KODL■■C■NTEMP■RARY



Ira Svobova

(b. 1986; Prague, Czechia)
Lives and works in Prague, Czechia

Ira Svobodová (b. 1986) is a contemporary Czech painter whose work explores the boundaries and intersections of abstract and representational painting. After early experience in the field of new media, she shifted her focus exclusively to painting as a medium that allows her to examine not only complex conceptual themes but also the psychological structure of her own perception.

A characteristic element of her process is the use of paper models, which she folds, layers, and cuts. She often works with the transparent qualities of tracing paper, opening up the theme of looking beneath the surface – both literally and metaphorically. This approach enables her to uncover deeper layers of meaning and the mutability of perception. In recent years, Svobodová has been exploring the motif of liminality as a transitional space between different phases of being and creation.

In her paintings, Svobodová examines the tension between surface, space, and light. Her restrained painterly language transforms layered illusions into meditations on perception and form. Her work remains deeply sensory – balancing analytical precision with a quiet emotionality.

Ira Svobodová graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague. Her works are represented in numerous private collections in Europe and the United States.

EDUCATION:
2006–2012 Academy of Fine Arts in Prague, Prague, Czechia
2009 Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS:

2025
Liminal Phase, Trafo Gallery, Prague, Czechia

2023
Neue Bilder, Schloss Wiespach, Hallein, Austria
Void, Sokolská 26 Gallery, Ostrava, Czechia

2022
Kaleidoscope Fragment, SmetanaQ Gallery, Prague, Czechia

2021
Paperwork, The Chemistry Gallery, Prague, Czechia
Gaspard de la Nuit, GaP, Znojmo, Czechia

2019
Paravan, Trafo Gallery, Prague, Czechia
Framing Space, River Gallery, Los Angeles, USA

2017
Tubes, Pop Up Gallery, Prague, Czechia

2016
Inner Matter, CES Gallery, Los Angeles, USA

2015
Papercut, CES Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
Papercut & Noir, Volta NY, New York, USA

2013
White Space, CES Contemporary, Los Angeles, USA

2012
Urban, The Chemistry Gallery, Prague, Czechia

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS:

2026
Memory of Touch, Kunsthalle Praha, Prague, Czechia

2025
Art Cologne, Cologne, Germany
Point 0, KodlContemporary, Prague, Czechia
The Fold, Macadam Gallery, Brussels, Belgium

2024
Positions, Berlin, Germany
Prague Spring Festival Art Salon, Prague, Czechia
Elective Affinities, Portheimka Gallery, Prague, Czechia

On the Limits of Human Cognition. Light and Shadow, Krupa Art Foundation, Wrocław, Poland
Stage Bregenz, Bregenz, Austria

2023
Artgenève, Geneva, Switzerland
Summer Art Salon, KodlContemporary, Prague, Czechia
Summer Art Salon, Embassy Gallery, Helsinki, Finland
Pop Up Art Salon, Trafo Gallery, Prague, Czechia

2022
Art Cologne, Cologne, Germany
Artgenève, Geneva, Switzerland
Trio Feminin, Christine König Galerie, Vienna, Austria

2021
T 9-2-7, Trafo Gallery, Prague, Czechia
Middle of Europe, GAD, Venice, Italy
Signal II, Telegraph, Olomouc, Czechia

2020
Trafo Art 2021, Trafo Gallery, Czechia
Karartena, Trafo Gallery, Prague, Czechia
Artgenève, Geneva, Switzerland

2019
Vienna Contemporary, Vienna, Austria
Praha Berlin Barter, Urban Spree, Berlin, Germany
Äpfel Birnen Ananas, Christine König Galerie, Vienna, Austria

2018
Inner Matter & Papercut, GKC, Miami, USA
10 Years of Chemistry, The Chemistry Gallery, Prague, Czechia
Trafo Pop Pupp, Trafo Gallery Pupp, Karlovy Vary, Czechia
Dancing People are Never Wrong, The Chemistry Gallery, Prague, Czechia
Traveling Spaces, Volta NY, New York, USA

2016
Forum Junge Kunst, City Library Pilsen, Pilsen, Czechia

2015
Forum Junge Kunst, CeBB, Schönsee, Germany

2014
Burst, CES Contemporary, Los Angeles, USA
8, Trafo Gallery, Prague, Czechia
10th Annual Thanksgiving Collective – Attitudes, Tripoli Gallery, Southampton, USA

2013
Heaven & Hell, Microna, Prague, Czechia
Future Tense, CES Contemporary, Los Angeles, USA
Blurred Interface, Kvalitar Gallery, Prague, Czechia
Salon d'Art, The River Gallery, Bratislava, Slovakia
SCOPE, New York, USA
Pink and Dangerous, ArtPadSF, San Francisco, USA

2012
Clique, CES Contemporary, Laguna Beach, USA
Ein Dutzend Jahre Malerei III, Embassy of the Czech Republic, Vienna, Austria
Small Formats, 5s Gallery, Prague, Czechia
Continue to Continue, CES Contemporary, Los Angeles, USA
Designblok, Clam-Gallas Palace, Prague, Czechia
Sculpture Now!, Ministry of Culture, Prague, Czechia
AVU Diploma Show, Czech National Gallery – Trade Fair Palace, Prague, Czechia
Flat Mad Collector, AMoYA, Prague, Czechia
Way Around, Cooltour, Ostrava, Czechia

2011
Levels of Contemporary Abstraction, City Gallery Prague – House at the Golden Ring, Prague, Czechia
Paraphrase of Modernity, Uffo Gallery, Trutnov, Czechia
Artbanka Kick Off, DSC Gallery, Prague, Czechia
Half, Via Art Gallery, Prague, Czechia

2010
Artyčok.TV ART FAIR, MeetFactory, Prague, Czechia
Juicy Link, Trafo Gallery, Prague, Czechia
Instant Dinner, Avoid Gallery, Prague, Czechia

2008
KGBxVB, Hall C, Prague, Czechia
Artbeat Festival, Arts Depot, London, UK
New Media II, Czech National Bank, Prague, Czechia

2007
AVU 18, Czech National Gallery – Trade Fair Palace, Prague, Czechia

2006
Six, Prague House of Photography, Prague, Czechia
Trafo Gallery, Prague, Czechia