ARTEM HUMILEVSKYI
Artist Portfolio 2025

My name is Artem Humilevskyi, I'm a Ukrainian artist and photographer. In my work, I explore identity, history, and human resilience in the face of challenges.My projects "Giant" and "Roots" are closely connected. "Giant" was born during the pandemic as a way of accepting myself through self-irony and honesty. It’s about empathy, body perception, and the fight against stereotypes. In my self-portraits, I use my body as a tool for dialogue with the world. My large body is not just a form, but a way to ask questions about acceptance, stereotypes, and the perception of others.In modern society, there are many ideas about "normality." I want to expand these boundaries. "Giant" is not just about me; it’s about anyone who has ever felt different, not fitting in. It’s about the freedom to be yourself without the fear of judgment."Roots" is about collective identity, connection to the land, and our strength in the face of war. It tells the story of Ukrainians who, despite everything, continue to live, work, and fight.I believe that art can change perceptions, break down prejudices, and create new opportunities for understanding. Photography is my language, and I use it to talk about tolerance, empathy, and acceptance.The world becomes more open when we begin to see people not through their appearance, but through their essence. My goal is to draw attention to social challenges through visual imagery, rethink fears, and expand the boundaries of empathy.

Artist Bio

Artem Humilevskyi (b. 1986) is a Ukrainian photographic artist from Mykolaiv, known for his conceptual self-portraits. His work has achieved widespread international recognition, including winning the **Kolga Tbilisi Photo Award (2025)**, **Rovinj Photodays Award (2025)**, **Global Peace Photo Award (2022)**. A nominee for the **PinchukArtCentre Prize (2022)**, his work has been featured in over 80 exhibitions and is held in museum and private collections.

CV

AWARDS

- **2025** I Winner, Kolga Tbilisi Photo Award, GE
- **2025** I Winner, Rovinj Photodays Award, HR
- **2024** I Finalist, Circulation(s) Festival, Paris, FR
- **2023** I Finalist, ROTLICH Festival, Vienna, AT
- **2023** I Second Place, Rovinj Photo Days Award, HR
- **2023** I Short-List, Photometria Awards, GR
- **2023** I BarTur Photo Award, London, UK
- **2023** I Short-List, Vincent Van Gogh Award, NL
- **2023** I Second Place, Nida OFF, LT
- **2022** I Winner, Global Peace Photo Award, AT
- **2022** I Nominee, PinchukArtCentre Prize, UA
- **2022** I Short-List, GUP New Talent, NL
- **2021** I Short-List, Nida OFF, LT

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- **2025** I *ROOTS*, Bibliothèque Claude Lévi-Strauss, Paris, FR
- **2024** I *NEW RELIGION*, ArtPidval, Kharkiv, UA
- **2023** I *GIANT/ROOTS*, Odesa National Fine Arts Museum, Odesa, UA
- **2023** I *GIANT/ROOTS*, SCLAD#5 Gallery, Cherkasy, UA

MUSEUM & INSTITUTIONAL COLLECTIONS

- The Odesa National Fine Arts Museum, Odesa, UA
- Korsakiv Museum of Modern Ukrainian Art, Lutsk, UA
- Museum of Kharkiv School of Photography Collection, Kharkiv, UA
- Grynyov Art Foundation Collection, Kyiv, UA
- Ukrainian House, Kyiv, UA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS (from over 80 total)

- **2025** I *Circulation(s) Festival*, Centquatre-Paris, Paris, FR
- **2024** I *The World in My Hand*, The Alexander Tutsek-Stiftung, Munich, DE
- **2024** I *Common Body*, Ukrainian House in Denmark, Copenhagen, DK
- **2024** I VOLTA Art Fair, New York, US
- **2023** I *Krieg*, Vitrine, Mainz, DE
- **2023** I *The Ukrainian Issue*, Vasli Souza, Oslo, NO
- **2023** I NORDIC LIGHTS Festival, Kristiansund, NO
- **2023** I *MIMESIS*, Millepiani, Rome, IT
- **2022** I *United*, PinchukArtCentre Prize Exhibition, Kyiv, UA
- **2022** I *Oil Blood Liberty*, Kunsthalle Hannover, Hannover, DE
- **2022** I Helsinki Photo Festival, Helsinki, FI
- **2022** I Miami Art Basel, Miami, US
- **2022** I *umso Stärker Schlägt Mein Herz*, Kunstraum Kreuzlingen, Kreuzlingen, CH
- **2021** I *Traces Of The Future*, Momentum Gallery, Krakow, PL

