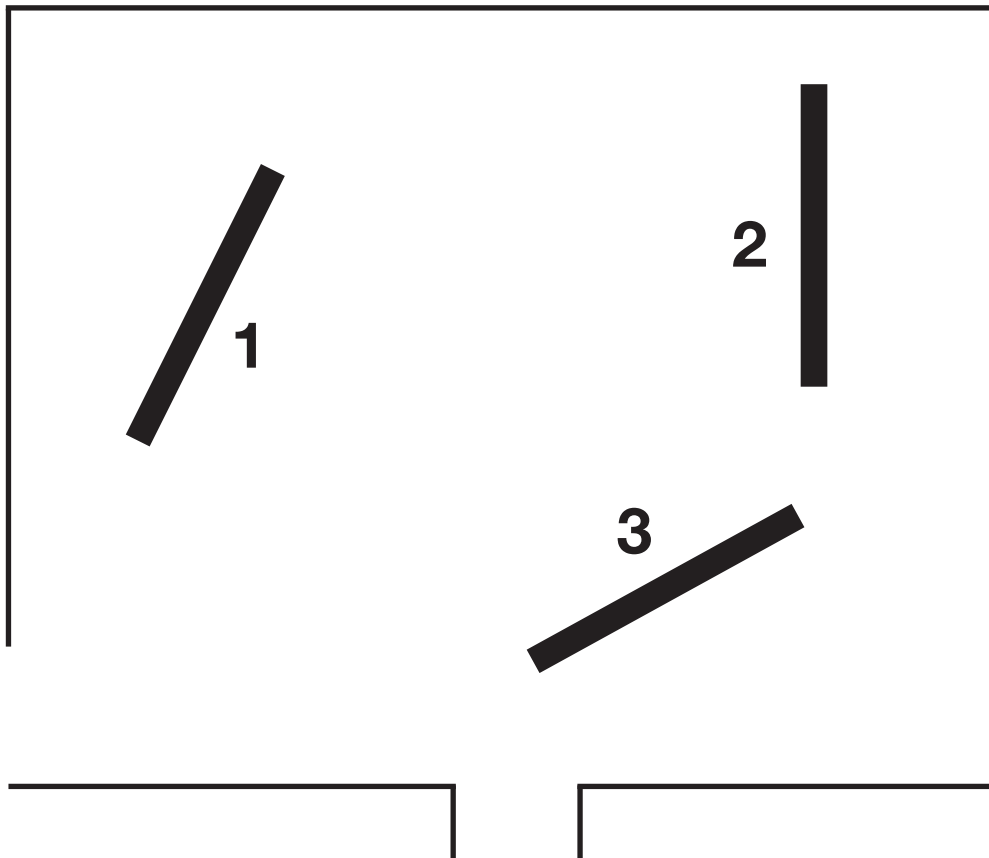


Belarusian Sundays in Red and White

Perspektiven von elf
Belarusischen Fotografinnen



Belarusian Sundays in Red and White
Foto- und Videoinstallation mit drei Projektionen
Dunant Plaza, 2020
Dauer: 13 min (ein Durchgang)

Projektion 1

Volha Shukaila

dokumentiert eindrücklich Szenen der Proteste in Minsk zwischen August und September 2020. Ihre Fotografien machen die Spuren erlebter Gewalt sichtbar.

Volha über die ausgewählten Bilder:

