

GYUMRI ART WEEK 07–20.08.2026

INTERNATIONAL

5TH EDITION
City & Time

The 5th International Gyumri Art Week 2026 explores the theme "City and Time," examining the city as a place where past, present, and future intersect and continuously reshape one another. Through exhibitions, installations, performances, and public programs, the festival invites audiences to reflect on urban memory, transformation, and new visions of the future.

The festival is curated by: Sargis Hovhannisyan, Nazaret Karoyan (ICA), Victoria Ilyushkina (CYLAND), Gor Margaryan (Muthesius), Jan-Niklas Thape (Kunstakademie Münster), Karen Barseghyan (artzon), Vahagn Ghukasyan (Gyumri Branch of the State Academy of Fine Arts of Armenia).

Institutional Partners:



City and Time

The festival explores how a city is shaped over time and how time “lives” within the city. It brings together the past, present and future, presenting the city as a living organism that is constantly changing and reshaping itself.

In today's world, where digitalization, demographic change and the challenges of sustainable development are becoming increasingly complex, there is a need for new thinking about the relationship between time and the city. These challenges do not merely disrupt established urban paradigms; they also create new opportunities to rethink urban life and its structure.

This year's festival focuses on the interactions within the city, revealing the meeting ground between the organized city and the free imagination of art. Urban life is often structured by clear planning and regulation principles, while art offers spontaneous and experimental interruptions that expand the boundaries of perception of these systems.

Between artistic practices, the city is considered both as a concept, as a physical reality and as a temporal process. This is the environment where experiences are shaped, where possibilities are defined and often also where limitations are defined.

The festival explores how the approaches proposed by artists transform the city into sharp reliefs, making it more visible and tangible. These interventions activate momentary encounters where new expressions and interactions can arise.

This ideological framework parallels Henri Lefebvre's theory of the “right to the city”, where the city is considered not only as a physical space, but as an experience that must be constantly reinterpreted by its inhabitants. In his formulation, the city is “made by the people who live in it”, which emphasizes the importance of participation and creative intervention.

In recent decades, cities have been subjected to multiple influences, from neoliberal economic policies to climate change, from industrialization to post-industrial transformations, as well as growing social inequalities. In this context, fundamental questions arise:

What is it like to live in modern cities?

What are the main forces shaping cities and neighborhoods?

To what extent are people connected or divided?

And how do these processes differ across cultures and globally?

The **City and Time** Festival offers an interdisciplinary platform where artists, researchers, and the public explore these questions together. It aims to shape an evolving discourse on the relationship between urban environments and time, making the city visible through art and reimagining public spaces.

The festival views art not only as a means of expression, but also as a critical tool that can reveal, reimagine, and reconstruct our understanding of the city.

Curator: Sargis Hovhannisyan

PROGRAM

07 August | 19:00 / Official Opening Ceremony /
Gyumri Technology Centre

Curators: Sargis Hovhannisyan, Viktoria Ilyushkina, Gor Margaryan, Jan-Niklas Thape

Artists: Johannes Gierlinger, Amy Kong, Kenji Ouellet, Yulia Gadalova, Yooyoung An, Alexandra Litke, Peter Maria Volkhardt, Henrik Jansen, Regina Hübner, Carole Anaïs Flammang, Katharina Sophia Hüttermann.

Gayi Street 1, Gyumri, Armenia

07.08 | 20:30

Sculpture Installation Opening



Artist: Mkrtich Matevosyan

Shiraz Street, Haghtanak Park, Gyumri, Armenia

08 August | 12:00

ODA: Heritage Room

Artist Talk / Contemporary Art Today: Curatorial Practice, Artistic Research, and International Collaboration

Speakers: Prof. Claus Friede, Prof. Dr. Dagmar Reichardt

Tigran Mets 11/4 , Gyumri, Armenia

08 August | 17:00

Mariam and Yeranuhi Aslamazyan Sisters Gallery

Group Exhibition: Rapture

Curator: Irena Popiashvili

Artists: Mariam Abashidze, Gvantsa Balashvili, Zuki Bebia, Tinatin Goglidze, Japara, Saba Khechoshvili, Nino Kvrivishvili, Luka Maghradze, Anita Makharadze, Lizi Murvanidze, Mariam Pureliani, Mariam Zatiashvili.

