

NIKOLAI BALABIN

lives and works in Lappeenranta, Finland

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Born: 1955, Leningrad, USSR

ART EDUCATION

- 1994-96 College diploma of jewellery and stonework design, College of Crafts and Design, Lappeenranta, Finland
 1985-91 Academy of Fine Arts, Faculty of Architecture, Leningrad, Soviet Union
 1980-81 Jewellery studio of Tatiana Alekseeva, Leningrad, Soviet Union

WORKING

since 1997 designer-maker, jewellery artist

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- 2014 juror: Competition for Young Jewellery Designers "Image and Form", St.Petersburg, Russia
 2010 juror and lecturer: International Competition for Young Jewellery Designers "Image and Form", St.Petersburg
 2005 juror: International Competition for Young Jewelers "Image and Form", St.Petersburg
 2005 curator: selection of russian contemporary jewellery for the exhibition Everyday Aesthetics, Art Museum of Kouvola, Finland
 2004 curator: Russian Jewellery Art, group exhibition, Gallery Rantapaja, Lappeenranta, Finland
 2003 exhibition architector: proKoru, contemporary finnish jewellery, Craft Museum, Lappeenranta

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2015 **My Park**, Kuressaare Town Hall Gallery, Kuressaare, Estonia
 2012 **Ornament**, The Russian Ethnographic Museum, St.-Petersburg, Russia
 2012 **Collected Tales** (with Melitina Balabin), A-Galerii, Safe, Tallinn, Estonia
 2010 **Random Processes**, The Russian Ethnographic Museum, St.-Petersburg, Russia
 2010 **Promenade**, Gallery Uusikuva, Kotka, Finland
 2009 **My Park**, Masters' Guild Art Gallery, St.-Petersburg, Russia
 2008 **My Park** (with Melitina Balabin), Gallery Iron Inc., Copenhagen, Denmark
 2008 **The Artists O Association's Artist of The Month**, Design Museum, Helsinki
 2007 **Park** (with Melitina Balabin), Gallery Norsu, Helsinki, Finland
 2007 **Garden**, Gallery O!, St.-Petersburg, Russia
 2005 **Thoughts about art**, Art Museum of Lappeenranta, Finland
 2004 **Bono sensu**, Craft Museum's Gallery, Jyväskylä, Finland
 2003 **Jewellery**, Gallery DIX, Helsinki, Finland
 2000 **Jet-black**, Amuletti, Kouvola; Gallery Ideri, Lappeenranta, Finland

SELECTED JOINT AND GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2016 **The Cominelli Foundation's Contemporary Jewellery Collection**, Padova Oratorio di San Rocco, Padua, Italy
 2016 **Art Sales Exhibition of The Finnish Association of Designers Ornamo**, Cable Factory, Helsinki
 2016 **Jewellery Art and Miniature Forms**, BULTHAUP Design Gallery, St.Petersburg, Russia
 2016 **KORU 2016**, Gallery Pirkko-Liisa Topelius, Helsinki
 2015 **Treasures of St.Petersburg**, jewellery art exhibition, House of Architects, St.Petersburg, Russia
 2015 **Jewelry • Boundless**, 2015 Beijing International Jewelry Art Exhibition, Innovation Park of Beijing Institute of Fashion Technology, Beijing, China
 2015 **Retrofuturism**, Jewellery Art Exhibition, Exhibition Hall of The Union for Russian Artists, Moscow
 2015 **Art Sales Exhibition of The Finnish Association of Designers Ornamo**, Cable Factory, Helsinki
 2014-15 **Endless Closeness**, contemporary jewellery exhibition, Art Gallery PUTTI, Riga, Latvia
 2014 **Artisaani Pop-Up**, Helsinki Design Week, Helsinki
 2014 **20th anniversary Exhibition**, A-Galerii, Safe, Tallinn, Estonia

