

Loukia Richards

STATEMENT:

Byzantine icons rooted in Ancient Greek, Hellenistic and Roman pictorial traditions inspire my work.

The saint, illuminated by eternal light, invites us to look at our own life course with the same directness he/she is looking at us. Icons are objects of worship and meditation, and a way to a more meaningful present.

Christian faith and its visual representations have shaped European culture. In times of nihilism and emotional poverty, icons still caress humans, animals, nature, angels and saints with endless grace, and perpetuate the ideals of harmony and justice.

My latest work, St.Theodore (2026), exclusively made for Galerie Biro, focuses on the beauty and serenity of this young man who – according to Christian martyrology – faced death with joyful expectation.

CV:

Loukia Richards (Athens, 1965) is a visual artist and curator. She is a scholar of Fulbright Foundation (2008), Onassis Foundation (1989-1993), Künstlerdorf Schöppingen Foundation (2011-2012).

Richards was nominated for the European Prize for Applied Arts (Mons, 2018 and 2021), Herbert Hofmann Prize (Munich, 2017, 2020, 2025), Altonale Art Prize (Hamburg, 2012).

Along with Christoph Ziegler, she co-founded SMCK Magazine (2020) and the video festival SMCK ON REEL (2022). Their „Chain of Solidarity with Ukraine-SMCK ON REEL“ screenings were funded by Hamburgische Stiftung (Hamburg, 2022). Their documentaries „Greetings from Ukraine“ and „Political Jewelry“ were part of Legnica Silver Festival program (2024).

Trained in Reuters Journalism in London and Athens (2000), Richards is also the author of innumerable articles on politics and cultural diplomacy, art and the market.

Richards won the EU Media Award for co-writing a film script in 1998.

Institutional collections of her work include: Grassi Museum (Leipzig), Onassis Foundation (New York), Vassilis Papantoniou Foundation (Nafplio), Fulbright Foundation (Athens), Rian Design Museum (Falkenberg).

Richards graduated from the National Kapodistrian University of Athens (Economics, 1988) and University of the Arts Berlin (Visual Communication, 1993).