232 Abovyan Street, Gyumri, Armenia

08 August | 19:00

AST Art Gallery

Exhibition: Memory of Stones

Curator: Nazareth Karoyan

Artist: Nvard Dalyan

25 Teryan Street, Gyumri, Armenia

08 August | 20:30

Art Zon

Group Exhibition: *The New Geography of the City*

Artists: Karen Barseghyan, Hrachya Vardanyan, Vahagn Hamalbashyan, Uvo Kocharyan, Shushan Petrosyan, Ashot Harutyunyan, Levon Fljyan.

208/030 Kars Highway, Gyumri, Armenia

09 August | 12:00

Studio Visit / 5th Floor Cultural Group

Aleksey Manukyan Studio (5th Floor)

T.Chartarapet Str. 28/a, Gyumri, Armenia

09 August | 18:00

Mariam and Eranuhi Aslamazyan Sisters Gallery

Project: *Actual Room*

Actual Team

Special Guest from Boston: Levon Gyulkhasyan

232 Abovyan Street, Gyumri, Armenia

09 August | 20:30
Gallery 25

Solo Exhibition: A CONSTELLATION OF COEXISTING REALITIES

Artist: Mary Moon

25 Haghtanak Street, Gyumri, Armenia

10 August | 18:00

Museum of National Architecture and Urban Life of Gyumri

Group Exhibition

Artists: Noah Evenius, Jan-Niklas Thape, Zauri Matikashvili

47 Haghtanak Avenue, Gyumri, Armenia

10 August | 19:30

Together Foundation

Group Exhibition

Curator: Sargis Hovhannisyan

Artists: Aernout Mik, Aleksey Manukyan, Tigran Paskevichyan, Samvel Saghatelian, Viktoriya Ilyushkina, Fljyan Levon, Lasha Tchrelashvili

238 L. Madoyan Street, Gyumri, Armenia

11 August | 16:00

Gyumri Branch of the State Academy of Fine Arts of Armenia

Group Exhibition: *The City and Time*

Curator: Vahagn Ghukasyan

Artists: Hambardzum Ghukasyan, Hayk Adamyan, Gevorg Sargsyan (Djala), Khachatur Vardparonyan, Aragatz Sasho, Gurgen Ginosyan, Vahagn Ghukasyan, Milena Mkrtichyan, Hrachya Sahakyan, Ani Hwvannisyan, Mariam Militosyan, Hasmik Harutyunyan, Qristine Sargsyan.

1 Independence Street, Gyumri, Armenia

AUGUST | YEREVAN

12 August | 19:00

Institute of Contemporary Art

12 August – 7 October

Curator: Nazaret Karoyan

Solo Exhibition: Vahan Topchyan

47 Avet Avetisyan Street, Yerevan, Armenia

20 August | 19:00

Festival Closing Ceremony

Gyumri Central Park

Concert by the Gyumri State Wind Orchestra

Organized in cooperation with the **Department of Culture and Youth Affairs of the Gyumri Municipality.**

Project Coordinator: Lilith Tovmasyan

G.Urban Platform presents artworks created during the workshops of the **Beyond Form** project.

The exhibition takes place as part of The **5th International Gyumri Art Week 2026** and the **Dalan Rock Festival**, from **7–9 August**, *across three dalan* (historic passageways) in Gyumri, located at *188 Shahumyan Street, 8 Tigran Mets Street, and 69 Gorky Street.*

Curator of the **Beyond Form** project: **Suzy Ginosyan.**