- 2014 **The Cominelli Foundation's Contemporary Jewellery Collection**, Palazzo Cominelli, Cisano di San Felice del Benaco, Italy
- 2014 **Amber in Modern Conceptual Art Jewellery**, Art Gallery PUTTI, Riga, Latvia
- 2014 **Art Sales Exhibition of The Finnish Jewellery Art Association**, Cable Factory, Helsinki
- 2013 **Kiosk of Jewellery** by The Finnish Jewellery Art Association (Circuit du Bijou Event), Paris, France
- 2013 **JEWELRY • IDENTITY, 2013 Beijing International Jewelry Art Biennial**, World Art Museum China Millennium Monument, Beijing, China
- 2013 **Marked for design & kunsthåndværk 2013**, Aalborg, Denmark
- 2013 **PYHÄNIEMI 2013**, Art Exhibition, Pyhäniemi Mansion, Hollola, Finland
- 2013 **Saint-Petersburg's Jeweller 2013**, Manege Exhibition Hall, St.-Petersburg, Russia
- 2013 **Art Sales Exhibition of The Finnish Association of Designers Ornamo**, Cable Factory, Helsinki
- 2013 **Finnish Fashion and Design at New York Fashion Week**, Paloni pop-up-shop, Ivana Helsinki Concept Store, New York, USA
- 2012 **Jewellery Art**, Täky-Gallery, Lappeenranta
- 2012 **Rara Avis Group**, Kouvola Art Museum, Gallery, Kouvola
- 2012 **Rara Avis Group at Tampere Art Fair**, Tampere Sports and Exhibition Centre, Tampere
- 2012 **Frue Plads Marked 2012**, Design Fair, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2012 **Ornament** - mini textil exhibition, Lasipalatsi Gallery, Helsinki
- 2012 **korUral II** - Scandinavian Art Jewellery at Urals, The Stone Cutting and Jewellery Art History Museum, Ekaterinburg; Cheljabinsk Art Museum, Cheljabinsk, Russia
- 2012 **Saint-Petersburg's Jeweller 2012**, Manege Exhibition Hall, St.-Petersburg, Russia
- 2011-12 **The Cominelli Foundation's permanent Contemporary Jewellery Collection**, Salette Vantini Town Hall, Salò, Italy
- 2011 **pro.KORU III**, 21 finnish jewellery designers, Täky Gallery, Lappeenranta
- 2011 **Cominelli Foundation Award for Contemporary Jewellery**, Palazzo Cominelli, Cisano di San Felice del Benaco, Italy
- 2011 **YLAMAA MYSTIQUE**, spectrolite jewellery exhibition, Gallery Rantapaja, Lappeenranta, Finland
- 2011 **The 12th Contemporary Art Event SENSE / Sense of Tree**, Hyvinkää, Finland
- 2011 **SAGÉ UNISEX**, Galerija Meno Niša, Vilnius, Lithuania
- 2011 **Rare Bird** (group), Gallery Laura, Lappeenranta, Finland
- 2011 **The Apple Doesn't Fall Far**, Gallery Norsu, Helsinki
- 2011 **Art Sales Exhibition of The Finnish Association of Designers Ornamo**, Cable Factory, Helsinki
- 2011 **PARKS - TAKAS - VĒJŠ**, Cēsis City Exhibition Hall (Cēsu Izstāžu nams), Cēsis, Latvia
- 2010 **1 gr. Au**, Galerija Meno Niša, Vilnius, Lithuania
- 2010 **Helsinki Contemporary Art Fair** (represented by The Finnish Jewellery Art Association), Helsinki Exhibition and Convention Centre
- 2010 **FINNISH JEWELRY**, Fitchburg Art Museum, Massachusetts, USA
- 2010 **HOLOWNIA**, The 19th International Silverart Competition MINIMUM, Corner Gallery, Legnica, Poland
- 2010 **KORUT**, Galleria Norsu, Helsinki
- 2010 **Art Sales Exhibition of The Finnish Association of Designers Ornamo**, Cable Factory, Helsinki
- 2010 **WHITE**, Exhibition Hall of the Moscow State Academy Art Lyceum, Moscow, Russia
- 2009 **Saint-Petersburg's Jeweller 2009**, Manege Exhibition Hall, St.-Petersburg, Russia
- 2009 **GOOD WOOD** within St-Petersburg's Jeweller 2009, Manege Exhibition Hall, St.-Petersburg, Russia
- 2009 **FINNISH JEWELLERY 1600-2009**, Design Museum, Helsinki
- 2009 **Helsinki Art Fair** (represented by The Finnish Jewellery Art Association and The Finnish Association of Designers Ornamo), Wanha Satama, Helsinki
- 2009 **The 3th International Biennale of Amber Art "Alatyr 2009"**, Amber Museum, Kaliningrad, Russia
- 2009 **GOOD WOOD**, Gallery Vavilon, Samara, Russia
- 2009 **GOOD WOOD**, Exhibition Hall of Moscow Art College, Moscow, Russia
- 2009 **Insideout**, Galleri Elverket, Tammisaari, Finland
- 2009 **HOLOWNIA**, The 18th International Silverart Competition DECADENCE, Teatr im. Heleny Modrzejewskiej, Legnica, Poland
- 2009 **GOOD WOOD**, Geological Fair, Manege Exhibition Hall, St.-Petersburg, Russia
- 2009 **Three paths**, Täky-galleria, Lappeenranta, Finland

