

Olga Vladimirovna

Baturina

ART HISTORIAN • PHD IN ART HISTORY • PROFESSOR

Almaty, Kazakhstan • T. Zhurgenov Kazakh National Academy of Arts • Art Society • artsociety.kz

29

YEARS OF UNIVERSITY
TEACHING

5

MONOGRAPHS

50+

ACADEMIC
PUBLICATIONS

1,000,000+

VIEWS OF HER
PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES

PROFILE

Olga Vladimirovna Baturina (b. 29 August 1970, Alma-Ata) is a Kazakhstani art historian who has made a significant contribution to the development of culture and education in Kazakhstan. Candidate of Sciences in Art History (PhD), Professor of the Department of History and Theory of Fine Arts at the Temirbek Zhurgenov Kazakh National Academy of Arts. Since 2020 — chief lecturer and speaker of the Art Society project in Almaty.

Her research is devoted to Kazakh fine art, and above all to the painting school of Kazakhstan: 5 monographs and more than 50 publications in academic editions in Kazakhstan, Italy, Hungary, Russia, Ukraine and Belarus, including the collections of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan “Masters of the Fine Art of Kazakhstan” (2004) and “Masterpieces of Kazakh Painting” (2008).

Holder of the Order of “Qurmet”, Honoured Worker of Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan, recipient of the medal “Erenbegi ushin” (For Distinguished Labour).

EXPERIENCE AND LEADERSHIP

2020 – PRESENT

Chief Lecturer and Speaker

Art Society, Almaty

Her own art history lecture series: website, YouTube channel, On-line courses and social media — more than 1,000,000 views

1997 – PRESENT

Professor, Department of History and Theory of Fine Arts

Temirbek Zhurgenov Kazakh National Academy of Arts

Lecture courses on the history of world, Western European and Russian art, the art of the 20th century and the art of Kazakhstan. 29 years of teaching, including some 9 years in senior management positions

5 YEARS

Head of the Department of History and Theory of Fine Arts

T. Zhurgenov Kazakh National Academy of Arts

Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Art Studies

T. Zhurgenov Kazakh National Academy of Arts

3 YEARS

Founding Director, Research and Practice Centre for Postgraduate Education

T. Zhurgenov Kazakh National Academy of Arts

Largely through her efforts the Centre established a Dissertation Council for art specialities and the first PhD doctoral programme in art specialities in the history of Kazakhstan. She also put in place a systematic programme of academic mobility and international placements for master's and doctoral students

COMMISSIONS AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2022 – PRESENT

Member of the **Commission for the Award of the Abai State Prize of the Republic of Kazakhstan in Literature and Art** (Presidential Decree of 22 June 2022)

2019 – PRESENT

Member of the **National Commission of the Republic of Kazakhstan for UNESCO and ISESCO**

2020 – PRESENT	Member of the National Guild of Art Critics of the Republic of Kazakhstan
ONGOING	Member of the Union of Artists of Kazakhstan
2009–2021	Permanent member of the Dissertation Council of the T. Zhurgenov Kazakh National Academy of Arts
2021–2023	Member of the subject expert commission for master's dissertation defences at the T. Zhurgenov Kazakh National Academy of Arts in the specialities “Art Studies” and “Painting”
2026	Member of the State Attestation Commission for diploma defences at the Kazakh Leading Academy of Architecture and Civil Engineering
2018	Chair of the State Attestation Commission for diploma defences at KazGASA College

NATIONAL PROJECTS AND EXPERT WORK

2014	Author and developer of the first Concept of Cultural Policy of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the country's history — by order of the Ministry of Culture and Sports of the RK
2019	Author and developer of the programme “ Cultural Standard for Schoolchildren ” — by order of the Ministry of Culture and Sports of the RK
2019–2022	Author, developer and lecturer of the cultural and educational project “ Ulagatty urpaq ”, commissioned by the Ministry of Culture and Sports; from 2020 to 2022 its originator and permanent lecturer
2019–2020	Expert of the international competition “Artists of Contemporary Kazakhstan” — Top 50 artists of the country, commissioned by the Ministry of Culture and Sports
2020–2021	Lecturer of the Open University of Kazakhstan programme OpenU.kz. Within the programme for translating the world's 100 best textbooks into Kazakh she recorded 2 video lecture courses: “The Story of Art” after E. Gombrich and “Aesthetics” after Y. Borev
LONG-STANDING	Author and developer of the State General Education Standards for the speciality “Art Studies” at bachelor's and master's level; author of the assessment materials in “Art Studies” for the country's creative universities

