

TITLE OF WORK: The Three Brides

ARTIST: Saule Suleimenova

YEAR PRODUCED: 2018

SIZE: 90 x 108 cm

MEDIUM: Silkscreen print on paper

EDITIONS: 1/1 out of a series of 10

As a result of her *Focus Kazakhstan Artist Residency* at MOMENTUM, Saule Suleimenova spent two months living and working in Berlin in the Autumn of 2018. Working for the first time in diverse media new to her practice, such as video and a variety of printing practices, Suleimenova explored new ways of working beyond her usual practice of 'waste collage'. The *Three Brides* (Insert title of work) is a silkscreen print, made in the Kunstquartier Bethanien print workshop, based on Suleimeinova's 2015 work *The Three Brides* (plastic bags on plastic tablecloth on wooden board), one of five Suleimeinova works featured in MOMENTUM's exhibition, *Bread & Roses: Four Generations of Kazakh Women Artists* (2018).

Extrapolating from her usual practice of recreating found and archival images from non-traditional media, like plastic bags and plastic tablecloths, Suleimeinova here revisits her own composition of *The Three Brides*, in the form of a silkscreen print. The social status of kelin / brides in Kazakh society is the most unprotected. Traditionally, a girl taken into a new family would lose all the privileges of a beloved daughter, only to find herself at the bottom of the social ladder until she gives a birth to a son. The image of the brides itself is based on an archival photograph (1869, from the collection of Prof. Alkey Margulan) depicting three teenagers wearing Kazakh traditional wedding dresses.

ARTIST'S CV

Saule Suleimenova graduated from the Kazakh State Academy of Architecture and Construction in 1996, and was awarded an MFA from the Kazakh National University of Arts in 2013. She has been a member of the Union of Artists of Kazakhstan since 1998. She works with mixed media, creating images and sculptures from plastic bags in a process she describes as 'waste collage'. *Residual Memory*, her current project, revisits the traumatic history of Kazakhstan by recycling reproductions of little-known photo documents into collages made of waste. Still painful themes such as the *Zheltoksan* (the Kazakh youth riots in 1986), and the *Asharshylyk* (the colonial genocide resulting from Stalin's Collectivization policies during 1932-1933), give her practice an edge of activism. Awards include: Fellowship of the President of Kazakhstan (1998); Laureate of the Shabyt, Zhiger and Tengri Umai awards; Laureate 'For creative achievements' in the 1 Choice of the Year, Kazakhstan, 2017; Shortlisted for the Sovereign Asian Art Prize 2017; Nominated for the Singapore Art Prize 2017; Nominated to Prince Claus Foundation Art Prize 2016.

Her selected exhibitions include: *Bread & Roses: Four Generations of Kazakh Women Artists*, MOMENTUM Berlin (2018); *Somewhere in the Great Steppe: Contemporary Art from Kazakhstan*, Erarta Museum, St. Petersburg, Russia (2017-2018); *Somewhere in the Great Steppe: Skyline*, National Museum of Kazakhstan, Astana (2017). Culture Summit 2017, Abu Dhabi, UAE; *Dis/Possessed. A Question of Spirit and Money*, Manifesta 10, Folium, Zurich, Switzerland (2016); *One Belt One Road*, Federation of Women, Sotheby's, Hong Kong; 56th Venice Biennale in the *Why Self* project (2015); 5th Moscow Contemporary Art Biennale in the *Migrants* project of RSGU (2013); ARTBATFEST Almaty contemporary art festival (2013, 2014, 2015); *East of Nowhere*, Foundation 107, Turin, Italy (2009); *Kazakh: Paintings By Saule Suleimenova*, Townsend Center, Berkeley University, USA, 2005.