- 2009 **GOOD WOOD**, Show Room of Parguet-Hall, St.-Petersburg, Russia
- 08-09 **CASE in point**, The Copper Smithy, Fiskars, Finland
- 08-09 **Symbols of Faith**, CODA Museum, Apeldoorn, Netherlands
- 2008 **Saint-Petersburg's Jeweller 2008**, Manege Exhibition Hall, St.-Petersburg, Russia
- 2008 **"Intimacy", New Traditional Jewellery Contest**, nominees, The WesterGasfabriek, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 2008 **Helsinki Art Fair** (represented by The Finnish Jewellery Art Association), Wanha Satama, Helsinki
- 2008 **Jewellery Transit Helsinki-St.Petersburg-Moscow** (group), Exhibition Hall of Moscow Art College, Moscow, Russia
- 2008 **Kokoelma**, Jewellery Collection of the Finnish Jewellery Art Association, The Art Museum of Lahti, Finland
- 2008 **On the borderlines – Jewellery Art**, Gallery 5, Oulu, Finland
- 2008 **pro.KORU II**, finnish jewellery design, Gallery Iron Inc., Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2008 **Jewellery Art Contest "Stay moment! You are so fair!"**, International Baltic Jewellery show "Amber Trip", Vilnius, Lithuania
- 2008 **"Absolute Beauty", 16th International Silverart Competition**, nominees, Museum of Amber in Gdańsk; Museum in Gliwice; Design Gallery in Wroclaw, Poland
- 2008 **Dat Siert je**, Museum De Koperen Knop in Hardinxveld-Giessendam, Netherlands
- 2008 **Winter Exhibition**, Gallery Alternatives, Rome, Italy
- 2007 **Symbols of Faith, New Traditional Jewellery 2007 Contest**, nominees, SIERAAD International Jewellery and Silver Design Event, Amsterdam RAI, Holland
- 2007 **proKORU II**, finnish jewellery design (juried), Täky-Gallery, Lappeenranta, Finland
- 2007 **Jewellery under construction - tradition as a challenge**, CODA Museum, Apeldoorn, Netherlands
- 2007 **"Absolute Beauty", 16th International Silverart Competition**, nominees, The Gallery of Art in Legnica; Gold, silver, Time Fair, Warsaw; Gallery Yes, Poznan, Poland
- 2007 **Spring 2007**, Exhibition Center of Union for St.-Petersburg's Artists, St.-Petersburg, Russia
- 2006 **New Traditional Jewellery Contest 2006**, nominees, SIERAAD International Jewellery and Silver Design Event, Amsterdam RAI, Holland
- 2006 **Saint-Petersburg's Jeweller 2006**, Manege Exhibition Hall, St.-Petersburg, Russia
- 2006 **Bijoux de Noël**, Gallery Johan S., Helsinki, Finland
- 2006 **Autumn 2006**, Exhibition Center of Union for St.-Petersburg's Artists, St.-Petersburg, Russia
- 2006 **The Second International Amber Artwork Prize of the Baltic Sea Countries**, The German Amber Museum, Ribnitz-Damgarten, Germany
- 2006 **The 15th International Silverart Competition**, The Old Town Hall, Legnica, Poland
- 2006 **Junwex 2006** International Jewellery Fair (by Gallery O!), Lenexpo, St.-Petersburg, Russia
- 2006 **Kontti**, contemporary jewellery art, sea container, Market square, Lappeenranta, Finland
- 2006 **On the Border**, metal art, Green Warehouse, Art museum of Lappeenranta, Finland
- 2006 **Garden**, jewellery and paintings, Gallery Täky, Lappeenranta, Finland
- 2005 **Saint-Petersburg's Jeweller 2005**, Manege Exhibition Hall, St.-Petersburg, Russia
- 2005 **Complicated World**, jewellery and paintings, Gallery Johan S., Helsinki, Finland
- 2005 **KORU. Joieria Contemporània Finlandesa**, Gallery FAD, Barcelona, Spain
- 2005 **Everyday Aesthetics**, Art Museum of Kouvola, Finland
- 2005 **Sirdslietas**, jewellery art, Gallery Maksla, Riga, Latvia
- 2005 **Inform – A manifesto of industrial art**, Design Forum Finland, Helsinki; TR1, Tampere, Finland
- 2005 **Sever v sertse moem**, Art Museum of Muurmansk, Russia
- 2004 **Saint-Petersburg's Jeweller 2004**, Manege Exhibition Hall, St.-Petersburg, Russia
- 2004 **Jewellery Mix**, Gallery Steklo, St.-Petersburg, Russia
- 2004 **Love**, Craft Museum's Gallery, Jyväskylä, Gallery Postelli, Kankaanpää, Art Museum of Rovaniemi, Finland
- 2004 **Dream Team** - finnish design in international limelight, Design Forum, Helsinki, Finland
- 2003 **Saint-Petersburg's Jeweller 2003**, Manege Exhibition Hall, St.-Petersburg, Russia
- 2003 **pro.Koru**, finnish contemporary jewellery, Craft Museum of Lappeenranta, Finland
- 2003 **Container**, Finnish Craft Museum, Jyväskylä, Art Museum of Rovaniemi, Finland
- 2002 **Saint-Petersburg's Jeweller 2002**, Manege Exhibition Hall, St.-Petersburg, Russia
- 2000 **Kunsthandwerk aus Finnland**, Galerie Handwerkskammer, Hamburg, Germany
- 2000 **Saint-Petersburg's Jeweller 2000**, Manege Exhibition Hall, St.-Petersburg, Russia
- 2000 **Hands' signs**, Kuusankoskitalo, Finland
- 2000 **Elektronos 2000** (Amber Design Award), Amberif 2000 Fair, Gdansk, Poland

