

Elya Akateva / Elvira Akateva / Elya Forelya

Trojan Posters Creator, Visual Artist, Graphic Designer

Raised in Russia, based in London

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Hi! I work at the intersections of graphics and languages.

I frame my practice as *Speculative Abstract (Graphic) (Design) (Art)*.

- [Linguistic + Graphics](#)—Language beyond meaning + Poster as art
- [Neo-Cubism 21](#)—Archive of digital behavior
- [Unpredictable Graphics](#)—Graphic junk
- [Words](#)—Text out of context

Artifacts of thought process. Play. Meaninglessness. Default. Gap. Space for projections.

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* key features

Press and publications (print and web)

26.06.2025 Christoph Amend, Posters mentioned in ZEITmagazin Newsletter *Was für ein Tag!* (What a day!), Die Zeit, DE

19.06.2025 Paul Moore, *Geometric mischief: Elya Akateva's posters prove how much you can do with the default*, It's Nice That, UK

2024 *Poster designs for Strelka Bar (2020–2022)*, Bi-Scriptual: Typography and Graphic Design with Multiple Script Systems by Eps51, pp. 90–91, Niggli Verlag, DE

2024 *Adaptation difficulties of people with Autistic Spectrum Disorder*, Beyond Design: Printing Effects and Their Application, pp. 144–145, Sandu Publishing, CN

22.04.2024 Darya Wright, *15 личных правил в дизайне Эльвиры Акатьевой* (15 Personal design rules by Elvira Akateva), Awdee, RU

21.06.2023 Alexandra Kudryashova, *Феномен Digital-арта на примере работ Эльвиры Акатьевой* (The phenomenon of digital art in the works of Elvira Akateva), Art of Her, KZ

01.2023 Tülay Candemir, *Afiş Tasarımında Çizgi* (Line in Poster Design), Journal of Academic Social Resources, Vol 8, Issue 55, pp. 4346–4354, TR

2021 *Adaptation difficulties of people with Autism Spectrum Disorder*, More is More, pp. 126–127, Viction:ary, HK

04.2021 *New Shape of Design Studio. Trail*, Design 360°, Issue 92, pp. 10–15, Sandu Publishing, CN

2021 *Bouncy Ball Competition*, Typography 41: The World's Best Type and Typography, p. 272, New York Type Directors Club, Verlag Hermann Schmidt, US

16.08.2019 Ayla Angelos, *Through playful and considered design, Elya Forelya aims to tackle the stigma around ASD*, It's Nice That, UK

Appearances (group and solo)

2025 Oripeau ft. Wellington street, Promenade Wellington, Montréal, CA

2025 Oripeau: an international & collaborative visual arts project, Montréal, CA

2024 *Global Poster Language*, Golden Bee 16 Global Biennale Of Graphic Design, The State Tretyakov Gallery—New Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow, RU

2024 *Blurring The Lines*, Poster Wall, Künstlerhaus Stadtgalerie, Lauenburg, DE
2023 *Unveiling of the public exhibition Oripeau*, Oripeau x Corridor Festival, MR-63, Montréal, CA
2023 Oripeau: an international & collaborative visual arts project, Nantes, FR
2021 *Flags Installation*, Strelka [Strelka Institute for Media, Architecture and Design] × Hlebozavod No.9, Hlebozavod No.9, Moscow, RU
2021 *Before and After*, Green Theatre (Taras Shevchenko Park of Culture and Recreation), Green Theatre, Odessa, UA
2020 *Poster Unlimited*, Global Biennale Of Graphic Design Golden Bee 14 (Un)Real, The State Tretyakov Gallery—New Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow, RU

Juried Selections

2025 *APF – Antwerp Poster Festival 2025*—Shortlist, APF Collective, Antwerp, BE
2025 *5th Intercontinental Poster Competition 2025*—Finalist, Poster Stellars, New Jersey, US
2025 *The 3rd B.I International Poster Art Biennale*—Finalist, Gallery B.I., Seongnam-si, KR
2025 *2025 Design competition*—Finalist, Communication Arts, California, US
2024 *Global Poster Language*—Finalist and Exhibition, Golden Bee 16 Global Biennale Of Graphic Design, Moscow, RU
2022 *Ümit 2.0 Program*—Shortlist, Tselinny Center of Contemporary Culture, Almaty, KZ
2020 *Poster Unlimited*—Longlist and Exhibition, Global Biennale Of Graphic Design Golden Bee 14 (Un)Real, Moscow, RU
2020 *New York TDC Annual Awards*—Certificate of Typographic Excellence and Publication, New York Type Directors Club, New York, US
2017 *33rd Chicago Latino Film Festival*—Finalist, International Latino Cultural Center of Chicago, Chicago, US

Collections

2021 *Contemporary Collection*, The Museum of Avant-garde (MA-g), Mendrisio, CH

Invited Contributions

2024 *Online lecture: Seeing Is Designing, or the Boundaries of Uniqueness*—Guest speaker, HSE Art and Design School, Moscow, RU

2021 *Collaborative marble floor*—Guest visual artist, Maestrello, 30/7 Petrovka St, Moscow, Russia

Work experience

2022–present Independent Art and Graphic Practice

2019–2022 Strelka Institute for Media, Architecture and Design, Graphic Designer (2022—Lead Graphic Designer), Moscow, RU

2019–2021 Strelka Bar, Poster Creator and Graphic Designer, Moscow, RU

2018–2019 Independent Art and Graphic Practice, RU

2015–2018 Agency Practice (various studios), Volgograd, RU

Project-based

2023–2025 Kobra, Letter Sketch Designer, RU

2022 Beat Weekend 22 by Beat Film Festival, Lead Graphic Designer, Moscow, RU

2020–2021 Electric Red, Graphic Designer, Moscow, RU

2020 The Golden Mask National Theatre Award and Festival 2021, Graphic Designer, Moscow, RU

2018–2019 Facultative Works, Graphic Designer, Saint Petersburg, RU

2016 Marks Bar, Poster Creator, Volzhsky, RU

Education

2022–2023 *DW200 Crew3 (DesignWorkout)*, Masterskaya, Dima Barbanel

2022 *Book II Design*, Typomania School

2021–2022 *Book I Design*, Typomania School

2020 Visual Identity Course, Bang Bang Education (BBE)

2019 *School of Type and Typography*, Tagir Safaev

2018–2019 *Typeschool*, Sergey Rasskazov

2018 *Experimental Design Set*, Svyatoslav Vishnyakov

2017 Typography Course, Bang Bang Education (BBE)

2009–2015 *Environmental Design*—Integrated Master's Degree, Volgograd University of
Architecture and Civil Engineering