2021 I Kleipeda Photo Festival, Kleipeda, LT

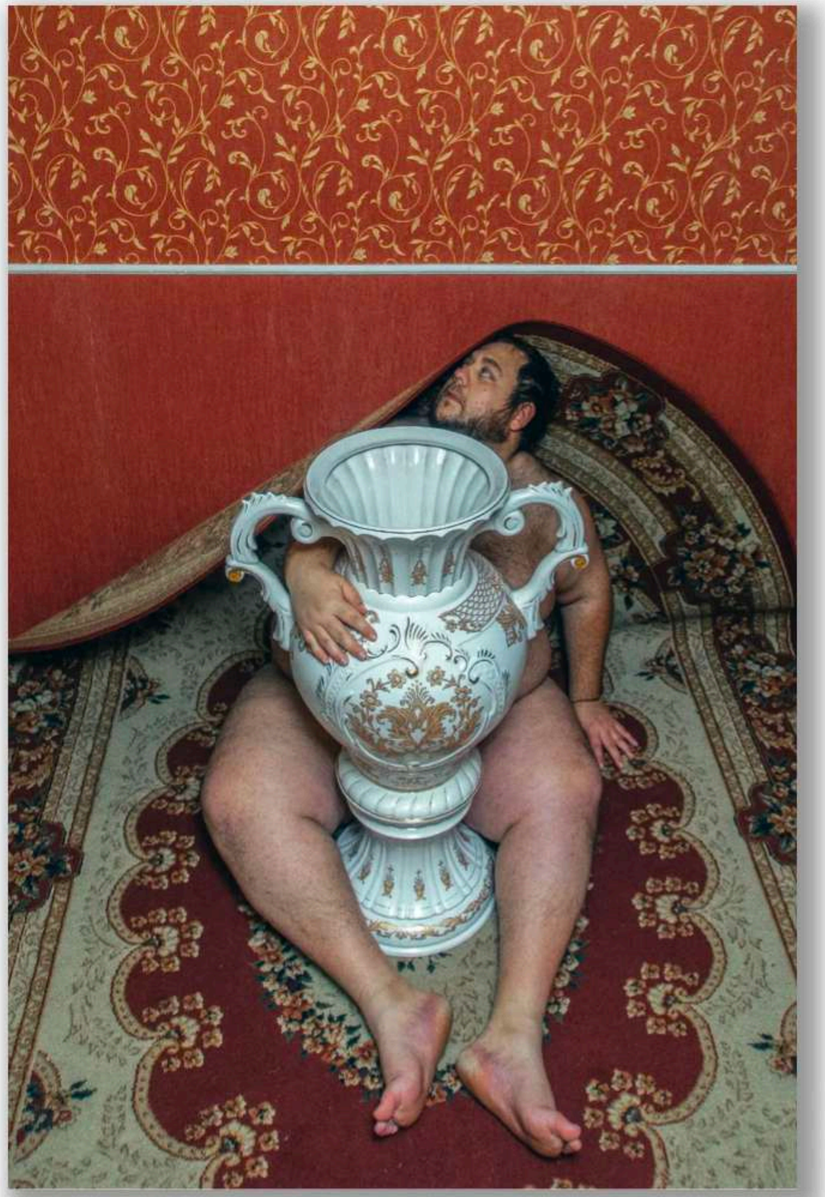
GIANT

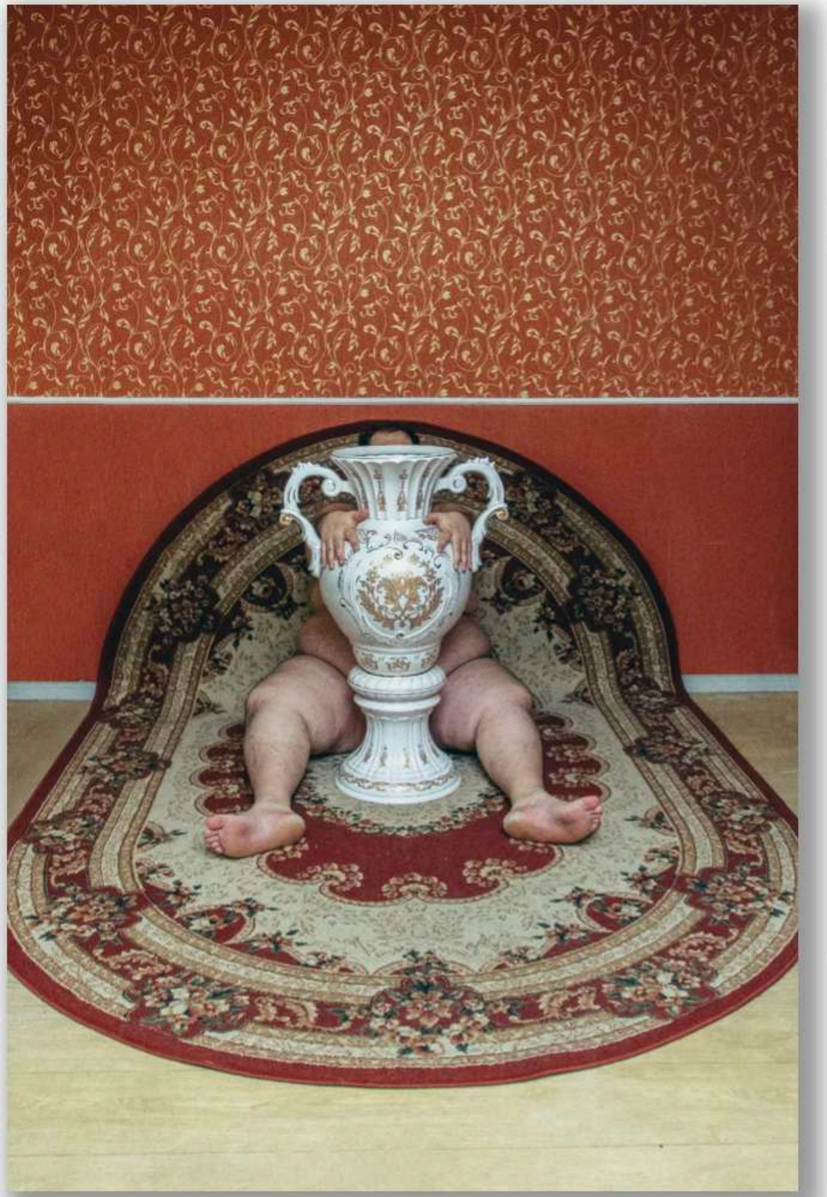
2020-2022

"Giant" is an autobiographical project born in the quiet isolation of the pandemic. It is an ironic diary of an artist left alone with his body, which he had come to know as a source of his own strength and vitality. Confined within four walls, this body becomes a prison, and the person inside it — a giant locked in a cage.

Through a series of staged self-portraits, I explore the inner state of a person forced into a dialogue with themselves, without witnesses or mediators. The baroque aesthetics and the monumentality of the nude body contrast with the surrounding reality, creating a sense of absurdity. This is a story about how, in the absence of the external, we are forced to confront our own internal giant, paving the way for a dramatic transformation that would follow.

View the full series online: humilevskiy.com/giant





ГРАМОТА

ROOTS

2022-2025

- Roots" began with the full-scale invasion, marking a pivotal shift where my body transformed. It ceased to be an object of self-reflection and became an anchor in the turbulent ocean of modernity, a screen for collective trauma, and a point of resilience.

  This project is my attempt to find a new code of identity, one not based on nationhood but on a deeper, spiritual connection to the land. Through rituals and myths, I seek to understand how subconscious spiritual symbols are invisibly woven into us. It is a visual meditation where the human body and the Ukrainian landscape merge, telling a story of the spirit, the power of roots, and the connection between us.

  View the full series online: humilevskiy.com/roots

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Air attack

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we all thought that the safest place on Earth was our home. But with the outbreak of full-scale war, our homes have turned into death traps.

