

Esther Okada Art Gallery is pleased to present for the first time Sergey Melnitchenko with two of his recent photo series titled "Young and Free?" and "Metaheroes". The exhibition is from March 23 to May 14, 2022.



Sergey Melnitchenko 《Young and free? - exploitation of human labor issue》 2020

Melnitchenko is one of the prominent photographers of Ukrainian young generation. His series called "Behind The Scenes" which was made during his stay in China won the Leica Oscar Barnack Award Newcomer in 2017 and when he returned to Ukraine, he founded a school of conceptual and art photography MYPH in 2018.

He often takes male nudes as his subject. In his series titled "Young and Free?" from 2020, he captures young men facing various social issues of our time. These young naked men seem to represent freedom but are not necessarily depicted as tough male figures. They stand as they are in a complex world as if they represent the spirit of this generation.

His other series "Metaheroes" are snapshots of various people with hero masks. Melnitchenko in his statement says;

The hero of our time, what is it? What is he like? What are his qualities? What is heroism? What is a feat? Necessary and whether they are relevant in our time? (<https://melnitchenko.com/projects/>)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ESTHER OKADA ART GALLERY

His works remind us of the role of visual arts as a container in our society and how it can be used as a way to record, communicate, emphasize, and heal. Such arts may cast lights in today's difficult society.

During this exhibition all the works presented in the gallery are also available as NFT. Considering the current situation in Ukraine, all the sales will be sent to the artist and be utilized to support him and his community.



Sergey Melnitchenko 《Young and free? - coronavirus issue》 2020

Exhibition detail: Sergey Melnitchenko “Young and Free?”/”Metaheroes”, March 23 to May 14
Open: Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 13:00 to 18:00 (closed on holidays: Apr 29, May 4, and 5)
Location: Esther Okada Art Gallery 5-24-10, Yoyogi, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo

Esther Okada Art Gallery was founded in 2017 in a small apartment in Nakameguro, Tokyo as Zula Art Gallery. It moved to Yoyogi area in 2021 and changed to its current name. We present young professional artists in visual arts with various medium to express themselves.

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