EDUCATION

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|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2013 | Master of Art Criticism
Kazakh National University of Arts |
| 1998 | Design course
Publishing Training Center, London, UK |
| 1990-96 | Degree in Design (with Honors)
Almaty State Academy of Architecture & Construction |

AWARDS

- 2019** Finalist of Sovereign Asian Art Prize nominated by Roza Abenova
- 2018** Laureate of 1st prize of 20 Faces of Astana competition
in nomination Image of Capital for project AstanaLin
Finalist of Sovereign Asian Art Prize nominated by Vladislav Sludskiy
- 2017** Nominated to Singapore Art Prize by Leeza Ahmady
Finalist of The Carlsberg Foundation's Portrait Award
Laureate N.1 Choice of the Year in Kazakhstan
in nomination For creative achievements
- 2016** Nominated to Prince Claus Foundation Art Prize
by Dr Razia Sultanova
- 2001** Laureate of 3rd prize of Shabyt Festival, Astana, Kazakhstan
- 2001** Laureate of 2nd prize of Zhiger Festival, Astana, Kazakhstan
- 2000** Laureate of the Tengri Umai Award
Laureate of the International Festival Master Class, Kazakhstan
- 1998** Holder of the fellowship of the President of Kazakhstan
- 1996** Grand Prize in the international competition of Diploma projects,
Ekaterinburg, Russia

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2017** **Somewhere in the Great Steppe. Skyline**
National museum of Kazakhstan. Astana, Kazakhstan
Somewhere in the Great Steppe
Aurora Space, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- 2015** **Steppe Pastoral plastic bags public art project**
American university of Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Kelin (Bride) plastic bags public art project

ARTBATFEST, Almaty, Kazakhstan

«How Big is Big?»

Tedx Astana (art project and talk), Astana, Kazakhstan

«45..»

Art Samal gallery, Almaty, kazakhstan

2014 Cellophane painting

Artspace gallery, Almaty, Kazakhstan

«Cultural value...?»

B2A Project, Essentai Mall, Almaty, Kazakhstan

2013 Kuanyshytyn Saulesi

Eastern Kazakhstan State Museum of Arts,
Ust-Kamenogorsk, Kazakhstan

2012 I'm Kazakh

exhibition to the Independence Day,
Kazakh Embassy in Zagreb, Croatia

Wax-Engraving

Has Sanat gallery, Astana, Kazakhstan

Kazakh Bet

L.E.S. space, Almaty, Kazakhstan

2011 I'm Kazakh

Russkiy Mir gallery, Paris, France

Kazakh Chronicle

Ark Space, Almaty, Kazakhstan

I'm Kazakh

Has Sanat gallery, Astana, Kazakhstan

2010 I'm Kazakh

Central Exhibition hall, Direction of Art Exhibitions and
Auctions of Ministry of Culture of Kazakhstan, Almaty, Kazakhstan

2007 Buses and Bus Stops

Tengri Umay Gallery, Almaty, Kazakhstan

- 2006 Kuanyshytyn Saulesi-5** (With K. Bazargaliev)
Tengri Umay gallery, Almaty, Kazakhstan
Sponsored by Deloitte & Touche
- 2005 Asia Alive program**
Asian art museum, San Francisco, USA
- Kazakh: Paintings by Saule Suleimenova**
Townsend Center, Berkeley University, USA
- Kazakh Chronicle**
Tengri Umay Gallery, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- 2004 Kuanyshytyn Saulesi-4**
Central Exhibition Hall, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- 2003 About Love**
Tengri Umay gallery, Almaty
- 2002 Kuanyshytyn Saulesi-3**
Tengri Umay gallery, Almaty
- My Way**
Capital Real Estate, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- 2001 Kuanyshytyn Saulesi-2**
Capital Real Estate, Almaty
- 2000 Kuanishtin Saulesi**
Tengri Umay Gallery, Almaty
- 1998 Project in the Style of Makintosh**
Soros Center of Contemporary Arts, Almaty
- Flowers**
ULAR gallery, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- 1997 Love & Power**
ULAR gallery, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- 1996 Trip of the Three Angels**
Minoy gGallery, Phillip Morris company, Almaty

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2019 **Carlsberg Foundation's Portrait Award**

Museum of National History, Frederiksborg, Denmark

Sovereign Asian Art Prize 2019

Finalists Exhibition, Hong Kong

Uly Dala Hikayalary (The Stories of the Great Steppe)