1. A Women stands in front of riot police on the Pieramozhcau Avenue in the center of Minsk. August 10, 2020
2. A young woman cries and prays at the Kurapaty mass graves (a wooded area on the outskirts of Minsk where a large number of people were executed between 1937 and 1941 by the Soviet secret police, the NKVD) during a «Repentance Chain» demonstration against police brutality and the presidential election results. August, 2020.
3. A man hugs a woman after his release from the offense isolation center in Minsk where participants of the protests after the presidential election are detained. August 12, 2020.
4. People meet their family and friends near the offense isolation center in Minsk where participants of the protests after the presidential election are detained. August 12, 2020.
5. IT specialists took part in a solidarity chain near HiTech Park in Minsk in support of detained and injured participants of the protests that erupted in the aftermath of the presidential election. August 12, 2020.
6. Belarusian singer Palina performs in front of Interior Ministry troops stand guard during a rally in support of the Belarusian opposition, against police brutality and the results of the Belarusian presidential election in Minsk. August 14, 2020.
7. A woman with a child reacting to a minute of silence in honor by Alexander Tarakhovsky – a 34-year-old demonstrator, was reportedly killed on August 10 in Minsk during an opposition rally against the presidential election results. August 15, 2020.
8. Riot police surround people at the Independence Square in Minsk during a peaceful protest rally against the results of the presidential elections. August 28, 2020.
9. Thousands of people attend a protest against the results of the presidential elections in Minsk, Belarus August 23, 2020.
10. A woman waves a national Belarusian flag in front of Lenin monument covered with placards at the Independence Square in Minsk. August 16, 2020.
11. Women block a police bus during a Women march to protest the official presidential election results in Minsk. September 12, 2020.
12. A young man shows the seam after operation in the corridor of hospital in Minsk. He was shot in the left lung by rubber bullet. As specialists says, probably it was a shot from close range. August 18, 2020.

Kseniya Halubovich

stellt in ihrer Serie die Frauen, die hinter den Protesten stehen in den Fokus. Mit Einzelporträts in Settings ausserhalb der Proteste schafft sie eine Nähe und öffnet eine differenzierte Perspektive auf die unterschiedlichen Frauen.

Kseniya über ihre Arbeit:

The whole world admires the role of women in Belarusian protests. In this project I wanted to show who they are: mothers, daughters, women of different age, professions and interests. Ob-

serving their everyday life you can never imagine how fulfilled with courage and resolve they are. Every lady who's not afraid of going outside with flowers is a heroine.

Tatsiana Tkachova

interessiert sich in ihrer Arbeit für geschlechtsspezifische Gewalt, Konflikte und Widerstand. Ihre Videos lassen die Proteste durch die bewegten Bilder auf eine andere Weise spürbar und vor allem auch hörbar werden.

Tatsiana über ihre Videos und Fotos:

1. I made this video on the day when the largest freedom march in the history of my country gathered in Minsk. A portrait of Lukashenka lying in the water of a fountain and people who walked around the city and shouted „Go away.“ I was surrounded by free people who smiled as if I was walking not in Belarus, but in any other European city. When I saw the portrait of Lukashenka in the fountain, I immediately remembered the novel by Marquez „Autumn of the Patriarch“. A minute later, a man from the crowd came over and took his portrait out of the water.
2. Women stand in solidarity with people who have suffered from the repressions of the authorities of the Republic of Belarus. The first action of women's solidarity took place on August 12 after police' harsh treatment of people who came out to peaceful protest after the presidential elections in Belarus. After that, women continue to attend such actions in Minsk and throughout Belarus.
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4. Belarusian artists and other creative people organized an anti-violence action near the Palace of Arts in Minsk. They were showing photo portraits of people beaten by the police during the post-election protests in Belarus.
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6. People gathered near the building of the state channel ONT.BY and asked journalists to tell the truth.
7. People in the crowd shouting slogans pro Lukashenka! – an action organized by the Belarusian authorities for the incumbent President Alexander Lukashenko. People from all over Belarus were brought to this meeting. Many of them couldn't refuse to take part.
8. The first action of women's solidarity which took place in Minsk on August 12. Women took to the streets of Minsk in white dresses and flowers to express their protest against the violence of the authorities. After the presidential elections in Belarus, people took to the streets for peaceful protests. They were greeted with harsh detentions and violence. About 7,000 people were detained in Minsk from 9th to 12th August. Unarmed people were shot at, and they were severely beaten by stun grenades.

