

## ANTON YAKUSHEV

Artist Blacksmith  
Sculptor  
Designer of contemporary metalwork

E-mail: [anton.kovka@yandex.ru](mailto:anton.kovka@yandex.ru) Cell.: +7.925.847.1840  
<https://www.facebook.com/anton.yakushev.731/>  
<https://www.instagram.com/anton.kovka/>

### PROFESSIONAL ARTIST EXPERIENCE

01/2002 - present **SCULPTOR / BLACKSMITH**, Kolomna, Moscow region, Russia

#### Short biography:

Anton is an artist blacksmith and sculptor from a city named Kolomna that is located near Moscow. He is studying and working in the sphere of metal art for more than 17 years since he was 17, he is fond of graphic art and stop-motion animation. Being a student of the faculty of drawing and fine arts at the State University in his native city Anton started art work on metal applying various techniques and making art experiments. While studying, at the first steps of his blacksmith work, he was more interested in the technological issues of the metal working. He read a lot and practiced with professional blacksmiths.

Thus, as a result of the experiments with old (rusty, corrosive) iron was born an art project "Ironville" (that was exhibited in 2010 in Russia). It is an iron city of airships that is inhabited with ideal worlds. For "Ironville" Anton used all the techniques and methods he knew at that time.

Anton's practices with inox were finished with a monument of a Watercarrier that was installed in our native city in 2012. It is a three-meter tall sculptural composition that is made from inox steel and is installed at the bank of the Moscow river. This watercarrier is not afraid of the annual overflowing of the river that usually covers the monument over the head that is why it is full made from inox.

Another very exciting experience for Anton was working with iron and paint. In cooperation with his brother Pavel, Anton made metal canvases-illustrations based on the book of V.Erofeev "Moscow-Petushki". The exhibitions "Heavy Illustration" were held in Kolomna and in Moscow in 2013.

Apart from the experiments with materials and formation Anton is interested in working with different proportions and sizes – in particular with miniature forms. Anton makes some brooches and bracelets for his friends and family.

Knowledge of the blacksmith's craft, technological methods of the forged metal handling, let Anton constantly experiment and find new solutions to implement his art ideas. So, since that time the art idea became the most important component in Anton's works. The techniques became the means but not the goal. In this sense a very significant work for Anton became an exposition "The leaves cover the war". This art project of sculptures is dedicated to lost and dead people during the First World War and the Second World War.

The idea of the project was arising during author's expeditions to the battleground of the World War II. The idea is that the war is going on while the last soldier is not found... Anton was working on the concept and realization of this project for about 7 years. And he is still working on the project.

While making the sculptures the author used parts of his own findings from the expeditions – mines parts, arms, bayonets, helmets, etc. that were forged into the elements of the sculptures. It was done to keep a piece of war in the works.

The main idea of the project is to remember and remind about the past time events – about the victims of the dreadful wars - I World War and II World War, about the value of human life. So the main idea is humanism.

"The leaves cover the war" was exhibited in St. Petersburg twice last year. Anton's sculptures were chosen by Michail Chemiakine at the International Competition on the project of "Musée Imaginaire" and were exposed in M. Chemiakine's Fond at the project «Bandaged figure/form in art».

Anton believes that blacksmith festivals are an important and interesting side of the blacksmith life. As far as there it is possible to meet colleagues and have the experience exchange with them. Last year Anton was really impressed and happy to take part at the Blacksmith Meeting in Catalonia, Spain where he met great masters from different countries and was very pleased to work together with them. Anton also became the winner and got the VI INTERNATIONAL ARTISTIC BLACKSMITH AWARD in the sphere of metal sculpture at that Festival.

Anton has dozens of thematic projects and exhibitions as well as collective and solo. And all of them are extremely various.

The leading artistic idea of all Anton's projects is humanism, love and compassion to humanity.

The author creates independent and isolated world for his heroes, that are dreams, cloudland cities, otherworld reality. A hope that impossible is nothing lives in these worlds. And the witness of that is the image of the Angel that permanently accompanies all the author's projects...

Anton Yakushev is a member of NorthWest Blacksmith Association and Central Oregon Metal Arts Guild.

