

ANDAKULOVA
GALLERY

PRESS RELEASE



Ayu bala Sculpture

14 December 2023 – 15 February 2024

Andakulova Gallery, DIFC, Dubai

Dubai, UAE: Andakulova Gallery presents artist Alfiz Sabirov's captivating solo exhibition '**Ayu bala**' (December 14, 2023 – February 15, 2024)

Alfiz Sabirov has created his own mythology, which is elaborated in detail and embodied in a multitude of images. It is a world of gods and warriors, oriental princesses and animal-totems born in the artist's imagination.

Alfiz Sabirov's works differ in the diversity of forms and volumes, in unexpected combinations of materials and textures. The master sticks colored drops of semi-precious stones into the bronze, sews the bronze "Stone of the Ancestors" with red threads, paints the lips of the goddess Sau he invented with bright red lipstick.

His horses, leopards and other animals that figure in the most ancient Turkic philosophy, Tengriism, are endowed with new magical properties and sometimes get new names. Hence the title of the exhibition, in honour of the author's sculpture of the same name, "**Ayu bala**", translated from Turkic as "**child of the bear**".

Alfiz was born in 1985 in Ishimovo, Oktyabrsky District, Perm. In 2001 the future sculptor graduated from a pedagogical school. From 2005 to 2011 Alfiz studied at the Russian Academy of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture of Ilya Glazunov. Since 2013 he has been participating in exhibitions.

In 2014 Sabirov went international. His solo exhibitions were held in various Russian and European cities. The sculptor's artworks are represented in many museums and private collections. In 2017 Alfiz joined the Union of Artists of Russia. In the same year he became a laureate of the Baki Urmanche Prize of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tatarstan. Sabirov collaborates with world famous brands including Lexus, Louis Vuitton, Caparol.

Alfiz Sabirov's works are distinguished by a variety of shapes and volumes, unexpected combinations of materials and textures.

His horses, leopards and other animals that figure in the ancient philosophy of the Turks - Tengrianism, are endowed with new magical properties and sometimes acquire new names.



With an external chamber his artworks are monumental. Sabirov is not afraid to turn to large forms - mostly in plaster, inspired by the images of Antiquity, as well as the Ancient East. He creatively recycles archaic plots offering his own interpretation of it.

This is how contemporary art is related to ancient artifacts.

The artist brought up in a traditional Tatar family naturally absorbed the spirit of the cultures of the past.

Bearing the memory of generations, in his myth-making art Alfiz gives birth to new unexpected plots, relative to the archaic in their plasticity, forms, texture. This is how contemporary art is related to ancient artifacts.

Andakulova Gallery (Dubai)

Andakulova Gallery, Dubai, is an art gallery whose objective is to promote Central Asia's contemporary visual arts. It serves as a platform to exhibit and support emerging to mid-market contemporary artists from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan (or the 'Stans'), across a variety of media.

Founded by Natalya Andakulova, also among gallery goals is to cultivate a dialogue between Central Asia and the Middle East by re-introducing the art of the 'Stans' to the artistic hub of Dubai. The gallery does this by building academic and professional relationships between artists, writers, art specialists, and collectors.

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