Tanya Kapitonova

Die freischaffende Fotografin und Journalistin aus Minsk gibt mit ihrer Serie zu den Protesten Einblicke in ihre Arbeit als Fotoreporterin.

Tanya schreibt zu ihren Bildern:

1. Riot police and military vehicles on the streets of Minsk on the first night of protests. August 9, 2020.

2. Barricades of garbage cans at Pushkinskaya on August 10, 2020. Some minutes after the first shots fired by the military.
3. The first women chain of solidarity at the square near Komarovski market. It was the 4th day of protest when people got some information about violence and tortures in jails. August 12, 2020.
4. People came to temporary to support their detained friends and relatives. August 12, 2020.
5. A woman kneeling in front of militaries during the beginning of one of the Sunday marches. August 30, 2020.
6. People laying on the ground to show that they are unarmed. Sunday protest march and Lukashenko's birthday. August 30, 2020.
7. Women came to militaries and stood ahead of them. The next minute the militaries went away. August 30, 2020.
8. A woman showing her feelings to the Ministry of Interior. August 14, 2020.
9. Protesters blocked the main avenue in Minsk cheering car drivers. August 14, 2020.
10. Three kids wearing white-red-white dresses (according to the national flag of Belarus) at the women protest. September 2, 2020.
11. A police officer tries to avoid being recorded on video. September 2, 2020.
12. Women protect each other in front of the riot police. September 2, 2020.

Projektion 2

Darya Burakina

In ihrer Serie wird die Spannung der Konfrontation zwischen den Protestierenden und der Spezialeinheit sicht- und spürbar.

Darya über ihre Auswahl:

1. Traditional demonstration on Independence Square. Flashlights are lit by people chanting their slogans, wearing red-white symbols, banners and other attributes.
2. Former prisoners recreated the cell conditions where where the norms of people were significantly exceeded. They wrote posters about their thoughts and impressions of what happened to them. On the picture we can see participants of «My Camera» moving organized by prisoners of the CIP in Okrestina.
3. A man in civilian and other unidentified men in unmarked uniform and balaclavas carry a protester to a paddy wagon on Masherov Avenue.
4. Day 18 of protest. Militia Special Forces Squad blocked about 100 people in Red Church of Saint Szymon and Saint Helena.
5. Poster at the Pushkinskaya metro station where a protester died.
6. Militia Special Forces Squad blocked the participants of a female march.
7. A woman is trying to break through Militia Special Forces Squad. Special forces obstructed the female march participants to gather in one column.
8. A protester poses in front of the security forces. Military equipment and law enforcement officers blocked the protesters' way towards the palace of Independence.
9. Confrontation between women and security officials at a protest march.
10. Activists with white-red-white flag and LGBTQ flag are listening to music and dancing in front of Militia Special Forces Squad cordon on Independence Avenue.
11. A protester tries to talk to a military man during a peaceful march.
12. A protester covers her head with a flag on a rainy day.
13. Clash of Militia Special Forces Squad and female march participants on Freedom Square.
14. Militia Special Forces Squad, unknown men in balaclavas and uniforms without insignia and others in civilian clothes arrest protesters on the square in front of Komarovsky market. Girls gather to support Maria Kolesnikova who had been arrested shortly before.
15. Female march participants peer into the eyes of security officers.

Iryna Arekhouskaya

zeigt in ihrer Serie Portraits von streikenden Arbeiter*innen und thematisiert damit den Streik als gewaltfreie Option von Widerstand. Die brutale Antwort auf den Protest nach den Wahlen löste eine Welle von Streiks in staatlichen Unternehmen und Fabriken aus. Die Fotografin porträtierte die Arbeiter*innen während der Solidaritätsmärsche.

Iryna schreibt zu ihren Porträts:

Working class heroes

After the presidential elections on August 9, 2020, protests took place throughout the country. They were accompanied by brutal crackdown by the security forces using unjustified brutality. At several state-owned enterprises strikes begun as a response of what had happened. The workers demand an end to violence and free and fair elections. Solidarity actions were also held at many factories (without stopping production).

