



Edge of Illusions. Press Release

Discover an inspirational collaboration of Rukh Art Hub, the Tukku Magi Project, and the Mriya Gallery. This newly forged creative partnership ignites a captivating dialogue among diverse cultural landscapes of America, Latvia, and Ukraine.

Rukh, Tukku Magi, and Mriya begin their creative alliance with a captivating new art show "Edge of Illusions." In this powerful and thought-provoking debut, established contemporary artists Zoya Frolova and Janis Jakobsons confront the defining challenges of our era: How do creatives of today navigate the treacherous waters of conflict and loss? What profound revelations surface when soaring imagination collides with the unforgiving landscape of contemporary reality?

The exhibition is an intimate dialogue with a celebrated Ukrainian master, Vasyl Mironenko (1910–1964) – a heartfelt tribute to his enduring and powerful legacy. "Edge of Illusions" illuminates the hidden threads that bind past to present, while offering its visitors a rare haven of serenity and contemplation amid the constant tumult of today's relentless chaos.

Zoya Frolova's paintings confront life's most shattering moments with the tender symbolism of her visual poetry. The paper boats in her work are so delicate, yet fiercely defiant – the floating tokens of childhood innocence standing against the worships navigated by adults. Fire, paper, and water collide in her art, exposing the haunting fragility of the human condition and the staggering absurdity of our turbulent era.

Janis Jakobsons' luminous silicone sculptures shaped like colossal theatrical chandeliers and designed to elevate and drop with operatic eminence, invoke in the viewer a sense of majestic drama and opulent splendour. These captivating forms float above a sweeping black square made of metal shavings reminiscent of Malevich's legendary *Black Square* and Zoya Frolova's gigantic tic-tac-toe game installation.

Mironenko's industrial landscapes unveil the dramatic story of ambitious construction projects caught between illusions of eternity and inevitability of decay – colossal edifices predestined to return to dust by human hands as much as elemental forces. His haunting etchings of industrial sites across Ukraine are a testament to the futile beauty of mortal endeavors.

Bringing together Vasyl Mironenko's etchings and paintings by Zoya Frolova, "Edge of Illusions" becomes a shared exploration of the poetic drama fused into the fabric of existence.

In 2019, Zoya Frolova and Janis Jakobsons launched an ambitious multicultural project – **Tukku Magi Museum and Cultural Center**: www.tukkumagi.org. From May 13 to September 7, 2025, the Latvian National Museum of Art in Riga, Latvia, hosted *Tukku Magi: Rhythms*, an international exhibition curated by Frolova and Jakobsons.

Zoya Frolova is an American/Latvian artist and curator, born in Kharkiv, Ukraine. A graduate of the State Academy of Art and Design, Kharkiv, Ukraine, Zoya has lived and worked in New York since 1995. Her artistic journey is a relentless pursuit of the ineffable – a dance with abstraction, intuition, and the divine.

"The entire scope of human activity may be seen as composed of various games: political, military, economic, religious, and erotic. For me, painting is the single most enrapturing, intriguing, and abstract of human games, realized by simple means that have been known from time immemorial.

Discovery of the correct metaphor allows for the transformation of the events of life into artistic events. And then, quite possibly, imagination may outweigh reality on the scales of truth. Painting is like a game of chess in which your opponent is God, and there is no possibility of winning. Truly, you can never transform a painting into life itself. Nevertheless, you can play an interesting match. In essence, the history of art is a chronicle of these chess matches." — Zoya Frolova

Showcased by some of the most iconic art halls – from the Centre Pompidou in Paris to the Corcoran Gallery in Washington, DC – Frolova's work transcends cultures and borders, underscoring her transnational relevance. New York, San Francisco, Stockholm, Basel, Madrid, Brussels and Tokyo, are only a few cultural capitals where Zoya's art has captivated audiences in leading museums and private galleries. In 2000, she etched her name in Hong Kong's cultural landscape with a monumental commission for Swire Properties as the first woman artist featured in their prestigious collection.

Frolova's work is on display in museums and public collections at The Corcoran Gallery of Art (Washington, DC), The Zimmerli Art Museum (New Brunswick, NJ), The Nasher Museum of Art (Durham, NC), The National Art Museum of Ukraine (Kyiv, Ukraine), The Slovak National Gallery (Bratislava, Slovakia), The Latvian National Museum of Art (Riga, Latvia), The Presidential Collection (Riga, Latvia), Swire Group (Hong Kong, China), and National Museum (Gdańsk, Poland)

Janis Jakobsons, an artist and curator of American and Latvian heritage, was born in Riga, Latvia. Following his graduation from Riga College of Applied Art and Latvian Academy of Art, Riga, Latvia, Janis has built his career in New York, where he has lived and worked since 1995. Jakobsons' artistic philosophy is rooted in the duality of life, where age-old and contemporary coexist, and creativity is nested between the echoes of the past and the pulses of the present. Embracing this notion that life, as if a pendulum swinging from an amber's ancient secrets to silicon's contemporary riddles, the artist invites his audience to embrace the burden of consciousness: the longing for meaning, the fluidity of change, and the unseen force that keeps the pendulum in motion.

Jakobsons' work has been on display in renowned institutions across Europe, Asia, and the United States. His canvases in the hallways of ancient cities and modern metropolises are an affirmation of his global artistic resonance that traces the rhythms of civilization. Throughout his career, Janis's art was featured in museum exhibitions in Belgium, Greece, Finland, Austria, the Netherlands, Estonia, the US, and Latvia, and appeared in private galleries in New York, San Francisco, Munich, Brussels, Tokyo, and Stockholm.

Jakobson's works are part of the art collections of The Zimmerli Art Museum (Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ), The Latvian National Museum of Art (Riga, Latvia), and The Latvian Museum of Decorative Arts and Design (Riga, Latvia).

Vasyl Mironenko (1910-1964) was a Ukrainian artist, celebrated as one of the finest masters of color etching. The artist often drew inspiration from the Azovstal steel plant and other industrial sites in Ukraine, many of which were damaged or destroyed by the Nazis. Azovstal was built by American engineers in the 1930s as part of the ongoing industrialization of Soviet Russia. In an ironic twist of fate, this same plant became a stronghold for Ukrainian defenders, where they withstood over 80 days of a Russian siege. A rare testament to war's unlikely fortune, where yesterday's alliance planted seeds of what became tomorrow's courageous struggle. An accomplished academic, Mironenko served as a long-standing lecturer at the Kharkiv Art Institute (now the Academy of Art and Design) in Kyiv, Ukraine, before being appointed Head of the Graphic Arts Department. His graphics are featured in leading museums and private collections around the world.

Join us in this unforgettable creative exploration of contemporary arts that challenge perceptions and reveal hidden truths about conflict, loss, and the resilient power of human imagination

"Edge of Illusions" is on display October 23 through November 5, 2025

Opening Reception: October 23, 6:00 PM **Location:** 101 Read Street, Tribeca, NYC 10013

In collaboration with: [Tukku Magi](#), [Rukh Art Hub](#), and [Mriya Gallery](#)

More info: www.rukharthub.com/edge-of-illusions