Exhibition of Contemporary Art of Kazakhstan, Shymkent, Kazakhstan

Light of Other, Art of Central Asia

D gallery, London, UK

2018 **Focus Kazakhstan. Bread and Roses: Four generations of Kazakh Women Artist**

MOMENTUM, Kunstquartier Bethanien, Berlin, Germany

Focus Kazakhstan. Postnomadic Mind

Wapping Hydraulic Power Station, London, UK

Sovereign Asian Art Prize 2018

Finalists Exhibition, Sotheby's gallery, H Queen's, Hong Kong

Somewhere in the Great Steppe, Contemporary Art from Kazakhstan

State Museum of Arts, Novosibirsk, Russia

2017 **Somewhere in the Great Steppe, Contemporary Art from Kazakhstan**

Erarta Museum of Contemporary Art, Saint Petersburg, Russia

Astana ArtFest

Astana, Kazakhstan

Culture Summit 2017

Abu Dhabi, UAE

2016 **Dis/Possessed. A Question of Spirit and Money**

Manifesta 10, Folium, Zurich, Switzerland

Changes. Time Research

Kazakh-British University, Almaty, Kazakhstan

One Belt One Road

Sotheby's Gallery, Hong Kong Women Federation, Hong Kong

2015 Topographica

American University of Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Astana Art Fest

Astana, Kazakhstan

Why Self, Adventures of Social Identities

Palazzo Ca' Zanardi, Venice, Italy

All the Nomads, Contemporary Art from Kazakhstan

ArTwin Gallery, Moscow

& Erarta Museum of Contemporary Art, Saint Petersburg, Russia

2014 National Traditions and the Openness to the World

National Museum of Kazakhstan, Astana, Kazakhstan

Cellophane Painting public art project

Contemporary Art Festival Artbatfest, Almaty, Kazakhstan

2013 Zhoktau. 1937. Territory of Remembrance

State Museum of Arts named after A. Kasteev, Almaty, Kazakhstan

**Jubilee exhibition to the 80th anniversary
of the Union of Artists of Kazakhstan**

State Museum of Arts named after A. Kasteev, Almaty, Kazakhstan

Woman Deal. Portrait of a Woman in Perspective

Friedrich Ebert Foundation Kazakhstan,

Umai Museum, Almaty, Kazakhstan

Ultramemory Art project, Paris-Almaty

Nivet-Carzon Gallery

& State Museum of Arts named after A. Kasteev, Almaty, Kazakhstan

Migrants Art project, 5-th Moscow Contemporary Art Biennale

Russian State Humanitarian University, Moscow, Russia

Rape of Europa

In the Contemporary Art Festival Artbatfest,

Umai museum, Almaty, Kazakhstan

Ancestors Spirits Public art project

In the Contemporary Art Festival Artbatfest, Almaty, Kazakhstan

2012 Ultramemory, Paris-Astana

Nivet-Carzon gallery, Palace of Independence, Astana, Kazakhstan

- 2011 Art in Open Space**
Goethe institute, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- Art of Choice**
Palace of Independence, Astana, Kazakhstan
- Bologna Art Fair**
Chiostro Gallery, Bologna, Italy
- 2010 Group exhibitions**
Foundation 107, Turin, Milan, Italy
- 2009 East of Nowhere. Contemporary art from Post-Soviet Asia**
Foundation 107, Turin, Italy
- Union of Artists of Kazakhstan, annual exhibition**
State Museum of Arts named after A. Kasteev, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- 2008 Vision Angle, 10th anniversary of
Soros Center for Contemporary Art**
Almaty, Kazakhstan
- 16th October Art Nomad Charity Auction**
Christie's Auction House, London, UK
- Art Nomad, Social and Cultural Project**
Central Exhibition Hall, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- Exhibition of Graphic and Prints
of the Union of Artists of Kazakhstan**
Almaty, Kazakhstan
- 2007 Kazakhstan Modern Art Night**
Victoria & Albert Museum, London, Almaty
- International Symposium of Artists**
Astana, Kazakhstan
- Kulanshi Art Forum**
State Museum of Art named after Kasteev, Almaty, Kazakhstan
Museum of the First President, Astana, Kazakhstan