- 1999 **International Amber Art Exhibition**, German Amber Museum, Ribnitz-Damgarten
 1999 **Stone and Jewellery Art**, Osobnjak Bosse, St.Petersburg, Russia
 1999 **The Place of Show IV**, Craft museum of Lappeenranta, Finland
 1999 **Contemporary Finnish Jewellery and Ceramics**, Hagelstam Gallery, Helsinki, Finland
 1999 **Saint-Petersburg's Jeweller 99**, Manege Exhibition Hall, St.-Petersburg, Russia
 1998-99 **Finnish Jewellery 2**, Art museum of Porvoo, North Pohjanmaa Museum, Oulu, Finland
 1998 **Saint-Petersburg's Jeweller 98**, Manege Exhibition Hall, St.-Petersburg, Russia
 1997 **Kunst und kunsthandwerk aus Finnland**, Friedrichstadt, Germany
 1997 **Jewellery** (group), Gallery Aurora, Porvoo, Finland
 1997 **Ritual**, jewellery (group), Gallery Klobben, Helsinki
 1997 **Saint-Petersburg's Jeweller 2/97**, Manege Exhibition Hall, St.-Petersburg, Russia
 1996 **Finnish Jewellery 1**, Art museum of Porvoo City, Craft Museum of Finland, Jyväskylä, Finland
 1996 **Saint-Petersburg's Jeweller 96**, Osobnjak Bosse, St.-Petersburg, Russia