Anton's works are in private collections and in permanent collections of museums and galleries of the world. Anton is the winner of international art competitions on forged sculpture in Russia, Europe and the USA, and the winner of the Governor's Prize. By invitations of museums, universities of art, professional art association Anton teaches art forging and sculpture from metal in different countries of the world. His work presented for the Hereford College of Arts in Great Britain is exhibited in various countries of the world since 2019. It should be noted that each work of the artist is unique and one of a kind, as all works are made in the technique of hand art forging. The author's favorite thing - the smallest details in his works, which in each sculpture are usually more than 50. The artist deals highly professionally with metal as plasticine, embodying artistic idea directly from the depth of the soul (c).

## EDUCATION

2002 – 2005

**STATE SOCIAL AND HUMANITARIAN UNIVERSITY (KSPI)**, Kolomna,  
Moscow region, Russia

Faculty of drawing and fine arts / Artist

## AWARDS

2020

**FIRE PIT AND SCULPTURE COMPETITION**, WinterFest 2020, BEND, OR,  
USA

People's Choice Award and the competition's juried Grand Prize: installation in  
Prineville, OR, USA

2018

**VI INTERNATIONAL ARTISTIC BLACKSMITH AWARD**, Alpens, Catalonia,  
Spain

Winner in the sphere of metal sculpture;

2018

**INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION BY MICHAEL CHEMIAKINE**, Saint-  
Petersburg, Russia

Winner in one part on the project of "Musée Imaginaire".

2014

**ANNUAL GOVERNOR AWARD OF MOSCOW REGION, Russia**  
«OUR MOSCOW REGION'», Kolomna, Moscow region, Russia

Winner in the nomination "Connection of Times", project "Monument of the  
Water Carrier"

2007

**DIPLOMA FROM THE ADMINISTRATION OF KOLOMNA CITY AND  
COMMITTEE ON CULTURE**

For the preservation of cultural and historical heritage

## PROJECTS AND EXPOSITIONS

2010

«**Steampunk**» Exposition, Cultural Centre "Ozerov's Place", Kolomna,  
Russia;

2010

«**Old-timer Gallery**» Exposition, "Crocus-Expo" Centre, Moscow, Rus-  
sia;

2011

«**Ironville**» Exposition, Cultural Centre «**Ligue**», Kolomna, Russia;

2012

**The Water-carrier monument was unveiled** in Kolomna, Russia;

2013

«**Heavy illustration**» Exposition, museum-residence «**ArtKommunal-**  
**ka**», Kolomna, Russia;

2013

**Exposition in Zverev Centre of Modern Art**, Moscow, Russia;

2014

**The project "Angels' post" was realized on Moscow river bank**, Kolom-  
na,  
Russia;

2018

**"The leaves cover the war" Exposition**, "Borey Art Centre", Saint-Pe-  
tersburg, Russia;

- 2018 **Exhibition on the project “Musée Imaginaire”, Michail Chemiakine’s Centre, Saint-Petersburg, Russia.**
- 2019 **“Measured Making Exhibition - 150 mm challenge”, Ferrous Festival 2019, Hereford Colleague of Arts, Hereford City Centre, UK**
- 2019 **The project «Katydid» sculpture was realized in Memphis, TN, USA**  
Now the sculpture is in the permanent collection in the National Ornamental Metal Museum, Memphis, TN, USA  
Authorship, participation and project management: Anton Yakushev
- 2019 **The project «Mantis» sculpture was realized in Bend, OR, USA**  
Now the sculpture is in the permanent collection in Ken Scott’s Imagination Gallery, Sisters, OR, USA  
The sculptural composition was build in collaboration with Central Oregon Metal Arts Guild  
Authorship, participation and project management: Anton Yakushev
- 2019 **The Biggest European XXIII Art Biennale in Italy, Stia**  
«One small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind...»
- 2020 **The project «People’s Forge» was realized in Bend, OR, USA**  
The sculptural composition was build in collaboration with the Northwest Blacksmith Association President Kellen Bateham
- 2020 **The project «Life Circle» fire pit sculpture was realized in Bend, OR, USA**  
The sculptural composition was build in collaboration with the Northwest Blacksmith Association President Kellen Bateham  
The artwork was bought by the city of Prineville, OR and was installed in the National Park

**Additional information available upon request.**