CURATORIAL PROJECTS AND EXHIBITIONS

2026	“Äiel Tizginde” — national exhibition of the competition winners National Museum of the RK, Astana · 7 March – 12 April 2026 Curator
2024	“Painting of the Steppe. Symbols. Colours. Images.” National Museum of the RK, Astana · 5 April 2024 Curator of the exhibition marking the 10th anniversary of the National Museum of the RK. Masterpieces of Kazakh painting from the museum collection, from the classics to the present day
2019	“The Old. The New. The Great. The Inimitable.” National Museum of Arts of the RK, Astana · 17 January 2019 Curator of the international exhibition of the Pygmalion gallery painting collection
2017	“Contemporary Kazakh Culture in a Global World” UNESCO Headquarters, Paris · 17 October 2017 Curator of the international painting exhibition, commissioned by the Ministry of Culture and Sports of the RK
2017	“Art Dala: A Dialogue Across Space and Time” National Museum of the RK, Astana · 10 September 2017 Curator of the international painting exhibition, commissioned by the Ministry of Culture and Sports of the RK as part of the EXPO 2017 programme

JURIES AND COMPETITIONS

2025–2026	Jury member, national artists' competition within the Äiel Tizginde project, Astana
2025	Jury member, international competition of young Central Asian artists Drawing The Future, Almaty Gallery, Almaty
2024	Jury member, I National Competition for the Best Student Essays “The Person of Art in the 21st Century”
2023	Jury member, International Festival of Creative Youth ZhasStar

2022	Jury member, competition of children's and youth drawings for the Independence Day of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Almaty
2021	Jury member, International Young Readers' Competition "Living Classics", Almaty

TELEVISION AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

2025 – PRESENT	Host of her own programme on contemporary art, Zaman Art , Abai TV
2022	Expert and participant in the series on Kazakh art "Names", Abai TV
ONGOING	Permanent expert and participant in the series "The Story of One Masterpiece" on the Bilim zhane Madeniet channel and "Cultural Code" on Kazakh TV
2018	Expert and participant in the series on the art of Kazakhstan "Kaz ART", Kazakh TV
2017	Expert and participant in the series on the art of Kazakhstan "Living Images", Kazakh TV

On-line projects

- **Art Society** lecture series (since 2020) — Wikipedia, website, YouTube channel and social media: more than 1,000,000 views · artsociety.kz
- On-line lecture course on art — more than 50 lectures, freely available · youtube.com/@artsocietykz
- Series of On-line lectures on the art of Kazakhstan — 5 lectures, freely available (GoViral) and on the Air Astana KCTV in-flight programme
- "Myths and Reality: Classical Subjects in World Painting" — On-line lecture
- arhive.ru — audio guide to the paintings of Abylkhan Kasteyev

EDUCATION

2008	Candidate of Sciences in Art History (PhD) Speciality "Fine, Decorative and Applied Art and Architecture" Dissertation: "Principal Trends and Stages in the Development of the Landscape Genre in the Painting of Kazakhstan (1920s–1980s)"
2001–2005	Postgraduate studies National Academy of Sciences: M. O. Auezov Institute of Literature and Art, Department of Fine Arts
1989–1994	Faculty of Art and Graphics Abai Kazakh Pedagogical Institute

Professional development

2026	"Inclusive Education: Creating Equal Opportunities", 80 academic hours (22.06.2026 – 03.07.2026), Modern Education Center LLP
2024	T. Zhurgenov Kazakh National Academy of Arts, 6–16 February 2024 — "Methodology of Contemporary Cultural Research" (art through the lens of contemporary scholarship, hermeneutics, metamodernism, ethnomethodology). Certificate No. 78, 72 hours
2023	Ilya Repin St. Petersburg Academy of Arts, 12–22 January 2023 — "Current Issues in the Study and Teaching of Art History at an Academic University". Certificate No. 12 of 23.01.2023, 72 hours
2023	Repin Academy of Arts, St. Petersburg, Faculty of Theory and History of Art
2019	Repin St. Petersburg State Academic Institute of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture at the Russian Academy of Arts, Faculty of Art Theory
2014	European University at St. Petersburg, Faculty of Art History

INTERNATIONAL FORUMS AND PAPERS

She has repeatedly represented Kazakhstan abroad, delivering academic papers at major international forums and conferences devoted to the preservation of cultural diversity and to international cooperation in culture and the arts.