WORKS IN COLLECTIONS

The Cominelli Foundation's permanent contemporary jewellery collection, Italy; Jewellery Collection of the Finnish Jewellery Art Association; Craft Museum of Finland, Jyväskylä; The World of Stone Exhibition Association, St.-Petersburg, Russia; private collections in Finland, Denmark, France, Netherlands, USA, Israel and Russia

PUBLICATIONS

Finnish Design Yearbook 2012-13, Design Forum Finland, Helsinki 2012

Exhibition Catalogs:

- AMBER IN MODERN CONCEPTUAL ART JEWELLERY, Culture Portal Arterritory, Riga, Latvia, 2014
 2013 Beijing International Jewelry Art Exhibition, Beijing, China, 2013
 korUral II - Scandinavian Art Jewellery at Urals, Cheljabinsk Art Museum, Cheljabinsk, Russia, 2012
 Cominelli Foundation Award for Contemporary Jewellery, II edition, Cominelli Foundation / Contemporary Jewellery Association Agc, Padova, Italy, 2011
 "pro.KORU III", Association of Southeast Finland designer-makers TÄKY, Lappeenranta 2011
 Jewelry Olympus 2008-09, The World of Stone, Saint-Petersburg 2010
 ALATYR 2009, Catalogue of the Third International Biennial of Amber Works of Art, Kaliningrad, Russia 2009
 GOOD WOOD, Natalia Koigorodova, Parguet-Hall, Saint-Petersburg 2009
 "Absolute Beauty", 16th International Silverart Competition, The Gallery of Art in Legnica, Poland 2007
 "pro.KORU II", Association of Southeast Finland designer-makers TÄKY, Lappeenranta 2007
 "KONTTI", Korutaideyhdistys ry, Lappeenranta 2006
 "Jewellery Olympus 2006", The World of Stone, St.-Petersburg 2006
 "KORU. Joieria Contemporània Finlandesa", The Arts Council of Southeast Finland, Barcelona 2005
 "Arkipäivän estetiikkaa" ("Everyday aesthetics"), Kouvola Art Museum, Kouvola 2005
 "Jewellery Olympus 2003", The World of Stone, St.-Petersburg 2003
 "Finnish Jewellery", Eija Mäkelä ja Kaarin Bonde Jensen, Helsinki 2003
 "Jewellery Olympus 2001", The World of Stone, St.-Petersburg 2001
 "Amberif 2000", Gdansk International Fair Co., Gdansk 2000
 "The Ocarina Tells a Story", The Finnish Crafts and Arts Organisation, Keuruu 1997

Periodicals:

- Baltic Jewellery News (No 26), 2014, page 44, 48), Vilnius, Lithuania
 Stop in Finland, no 2, March 2014, p. 28, St.-Petersburg
 Fashion, spring/summer 2014, page 90, Riga, Latvia
 Pastaiga, January 2014, page 24, Riga, Latvia
 Baltic Jewellery News (No 20), 2010, Vilnius, Lithuania
 Baltic Jewellery News, August 2009, page 68, Vilnius, Lithuania
 Baltic Jewellery News, February 2009, page 45, Vilnius, Lithuania
 Saint-Petersburg's Jeweller 1/2009
 Baltic Jewellery News, August 2008, page 55, Vilnius, Lithuania
 Russian Diamonds & Jewellery 4/2008
 Pulse Saint-Petersburg, April 2007, page 12