Rushnyk

The rushnyk is a thread that stitches through the entire life of a Ukrainian. It's used to swaddle a newborn and to cover the final path in death. It is a fabric that witnesses birth and passing. In this work, my family's rushnyks, over 100 years old, do not just wrap me—they bind and cover me.

A warrior in lilac armor

This is a metaphor for the glorious Ukrainian warriors
past and present, who, on the one hand, are life and, on the other hand, death.

BUCHA

The work was created when the city of Bucha was liberated in 2022, and we saw the horrors that the Russians were doing to innocent people - shooting women and children. I felt that our society had been torn apart and stitched back together by the power of the spirit

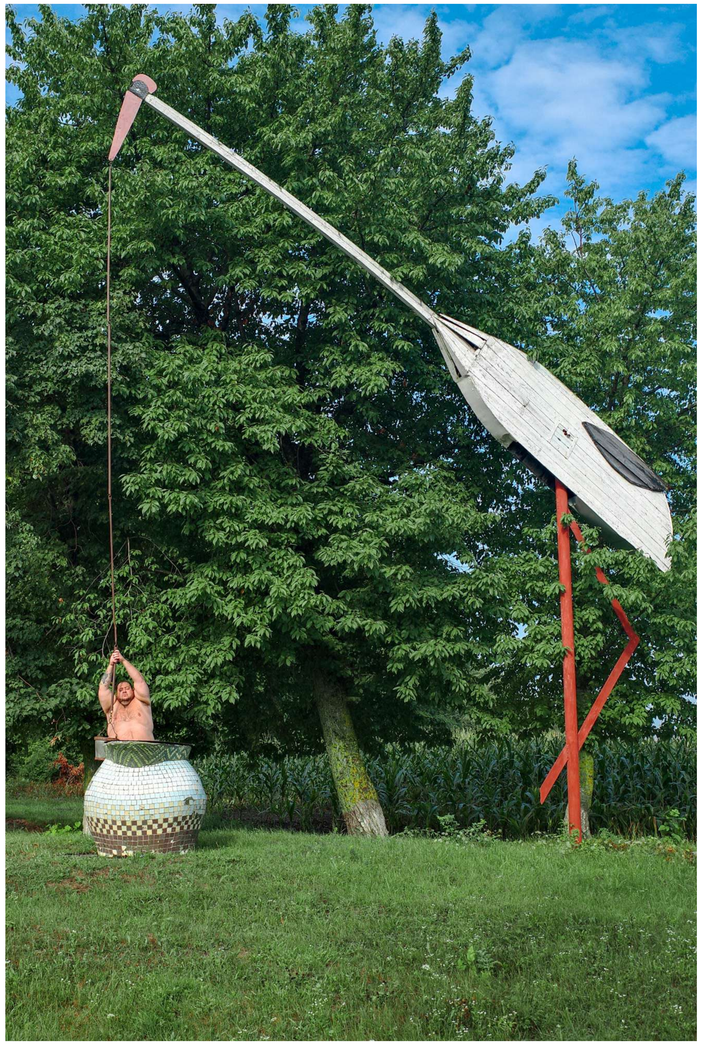
CROSS

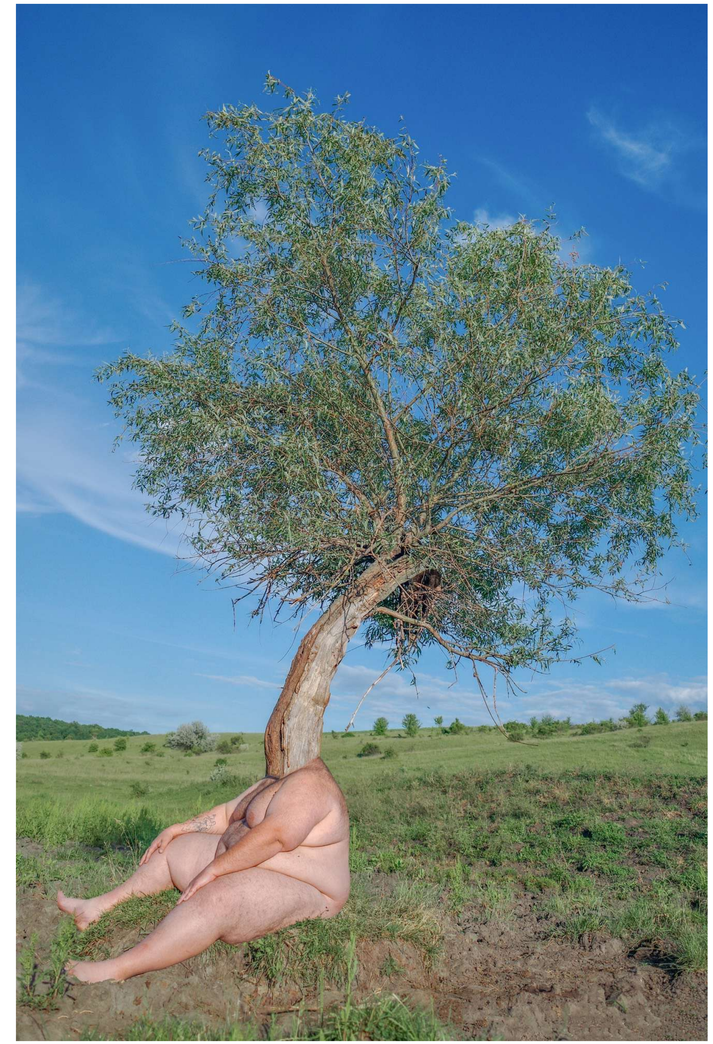
A period of devastation and the full realization that this cross is connected to the threads of social identity, and we must carry it ourselves.

MOTANKA

A traditional Ukrainian folk doll. They can serve as amulets or symbols of protection. They can be used to ward off evil forces or to bring happiness and prosperity to the home. Overall, motanka dolls play an important role in Ukrainian cultural heritage, embodying ancient traditions and contributing to the preservation of national identity.

The image emphasizes the cruelty and harshness of a situation where blood and violence determine people's daily lives and fate.





TRILOGY BIRTH / FREEDOM / TRANSFORMATION

The combination of these three elements forms a narrative that captures the essence of life, progress and cultural evolution. If you are considering incorporating this concept into a project, story, or visual representation, it can offer a rich exploration of the interconnected themes that shape the human experience in Ukrainian society.

HPP

