

BIO

The need to create has always been a constant. Painting began early, through years of studying at the National School of Fine Arts, but curiosity pushed toward new territory, leading to a degree in Fashion at the National Academy of Art in Sofia. Two years working in styling followed, yet painting never stopped. It quietly remained at the center, eventually pulling everything back into its orbit. That shift brought a return to the painting department and a deeper, more conscious exploration of image-making.

The academic environment in Bulgaria offered a classical foundation, but things opened up during an Erasmus exchange at Brera Academy in Milan. There, experimentation with color began, followed by a growing interest in form and distortion. The graduation project became a turning point: an attempt to express human presence and emotion without relying on physical dimensionality.

Soon after, participation in the Sofia Art Fair as part of the emerging artists' selection marked a public beginning. A first solo exhibition followed. Since then, the journey has continued through evolving projects, a feature in Art Start, and the recognition of the Visual Artist of the Year award from the Stoyan Kambarev Foundation.

CONTACT

email velev0samuil@gmail.com
instagram @samuilvelev
phone number Bulgaria +359877176067

EDUCATION

2021-2024 Bachelor of Painting, National Academy of Art, Sofia, Bulgaria
2022 Exchange semester (BA) Painting, Accademia Di Brera, Milan, Italy
2019-2021 Bachelor of Fashion, National Academy of Art, Sofia, Bulgaria
2014-2019 Graduated from National Highschool of Fine Arts, Sofia, Bulgaria

SELECTED ACHIEVEMENTS

April 2024 "Flight in Art" Award for Emerging Artists (Visual Arts category), Stoyan Kambarev Foundation
February 2024 Participation in exhibition "Art Start", Credo Bonum, Sofia, Bulgaria
December 2024 Solo exhibition "Stranger", Cultural space Bobbina, Sofia, Bulgaria
October 2024 Participation in Sofia Art Fair, Sofia Tech Park,, Sofia, Bulgaria
June 2024 Participation in exhibition "Restless", Cultural space Bobbina, Sofia, Bulgaria
March 2023- January 2025 Co-founder and Curator of a monthly pop up event for emerging artists "The Artist At Play"
March 2023 Participation in pop up event "The artist at play - Glass", Cultural space Bobbina, Sofia, Bulgaria
January 2023 Participation in exhibition "The Body", "Bulharsky Kulturni Institut", Prague, Czech Republic
October 2022 Participation in exhibition "The Body", "Bulgarisches Kulturinstitut", Berlin, Germany