On August 22, Alexander Lukashenko announced his readiness to close the striking factories. To support the strikers, the special fund was created, which has already raised more than \$ 2 million.

The «working class heroes» are striking workers who play an important role in the civil resistance. Strikes are one of the options for a non-violent solution to the situation in Belarus.

The workers' portraits were taken during the Solidarity Marches. As a background are used places where striking workers passed during the Marches.

Lesia Pcholka

gibt mit ihrer Auswahl Einblicke in verschiedene Szenen des Protests. Ihre Fotografien wirken wie Schnappschüsse aus der Perspektive der Protestierenden.

Lesia über ihre Serie:

On August 9, 2020, we did not choose, we fought for the right to choose. We knew that we were the majority, we were proud of it and recognized each other by the white bracelets on our hands. After the elections, everyone felt the full horror of the totalitarian regime. People are beaten, raped, killed in the streets. Unidentified persons wearing masks come to the activists' home, knocking down the doors. In my country, the law no longer works, there is no safe place, and there are no rights.

But, people continue to go out to peaceful protests! The power of Belarusians, the power of goodness and light. In these photos, heroes who, overcoming fear, continue to go out to protests, and bandits who hide their faces, realizing that they have no future in our country.

Katerina Gordeeva

berichtet mit ihren Fotografien von den Protesten in Grodno. Ob ausgestreckte Arme mit dem Victory-Zeichen, geballte Fäuste, Selfie Posen oder sich wehrende Arme – die Gesten des Protest ziehen sich prominent durch die Serie der Fotografin.

Katerina über ihre Arbeit:

I'm Katerina Gordeeva, the photojournalist from Grodno. I'm working on the media platform called tut.by. Nowadays Grodno is one of the epicenter of civil protest moods in Belarus. People of all ages have already been going out the streets of the city during two months. I hope you can feel the whole range of human feelings through my photo work — the horror scary of defenseless in front of violence of police, but also the euphoria of 40 thousand of people gathering in front of prison, which should be ruined sooner or later.

Projektion 3

Dasha Sapranetskaya

Die Porträts von Dasha erzählen von einer weiteren Kraft der Proteste und des Widerstands. Mit ihrer Serie «rebel retirees» (rebellische Rentner) zeigt sie Rentner*innen, die sich den Protesten angeschlossen haben und unterstreicht damit, dass die Forderungen von einer breiten Bevölkerung getragen werden.

Dasha stellt die demonstrierenden Rentner*innen vor:

1. Nina Bogiskaya, 73 years old. A former geologist.
2. Yan Gryb, 85 years old. Before the retirement, taught electronics at college.
3. Yan Gryb, 85 years old. Before the retirement, taught electronics at college.
4. Vitaly Fedorovich Ravinsky, 75 years old. A histopathologist.
5. Natalia Kachanovskaya, 72 years old. Before the retirement, worked as an English teacher and translator.
6. Galina Logatskaya, 60 years old. Before the collapse of the Soviet Union, she worked as an engineer, then regularly went to Russia selling goods and did apartment renovations (finisher).
7. Larisa Vasilievna Koval, 68 years old. Before the retirement, worked as Head of the Marketing and Advertising Department at a company.
8. Tamara Ruzhenkova, 66 years old. A former cello teacher at music school.
9. Ales Marochkin, 80 years old. An artist.
10. Botyan Mikhail Mikhailovich, 69 years old. A former diplomat.

Violetta Savchits

legt ihren Fokus auf die Frauen der Protestbewegung.

Violetta Savchits über ihre Arbeit:

«Women of protest»

Mainly I focus on the women driving Belarus' movement for change. Women protesters of different ages in Belarus take to the streets demanding justice.

Nadia Buzhan

dokumentiert die Proteste als Fotoreporterin von «Nascha Niwa», der ältesten unabhängigen Zeitung von Belarus. In ihrer Serie werden unterschiedlichste Emotionen sichtbar, die zwischen Angst, Schmerz und Entsetzen, Bewunderung und Euphorie oszillieren.