After the Russians blew up the Kakhovka hydroelectric power plant (HPP) on the Southern Bug, an environmental and humanitarian crisis of great importance to the region erupted. Many people and animals died as a result of this terrorist act. Clean water, which is a symbol of life, turned into a bloody stream that conveys powerlessness in the face of large-scale destruction and gigantic losses.

BLOOD BATH
This work expresses the deep and brutal nature of military conflicts and their impact on society. It emphasizes the cruelty and harshness of a situation where blood and violence determine people's daily lives and fate.

BLACKOUT.
If there is no light in our home, the darkness is powerless as long as the light is on.

Ivan Kupala

It has long been believed that the night of Ivan Kupala has magical properties. Our ancestors believed that at this time all the “evil spirits” came out into the world of the living and walked among people.

WEDDING CEREMONY
A creative interpretation of the Ukrainian authentic wedding ceremony.

Yarilo
An ancient Ukrainian god of the spring sun and rebirth.
The new sun brings new life

Phoenix

And gardens will bloom again on the land burned to the ground

Sower

Sower is an image that stretches from the ancient gods of fertility to the future of Ukraine. Once, Dazhboh blessed the land with harvests, but now we sow it with flowers—symbols of rebirth. What we plant today will bloom tomorrow.

APPLE

The apple is a symbol of ancestral knowledge, innate experience and the transmission of traditions from generation to generation.

Metaphorically, I am a big apple tree, my son is a small apple tree, he doesn't have his own apples yet, and he plucks mine.

Austrian Parliament

The Odesa Fine Arts Museum

THE KORSAKS' MUSEUM OF THE CONTEMPORARY UKRAINIAN ART

Circulation(s) festival

Contact Artem Humilevskyi
Email: humilevskyi@gmail.com
Website: https://humilevskiy.com
Instagram: @humilevskiy
Tel. +380933942877