2019	II Eurasian Creative Forum “Contemporary Eurasia: A Synthesis of Science and Art — The Caspian, Cradle of Eurasian Civilisation”, 15–16 October 2019
2018	XIII Forum of the Creative and Academic Intelligentsia of the CIS Member States “Dialogue in the CIS — Prospects for Humanitarian Cooperation in the 21st Century” — active role in organising the forum
2018	VIII International Academic Conference “Current Issues in the Theory and History of Art. From Antiquity to the Renaissance. Boundaries and Horizons”, Moscow, 2–6 October 2018 — paper “New Horizons of the Painting of Kazakhstan in the Era of Independence. Features and Trends”
2017	International conference “Modernisation of Public Consciousness” within the project “Contemporary Kazakh Culture in a Global World”, Paris, UNESCO Headquarters, 17–20 October 2017 — paper “The Painting of Kazakhstan in the Era of Independence”
EARLIER	VI International Symposium “Universities of Culture and Art in the Global Educational Space”; IX Forum of the Creative and Academic Intelligentsia of the CIS Member States (Moscow); International Symposium “Museums and Power” (St. Petersburg); II International Cultural Forum of the Silk Road (Astana); International Academic Conference “Current Issues in the Theory and History of Art” (St. Petersburg)

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

2021	Order of “Qurmet” — for outstanding services to the development of science, culture and education. Decree of President K.-Zh. K. Tokayev of 2 December 2021, order No. 6956
2015	Medal “Eren enbegi ushin” — for outstanding service and distinguished labour. Decree of President N. A. Nazarbayev of 3 December 2015, medal No. 8881
2001	Title of “Distinguished Worker of Education” , 29 December 2001
2024	Letter of appreciation from Rector N. Ashirov for her work on the jury of the I National Competition for the Best Student Essays
2020	Letter of appreciation and certificate of merit from A. Raimkulova, Minister of Culture and Sports of the RK, for active participation in the “Ulagatty urpaq” programme and for her educational outreach
2019	Honoured by K. Samsonova, President of the Eurasian Creative Union, and Zh. Nusenov, Rector of Caspian University, for participation in the II Eurasian Creative Forum
2017	Letter of appreciation from the Minister of Culture and Sports of the RK, Chair of the National Commission for UNESCO and ISESCO — for curating the exhibition “Contemporary Kazakh Culture in a Global World” at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris
2017	Letter of appreciation from the Minister of Culture and Sports of the RK, Chair of the National Commission for UNESCO and ISESCO — for organising the international project “Contemporary Culture in a Global World” and the conference “Modernisation of Public Consciousness”, Paris
2017	Certificate of merit from B. N. Nussipzhanova, Rector of the Kazakh National Academy of Arts, for her active work and for establishing academic contacts with leading art universities

MONOGRAPHS

2024	Images of Nature as the Philosophy of Kazakh Painting Almaty: Smart University Press, 2024. — 292 pp. ISBN 978-601-08-3855-0 · UDC 75(574), LBC 85.14 (5 Kaz), B 28
2024	The Formation of Kazakh Painting / Қазақ кескіндемесінің қалыптасуы Almaty: Knizhny Klub Publishing House, 2024. — 116 pp. · Russian edition ISBN 978-601-80930-8-1, Kazakh edition ISBN 978-601-80930-7-4
2017	The Animalistic Universe of Kazakh Culture in the Diagram of Epochs Astana: KazNIIK, 2017. — 560 pp. ISBN 978-601-7448-12-7. Collective monograph Chapter: “Traditional Animalistic Images and Motifs in the Painting of Kazakhstan, 1930s–2000s”
2014	Cultural Polylogue: The Fine Art of the Diasporas of Kazakhstan Almaty: Evo Press, 2014. Collective monograph
2009	Landscape Painting of Kazakhstan Almaty: Areket, 2009. — 163 pp. ISBN 978-601-256-004-4

