylor Smith

June 2021 Online Conferences. (with the participation of Artists and Scientists)

- 7 June - Rethinking Nature: The value of Arts in the theme of Nature
- 9 June - Video Art. Collect, Display, Produce.

October 2020, Conference at Institut Français, Valencia, Spain

Screening Maritima01 project video art works. Panel discussion. Press-conference. Maritima01 book presentation.

Publications

Press

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

Editing and Direction of Publications

- 2020 Maritima 01 Book publication

Maritima01 book is a collection of scientific projects and works created in collaboration with artists, the Maritima team, and scientists.

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- MARLANDS catalog 2022.

<https://marlandsproject.com/wpcontent/uploads/2023/01/2Catalogue-Marlands-6dic2022.pdf>