Elmira Sharipova *PhD in Visual Arts*

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Profile

Interdisciplinary researcher at the intersection of critical theory, contemporary art, and quantum epistemologies. PhD in Visual Arts with research evolving from Anthropocene studies toward quantum aesthetics and AI art epistemologies.

Interdisciplinary formation combining Visual Arts doctorate with MA in Management provides distinctive analytical perspective. Research applies new materialist frameworks—particularly Karen Barad's agential realism—to contemporary art practices (Pierre Huyghe, Tomás Saraceno, Trevor Paglen, Hito Steyerl).

EDUCATION

2021 – 2025
Bologna, Italy

PhD in Visual Arts, Performing and Media Arts,
Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna
Dissertation: *Reconfiguring the Anthropocene: Contemporary Art and New Theoretical Paradigms in the Era of Ecological Crisis*
Supervisor: Prof. Roberto Pinto
Defense: October 24, 2025

2016 – 2020
Bologna, Italy

BA in Visual Arts, *Accademia di Belle Arti di Bologna*
Grade: Excellent
Focus: Contemporary art history and theory, curatorial practices, aesthetics

2009 – 2012
Moscow, Russia

MA in Management, *National Research University Higher School of Economics (HSE)*
Specialization: Project Management

2004 – 2009
Moscow, Russia

Specialist Diploma in International Relations & Regional Studies University of World Civilizations, *University of World Civilizations*
5-year program (equivalent to BA + MA)
Specialization: Western European Studies

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

(in press) Sharipova E. (2026). **"Specters of Unchosen Lives: Quantum Aesthetics and the Crisis of Identity"**, Moscow Art Magazine, n. 132. [In Russian]

(in press) Sharipova E. (2026) **"Listening to the Anthropocene : Sound Deterritorializations in Contemporary Art"**, L'uomo nero, n. 22, pp. 900-923. [In Italian]. DOI: 10.54103/2974-6620/uon.v22n22-24_2025.

Sharipova E. (2025) **"From Frankenstein's Stitches to Body without Organs: Ontology of the Monstrous in the Digital Age".** Moscow Art Magazine, n. 131. [In Russian]. Available: https://moscowartmagazine.com/issue/120/article/2623

Sharipova, E. (2025). **"Beyond the Anthropocentric Gaze: The "Death of the Spectator" in the Age of Delegated Agency".** Moscow Art Magazine, n. 129, pp. 82–91. [In Russian]. Available: https://moscowartmagazine.com/issue/118/article/2541

Sharipova E. (2025) **"Worlding as Ecosystem: Pierre Huyghe's Speculative Environments"**. roots§routes, §Making Worlds. [In Italian]. Available: https://www.roots-routes.org/il-worlding-come-ecosistema-gli-ambienti-speculativi-di-pierre-huyghe-di-elmira-sharipova/

Sharipova E. (2024) **"Between Aesthetics and Politics in Climate Activism: Material-Discursive Analysis of A22 Network"**. Piano B. Visual Arts and Cultures, vol. 9, n. 1, pp. 117–141. [In Italian]. DOI: 10.6092/issn.2531-9876/20022. Available: https://pianob.unibo.it/article/view/20022

Sharipova, E. (2022). **"Posthumanism in Art through Metamorphoses: 59th Venice Biennale 'The Milk of Dreams'"**. Place of Art Journal, Moscow. [In Russian]. Available: https://placeofart.ru/elmira-sharipova-postgumanizm-v-iskusstve-cherez-prizmu-metamorfoz

Book Chapters

Sharipova E. (2024) **"The Web as Apparatus in Tomás Saraceno's Utopian Explorations"**. In: D. Borselli, A. Casarini, R. Perna, R. Pinto, J. Pra Levis (eds.), *Beyond Catastrophe: Ecologies, Visualities and Imaginaries in Contemporary Arts.* Milano: Postmedia Books, pp. 79–91. [In Italian]. Available: http://postmediabooks.it/2024/405oltre/9788874904051.htm

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Sharipova E. (2023) "**From Agency to Actor-Network Theory: Exploring Tomás Saraceno's Interdisciplinary Practices".** Workshop *The End and Other Beginnings II*, Sapienza University of Rome, September 2023.