Indexed in SCOPUS

1. Karabalayeva B., Truspekova Kh., Baturina O., Kenzhebayeva L., Ydyrys Z. Neomythology in the Developing Trends of Modern Kazakh Painting // *Evolutionary Studies in Imaginative Culture*. 2024. P. 1486–1496. DOI: 10.70082/esiculture.vi.1414
2. In Quest of Oneself: Cultural Identity in Modern Kazakhstan Sculpture Space // *Journal of Science and Technology*. Vol. 9 (29), August 2017. DOI: 10.17485/ijst/2016/v9i29/99459
3. “Kazakhstani and St. Petersburg Artists: Dialogues Across Space and Time” (co-authored with S. M. Gracheva) // *Current Issues in the Theory and History of Art: Collected Papers, Issue 7*, ed. S. V. Maltseva, E. Yu. Stanyukovich-Denisova, A. V. Zakharova. St. Petersburg: St. Petersburg University Press, 2017. Published by resolution of the Academic Councils of the Faculty of History of Lomonosov Moscow State University and the Institute of History of St. Petersburg State University
4. “The City as an Artistic Image in the Painting of Kazakhstan: From Soviet Realism to Contemporary Art” // *Proceedings of the international conference “Problems of Creating a Comfortable Object-Spatial Urban Environment. Issues of Architecture, Construction and Design”*. Budapest, Hungary, 19–20 September 2022. Indexed in SCOPUS, 2022

International editions

1. Ydyrys Z., Karabalayeva B., Baturina O., Kenzhebayeva L., Kossanova G. Mythological Paradigms in Kazakh Painting: The Intersection of Folklore and History // *International Journal of Body, Mind and Culture*. 2026. Vol. 13, No. 3. P. 23–30
2. “Art-Dala: Dialogues in Space and Time” Exhibition as Part of EXPO-2017 World Fair in Astana: The Problem of National Art Preservation in the Context of Globalization. ISSN (Online) 0974-5645, UDC 7.061, LBC 85.03 A43. DOI: 10.18688/aa177

International conferences and collected papers

1. “Problems in the Study of the History of Fine Art within a New Model of Education. The Experience of the T. Zhurgenov Kazakh National Academy of Arts” // *Contemporary Problems of Academic Art History Education: Collected Papers*. Repin St. Petersburg State Academic Institute of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture at the Russian Academy of Arts. ISBN 978-5-903677
2. “The Eternal Themes of Gani Bayanov's Art”, pp. 256–260 // International conference “Issues of Art Studies in the 20th and Early 21st Centuries”, dedicated to the 25th anniversary of the Independence of the RK and the 20th anniversary of the Department of History and Theory of Fine Arts of the T. Zhurgenov Kazakh National Academy of Arts, 5–6 April 2016. — 327 pp.
3. “The Semiotics of Colour in a Cultural and Historical Context: A Brief Theoretical Analysis” // International conference “Implementing the UNESCO Strategy in Teacher Training”, dedicated to the 70th anniversary of UNESCO. Almaty, 24–25 September 2015. ISBN 978-601-298-355-5
4. “On the Problems of Creative Education in Kazakhstan at the Present Stage” // International conference “Kazakh and Hungarian Television: Self-Identification, Modernity and Historical Heritage”, dedicated to the 70th anniversary of UNESCO. Almaty, 2015. ISBN 978-615-5251-50-4

Catalogues and articles published in Kazakhstan

Art Dala: A Dialogue Across Space and Time. — 152 pp. Author of the catalogue of the international exhibition. Compiled, edited and published by the National Museum of the RK, EXPO Astana, 2017. ISBN 978-601-06-4492-2. Ministry of Culture and Sports of the RK

Artists of Contemporary Kazakhstan — within the Rukhani Zhangyru programme. Astana, 2018. — 264 pp. ISBN 978-9965-23-462-0. Author of the catalogue and participant in the international competition project. Compiled, edited and published by the National Museum of the RK, Astana

Introductory essay to the catalogue of the exhibition marking the 10th anniversary of the National Museum of the RK, “Painting of the Steppe. Images. Sounds. Colours.” Almaty: Knizhny Klub, 2024. — 81 pp.

Introductory essay to the catalogue of the solo exhibition in memory of Igilik Kubekov, “Afterword”, Almaty Gallery

“The Concept of Nature in the Discourse of the Development of Vladimir Tverdokhlebov's Chamber Painting Method” // *tengri magazine*, No. 5 (105), May–June 2023, Almaty

“Alexey Utkin and His Portraits of a Beloved City” // *Prostor magazine*, No. 4, 2024, Almaty

“The Image of the Human Being in Performance Arts and in the Fine Art of Kazakhstan and the World. Expressive Devices in Theatre and Contemporary Art” — prepared for publication, co-authored with S. D. Kabdiyeva

“Images of Animals in World Painting” — Tabigat Media, liter.kz, 2021

Patent

Baturina O. V. “The Colours and Feelings of Vladimir Tverdokhlebov's Painted Landscapes”. Patent No. 33702 of 17 March 2023