- 2006 Exhibition of the Union of Artists dedicated to 20th anniversary of Independence of Kazakhstan**
Central State museum, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- People of Kazakhstan**
Soros Center of Contemporary Art, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- Flying Tatar Man**
State Museum named after Nevzorovs, Semipalatinsk, Kazakhstan
- SOMUART Festival**
KIMEP, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- 2005 New Realms**
New Realms Ltd, London, UK
- 2004 New Realms**
New Realms Ltd, London, UK
- Art-Desant Almaty**
Exhibition Hall of Ministry of Culture, Aktobe, Kazakhstan
Eurasia Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
- Askar-Saule-Marat**
Tengri Umay Gallery, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- 2003 International Art Festival**
Tengri-Umay, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- 2001 World Assembly of Citizens**
Lille, France
- Days of Culture of Almaty**
Moscow, Russia
- International Biennial of Drawings and Script**
Novosibirsk, Russia
- 2000 Laureate of the International Festival Master Class**
Kazakhstan
- Sky**
Tengri Umay Gallery, Almaty, Kazakhstan

1999 NOMADS

Humay gallery, London, UK

Summer Workshop

Central Exhibition Hall, Zhezkazgan, Kazakhstan

Fifth Continent

Ark Gallery, Almaty, Kazakhstan

Back to Back & Face to Face

Ark Gallery, Almaty, Kazakhstan

Zhiger International Festival of Art

Kasteev State Museum of Art, Almaty

1998 EXPO-98

Lisbon, Portugal

Reflections of Women's Vision

Central State Museum of Art, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Project in the Style of Makintosh

Soros Center of Contemporary Arts, Almaty

Performance "Spontaneous Cinema"

consisting of the artists group Action of Four
Cinema Festival "Eurasia", Almaty, Kazakhstan

Performance "Unswaddling"

consisting of the artists group Action of Four,
Soros Center of Contemporary Art, Almaty, Kazakhstan

1997 Duetto (with Almagul Menlibayeva)

Ular Gallery, Almaty, Kazakhstan

1990 First Republican Exhibition of Non-traditional Search in Art

Direction of Exhibitions and Auctions, Almaty, Kazakhstan

1989-1990 UNESCO Exhibition of Soviet Artists

Madam Cola Collection, Paris, France.

1988-1990 Group of Young Artists Green Triangle

Street Performances, Almaty, Kazakhstan

OTHER PROJECTS

- 1992 Acted in a film “The place of a Grey Triangle”**
Director Ermek Shinarbaev
(grand prize - Golden Leopard, Locarno, Switzerland)
- 1993 Acted in a film “Tender Heart”**
Director Ermek Shinarbaev (prise - San Sebastiane, Spain)
- 2008 Acted in a film Letters to an Angel**
Director Ermek Shinarbaev
- 2009 Artist in a film NOTREAL LOVE**
Director Amir Karakulov
- 2011–2017 Lectures “National Idea in the Art of Kazakhstan”**

COLLECTIONS

MOMENTUM Collection

Berlin, Germany

National museum of Kazakhstan

Astana, Kazakhstan

Museum of Contemporary Art

Astana, Kazakhstan

State Museum of Arts named after A. Kasteev

Almaty, Kazakhstan

Direction of Art Exhibitions and Auctions of Ministry of Culture of Kazakhstan

Museum of Visual Arts named after Nevzorovs

Semipalatinsk, Kazakhstan

Eastern Kazakhstan State museum of Arts

Ust-Kamenogorsk, Kazakhstan

Christies Auction House

London, UK



Russkiy Mir Gallery

Paris, France

Christie's Auction House

Foundation 107

Turin, Italy

State Museum of Arts

Novosibirsk, Russia

Norton Dodge Collection, Zimmerli Museum

New Jersey, USA

Tengri Umai Gallery

Almaty, Kazakhstan

Richard Spooner Collection

USA, Kazakhstan

Other private collections in Kazakhstan and abroad.