

Caravansarai, Artistic Exchanges, Paris
Presents exposition

STATION VILNIUS

Caravansarai Artistic Exchanges

Caravansarai is a concept of mobility, hospitality and exchange. Traditionally it was the place for meetings of caravans and merchants coming from the East and West - across the ancient Silk Road. Transporting the contemporary art and new ideas, ancient Silk Road relives, becomes a modern highway of *art & culture* and continues to have a traditional function, bringing divers cultures & artists, with their art works together...

The concept of Caravansarai, symbolically, becomes a materialisation of modern cultural links, bringing together different regions geographically situated far from each other and, so close at the same time - because of commercial contacts first of all, but most important - human relationship during the centuries. This link, interrupted by the history several times, is a thread of commune national memories in construction from the West to the East & vice versa.

Since early 2000, the Program Caravansarai supports artists from different countries, various regions to create and develop cultural and artistic projects & give them possibility for their representation internationally.

Based in Paris, France, Caravansarai has developed wide artistic network, linking together artistes from Western European States passing through Central Europe, Turkey & Caucasus until Central Asia...

This time, collective of artists come to Lithuania, for the Exposition Station Vilnius.

Art Activity in Lithuania

Firstly there came an invitation from Vilnius Art Academy & French Institut to organise an exhibition & master classes of *Shalvak* (Shalva Khakhanashvili) & *Jacques Crenn*, two French artists from Paris.

Then there came another opportunity, as Caravansarai, with its new segment of creative process, *Karavan Gallery* came to be a part of *Art Vilnius Fair* in 2013.

At this period was decided to organise an exhibition in Tytanikas.

A commission of Tytanikas & Academy of Arts selected *Station Vilnius* project to be shown during the Francophone Days in March.

Vilnius Academy of Arts & Titanikas, 2014

Caravansarai program presents:

- *Station Vilnius*, selection of international artists with their works of Art Photography, installations & videos by Karim Borjas, Jacques Crenn, Jean-Robert Franco, Marat Sharyapov, Shalva Khakhanashvili & selection of video artists.
- Articulating with the medium of contemporary photography, exposition could be named "Body Explorations" as all the artists selected for the exposition in Vilnius explore the human or modern urban body in all its variations. *Station Vilnius* exposition includes pulsating b&w miner's portraits (Jacques Crenn), protesting human bodies with tattoos & series of decompositions (Karim Borjas), archaeology of urbanistic compositions (Shalvak), phantasmagorical world of mechanisms & futurist compositions (Marat Sharyapov), nostalgic childhood memories, the illusion of living in the series of nude portraits (Jean Robert Franco) etc.
- *Art Photographies* by Jacques Crenn & Shalvak realised in collaboration with Art Academy students. During the "master classes" realised back in 2012, where the students from Textile Faculty of Vilnius Art Academy were invited to "modeling" their costumes & actively participate in the "photo shooting session". Like this, it occurred, students were models, counter-partners, active participants & creators of the "decorations" for photographers, and not the passive watchers of the "master classes"...

Shalva Khakhanashvili
41 rue Cantagrel, 75013 Paris
Tel : +33 (0)6 16 71 28 26
www.shalvak.com
www.caravansarai.org
www.karavangallery.org