Form Function Finland 1/2004, page 9
 Jewellery World 2/2002, pages 28-31, Moscow 2002
 Russian Jeweller 4/1997, pages 48-49, St.-Petersburg 1997
 Russian Jeweller 5/1997, pages 37, St.-Petersburg 1997

MAJOR AWARDS

2015 Arts Promotion Centre of Finland, Public Display Grant
 2012 1st prize, Jewellery Olympus 2012 Competition, nomination "Jewellery virtuosos / Innovation", Saint-Petersburg, Russia
 2011 Finnish Cultural Foundation, South Karelia Regional Fund, half a year working grant
 2010 Arts Council of Southeast Finland, one year working grant
 2009 1st prize, Jewellery Olympus 2008 Competition, nomination "Jewellery virtuosos / Innovation", Saint-Petersburg, Russia
 2009 National Council for Design, half a year state grant for artists
 2008 Nikolai Nuzin's prize ("Philosophical interpretation of the image") in Jewellery Olympus 2008 Competition, Saint-Petersburg, Russia
 2008 Finnish Cultural Foundation, South Karelia Regional Fund, half a year working grant
 2007 National Council for Design, one year state grant for artists
 2006 2nd prize in silver collection nomination, XIV International Jewellery Fair JUNWEX, Lenexpo, Saint-Petersburg, Russia
 2006 Arts Council of Finland, Public Display Grant
 2005 Nikolai Nuzin's prize ("Philosophical content") in "Jewellery Olympus 2005" Competition, Saint-Petersburg, Russia
 2005 Finnish Cultural Foundation, South Karelia Regional fund, one year working grant
 2005 Arts Council of Finland, quality support for design
 2004 Finnish Cultural Foundation, South Karelia Regional fund, half a year working grant
 2003 Arts Council of Southeast Finland, grant
 2002 Diploma in jewellery competition "Jewellery Olympus 2002", Saint-Petersburg, Russia
 2001 Arts Council of Southeast Finland, grant
 2000 "25 best works" –diploma in jewellery competition "Jewellery Olympus 2000", St.-Petersburg
 2000 Silver Prize in Amberif Design Award "Elektronos 2000"-competition, Gdansk, Poland (International Competition for Jewellery with Amber Design)
 2000 Arts Council of Southeast Finland, subsidy for a solo exhibition
 1999 2nd prize in competition "Stone and Jewellery Art" in nomination "silver jewellery", Saint-Petersburg, Russia
 1997 2nd prize in jewellery competition "Saint-Petersburg's Jeweller 2/97" in nomination "objects from unprecious metals", Saint-Petersburg, Russia
 1997 1st prize in jewellery competition "Saint-Petersburg's Jeweller 1/97" in nomination "objects from unprecious metals", Saint-Petersburg, Russia
 1996 2nd prize in jewellery competition "Saint-Petersburg's Jeweller –96" in nomination "objects from unprecious metals", Saint-Petersburg, Russia

MEMBERSHIP

2007- Artists O, Finland
 2005-14 Korutaide ry (The Finnish Jewellery Art Association)
 1999- The Finnish Association of Designers Ornamo
 1999- Southeast Finland Designer-Makers TÄKY

ARTIST RESIDENCIES

2014 Fondazione Sassi Matera (Arts Promotion Centre of Finland), Matera, Italy
 2010 The Grassina Studio House of The Finnish Artists' Studio Foundation, Firenze, Italy
 2006 Circolo Scandinavo per Artisti e Scienziati, Rome, Italy