Nadia schreibt über ihre Auswahl:

1. 9th August evening. Election Day. People understood that their votes had been stolen and came out to the city center with a peaceful protest. People were angry because they were deceived again. The security forces cut Minsk into several sections so that people were divided and could not gather in one large crowd. So, I found myself in the hottest spot of that evening. When I came to the avenue where a crowd of people had gathered, Militia Special Forces Squad and all military equipment were already prepared for action. From a distance I heard a loud sound unfamiliar to me - it was a flash grenade. After I got closer, I saw that the crowd decided to line up in a chain of people opposite to Militia Special Forces Squad. It is worth noting that the demonstrators were keeping their distance. They stood holding hands and chanted something like «Shame», «Lukashenka, go away», «We want fair elections».
2. That was my opening protest shot. I clearly remember that before the arrests began Militia Special Forces Squad had started compressing the crowd from two sides. Militia allowed to go away those who were willing to. Thus my colleagues and I ended up in a police ring. A

plump man in civilian clothes approached me and asked: «Are you a journalist? If so, you are allowed to stay here. The only requirement – do not interfere. Don't worry, keep on working, it's your job». That one was the head of the Minsk police by the name of Barsukov. I was surprised by his politeness. I immediately remembered the stories of senior colleagues about the unpleasant actions of the police towards journalists. Could you even imagine that only few minutes after his words: «Don't worry, keep on working calmly» my colleagues were arrested? I was shocked by his blatant lie.

Fist peaceful protests started when two of the candidates, Siarhei Tikhanovski and Viktor Babariko, had been imprisoned by Lukashenko. According to Belarusian laws people have no rights to gather for public events without government permission. Obviously, officials never permit a rally in support of political prisoners. However, our people are amazing so they came up with different ideas how to drive a coach and four through. For example, while collecting signatures for presidential candidates huge queues began to line up. That was the way to show that most disagree with the opinion of the authorities and Lukashenko himself. In fact, people were not violating the law on «public events». Yet it was the first time Militia Special Forces Squad (one of the Belarusian police subdivisions) appeared on the streets. Premier arrests happened at the end of June.

3. Many people associate the Belarusian electoral campaign with women. On the fourth day of protests girls with flowers dared to go out into the streets. Their message for the security forces and the authorities was to stop the violence.
4. Girls carry the national flag as protesters march on Sunday.
5. No credits
6. Girls kissing in the rain in front of security officials.
7. Girls kissing in the rain in front of security officials.
8. Detention of girls on the women's march against violence.
9. Every Sunday about 200 thousand protesters go out to the streets of Minsk.
10. A boy and a girl kiss during the very first march of a peaceful protest.
11. Women's peaceful action against violence. Women stand in a hitch against the riot police.
12. A woman is trying to stop the military.
13. A woman is trying to stop the military.
14. The man kneels in front of the security forces. From time to time the most daring guys from the crowd ran up to the cordon. I was calmly taking photographs when suddenly a flash grenade exploded somewhere very close. This was probably the first time I got really scared. You don't understand which direction to run away. Due to such actions of the security forces the crowd became even more angry but continued to stand still.
15. A person injured that 10th August evening
16. Army disperses protesters
17. No credits
18. Security officials stretched barbed wire in front of protesters fearing an attack. Instead of attacking the police, people began to leave balloons, flowers, and even an umbrella on the wire. Photos show the detained people getting out of the isolation ward. Those who were arrested during the first few days of the protest told some shocking stories about their maintenance.
19. They were severely beaten, not allowed to drink water, and morally abused. Some of the people from the isolation ward were transported by ambulances immediately to the intensive care units. Some of them still remain in hospitals.
20. Detention of girls on the women's march against violence.
21. The security forces took the girls into a cordon. Brave girls do not give up, they show victory.
22. Detention of girls on the women's march against violence.

