

Our Vampires

Justin Fitzpatrick, Birke Gorm, Daniele Milvio,

Sveta Mordovskaya, Marianna Simnett

curated by [Attilia Fattori Franchini](#)

November 6, 2021–January 29, 2022

Vampires are night types, they cherish solitude and emo outfits. Music can vary but they listen to any genre containing the devil's triathlon in it. There is no such creature as "The Vampire", there are only vampires. Vampires dissipate trends and overcome the 9–5 paradigm. They question what it means to be normal and transcend the rigid structures of gender and identity, celebrating constant change and transformation. They are the Madonnas and David Bowies of narrative. Vampires blend into the changing cultures they inhabit. They are invaders of the normal and can be everything that we are whilst at the same time they are fearful reminders of the things that we are not. They embody seditious urbanity rather than dangerous intimacy. Beloved by the left, dread by moral witch hunters, they open a space of possibility.

Taking its title from Nina Auerbach's famous book *Our Vampires, Ourselves* (1995), historically exploring and demystifying the figure of the vampire as an archetype embodying rhetorics and fear of otherness, the exhibition loosely embraces Auerbach's desire to revalue the vampire as a symbol of constant change and transformation exiting any fixed category of existence.

To emulate a vampire is to be a spectator disappearing into a spectator: we listen, talk, watch, without touching or becoming. Because they glide on the margins of activity... writes Auerbach.

The exhibition *Our Vampires*, focuses on artistic positions interested in subverting conventional structures, favoring alternative forms of knowledge, playing with economies of visibility and opacity whilst negotiating questions of identity and self-representation.

Attilia Fattori Franchini

Sperling

Clockwise

1. Sveta Mordovskaya
This melting eye, I want you to realise that it's another trap! (I), 2019
ceramic (unglazed)
32 × 39 × 4 cm
2. Justin Fitzpatrick
A Whisper in the Cloister, 2019
oil on canvas
73 × 113 cm
3. Birke Gorm
IOU, 2021
wood
63 × 10 × 7 cm
4. Sveta Mordovskaya
Untitled (clowns), 2018
coffee cream lids
dimensions variable
5. Daniele Milvio
LM in AG, 2021
clay (synthetic), wood, gauze, gesso, wax, metal,
polyester resin, acrylic (fluorescent), indian ink and
watercolour on cotton paper
34 × 26 × 7 cm
6. Daniele Milvio
Visser, 2021
clay (synthetic), wood, gauze, gesso, wax, metal,
polyester resin, aniline, indian ink and watercolour
on paper
24 × 17 × 5 cm
7. Justin Fitzpatrick
Seeds of Urizen (Frieze!), 2019
oil on canvas
73 × 183 cm
8. Sveta Mordovskaya
Cocoon, 2021
gift foils
dimensions variable
9. Birke Gorm
IOU, 2021
wood
41 × 8 × 7 cm
10. Marianna Simnett
Tito's Dog, 2020
HD digital video, sound
5 mins, 56 sec

Justin Fitzpatrick, *1985 in Dublin (IE), lives and works in Montargis (FR)

Birke Gorm, *1986 in Hamburg (DE), lives and works in Vienna (AT)

Daniele Milvio, *1988 in Genoa (IT), lives and works in Milan and Ansedonia (IT)

Sveta Mordovskaya, *1989 in Ulan-Ude (RU), lives and works in Vienna (AT) and Zurich (CH)

Marianna Simnett, *1986 in Kingston-upon-Thames (UK), lives and works in Berlin (DE) and London (UK)