

NEDKO SOLAKOV

A CORNERED SOLO SHOW #2

curated by **Hou Hanru** and **Monia Trombetta**

26 May – 25 September 2022 | Museum's lobby

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Rome, 25 May 2022. An intimate dialogue between paintings, drawings, texts and the environment to narrate social and collective topics. A site-specific project conceived for MAXXI that transforms a corner of the Museum (the wall of the staircase that leads from the lobby to the Galleries) into an exhibition space where reality is laid bare amid ironic and biting figures and stories.

It is NEDKO SOLAKOV's exhibition, **A CORNERED SOLO SHOW #2**, curated by **Hou Hanru** and **Monia Trombetta**, which visitors will be able to discover at MAXXI from 26 May to 25 September 2022.

With *A Cornered Solo Show #2*, Nedko Solakov (Cherven Briag, Bulgaria, 1957), international artist who lives and works in Sofia, presents a story conceived for a very specific spot in the Museum: a visible, transitional place usually not used for exhibitions due to its being very different from an exhibition space.

Such a place might be overlooked by visitors, but once discovered, it will offer a privileged access to the artist's thoughts and ideas thanks to the artistic intervention.

Solakov's ability to tell stories in spaces become a vehicle for comments and thoughts on social and collective issues.

By relying on a witty play on words – corner/cornered – the artist has chosen a corner of MAXXI to critically recount highly topical socio-cultural issues and ironically reveal the most hidden mechanisms of contemporary art. He explores the complexities, contradictions, alternatives and experiments that arise from the urge to think, give form and negotiate with the human condition and self-representation.

These themes have been complemented by reflections and thoughts on the Russian-Ukrainian war that broke out in February 2022, which prompted the artist to make some new works about the tragic events of the present in the collective imagination.

A Cornered Solo Show #2 is the second stage of a wider project that started at MUDAM in Luxemburg (6 October 2021-18 April 2022), which consists in a series of solo exhibitions hosted in museums with unconventional architecture.

MAXXI PRESS OFFICE +39 06 324861 press@fondazionemaxxi.it