Sharipova E. (2022) **"Sustainable Art Beyond Traditional Institutions and Representations".** International Conference *Theories and Practices of Art and Design*, HSE Moscow, April 2022.

Sharipova E. (2024) **"Participatory Art through Posthumanist Perspective: Decentering the Artist via Non-Human Actors".** Workshop "Beyond Catastrophe", University of Bari "Aldo Moro", September 2024.

RESEARCH INTERESTS & TRAJECTORY

Research Evolution:
My doctoral work examined contemporary art through Anthropocene lens, grounding analysis in new materialist frameworks (Karen Barad's agential realism) and posthuman theory. Current research trajectory evolves toward quantum aesthetics and computational epistemologies in contemporary art, investigating how AI-driven practices and quantum thinking reconfigure artistic agency, aesthetic experience, and materiality beyond anthropocentric paradigms.

Core Research Areas:

- **Quantum Aesthetics & AI Art** — How quantum epistemologies transform artistic practices; post-human agency; artists: Trevor Paglen, Hito Steyerl,
- **New Materialism & Posthuman Ontologies** — Karen Barad's agential realism applied to art analysis; intra-active aesthetics; non-human agency in art; artists: Pierre Huyghe, Tomás Saraceno
- **Sound Art & Acoustic Materialism** — Sonic deterritorializations; data sonification; agency of sound in Anthropocene; acoustic ontologies
- **Ecological Aesthetics & Planetary Crisis** — Toxic sublime; art-science collaborations; curatorial strategies for climate emergency

Future Research Directions:
Building on my theoretical grounding in Barad's agential realism and emerging work on quantum aesthetics, I aim to investigate quantum literacy frameworks in contemporary art practices.

Specific focus areas:

- artists working at intersections of AI, data visualization, and speculative materialism;

- quantum epistemologies in acoustic and sonic practices;
- post-anthropocentric curatorial methodologies for art-science collaborations.

RESEARCH PROJECTS & COLLABORATIONS

2025 – Present

AVEC - Arts, Visuality and Electronic Culture,
University of Bologna Coordinator: Prof. Francesco Spampinato
Member of organizing committee for interdisciplinary graduate student workshop examining intersections between contemporary art, visual studies, and electronic culture. Active participation in work-in-progress dialogues on algorithmic aesthetics, AI art, cosmotechnics, and post-human ontologies.

Recent sessions: "Is the future made of data or dirt? Symbiotic futures between media and non-human entities" (Dec 2024); "MagicAI? Algorithmic Spells and Machine Hallucinations" (Dec 2023); "Who Spilled Water on my PC?! Short-circuiting Time and Hacking Reality" (May 2025); "Whose Technology? Whose Future? Cosmotechnics Beyond Techno-Orientalism" (Dec 2025). Forthcoming session: AVEC #9 (May 2026).

2021 – 2022

Visual Research Group, *HSE Art and Design School, Moscow*
Research on cultural effects of contemporary visual environments: material, corporeal, perceptual, and affective factors. Integration of cultural studies, aesthetics, and media theory.

2021 – 2022

Publishing Project: Venice Biennale Archive, *HSE Art and Design School, Moscow*
Content creation and data visualization for comprehensive volume on Venice Biennale 1895–2022.

2021 – 2022

Place of Art Online Archive, *HSE Art and Design School, Moscow*
Archival research on exhibitions from 1986–present. Integration of academic writing with curatorial projects.

LANGUAGES

Russian
Native speaker

Italian
Excellent (written and spoken)

English
Excellent reading/writing, fluent speaking