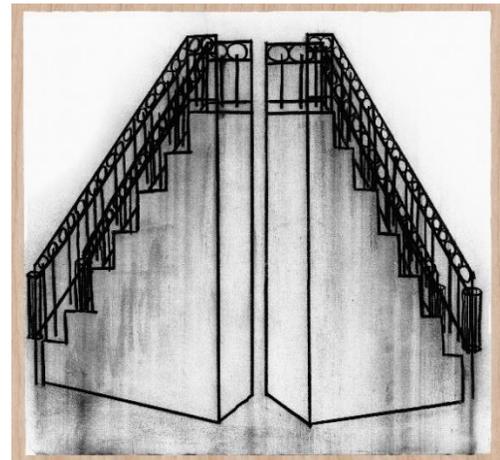


**Anastasia Samoylova: FloodZone
and
Back and Forth: The Space in Between**
September 24 – November 13, 2021

Opening Reception: Thursday, September 23, 6:00 – 7:30pm

A gallery tour will be prerecorded and available at printcenter.org beginning September 22.



(left) Anastasia Samoylova, *Gator*, 2017, pigment print, 40" x 60"; (right) Ivanco Talevski, *Walnut Street Stoops: May, 15th*, 2017, charcoal on paper, 30" x 32". Courtesy of the Artists

PHILADELPHIA, PA – (September 15, 2021) The Print Center is pleased to announce the opening of two exhibitions, ***Anastasia Samoylova: FloodZone*** and ***Back and Forth: The Space in Between***, a solo show of work by **Ivanco Talevski**. Originally scheduled for presentation in 2020, the exhibitions were delayed by COVID-19 closures. We are delighted to launch the fall season by welcoming our community back to The Print Center to experience these two impactful and timely shows.

We are honored to be the premier venue in the Northeast for *FloodZone*, which features large-scale photographic works that examine the omnipresent effects of climate change in Miami, by the internationally renowned Samoylova. Through photographs capturing the effects of rains and floods, she sounds the alarm on rising sea levels in all coastal areas, including our very own Philadelphia. *Back and Forth: The Space in Between* is the first major solo show in the United States for Talevski, known for his exceptional skill and compelling personal iconography. The exhibition maps the artist's

bifurcated existence between his adopted home of Philadelphia and his birthplace, Bitola, Macedonia. The immersive installation of new prints, drawings, projections and sound works investigates notions of memory, history and belonging, as well as the multiplicity of identities a single individual can embody.

Anastasia Samoylova: FloodZone

On view on the first floor, the experience of **FloodZone** begins outside the building with an installation in The Print Center's iconic bay window. Entering the gallery, viewers will encounter **Anastasia Samoylova's** large-scale photographic works complemented by an installation of spreads from her recent publication of the same name. Initiated in 2016, the series "FloodZone" meditates on the effects of rising water levels as a result of global warming. It does not present us with the familiar images of climate catastrophe, but instead reveals the traces in the everyday – from corners of dilapidated buildings and pools of stagnant water to sidewalks with battered trees and skylines of upturned billboards. Samoylova masterfully wields the photographic tropes of juxtaposition and reflection to create impactful images that reveal the impact of unchecked commercial development on the environment and its human inhabitants, as well as the indigenous flora and fauna. Steeped in the pastel palette so closely identified with Miami, "FloodZone" uses the cacophony of natural and human-made colors and forms to make visual patterns out of the landscape. This belies the story of reckless building and land use.



Anastasia Samoylova, *Pool after Hurricane*, 2017, pigment print, 40" x 32".
Courtesy of the Artist

The Print Center is elated to host the first solo exhibition of work by Anastasia Samoylova in Philadelphia and in the Northeast. Samoylova is an acclaimed international artist with roots in Russia and a long-standing practice in the United States. Her work incorporates influences from both cultures in its examination of the global phenomenon of climate change. I have followed Samoylova's work for a number of years and, after several COVID-related delays, am eager for audiences to see and respond to her work, which is ever more relevant in the midst of yet another disastrous hurricane season.

— Ksenia Nouril, Jensen Bryan Curator

A site-specific installation in The Print Center's window entitled *Gator* (pictured above), features the most iconic image from the project. An alligator's body is pictured from underwater, floating effortlessly. With his limbs limp, the alligator is a far cry from being a predator, but in the context of Samoylova's work, its impending threat is a metaphor for the climate changes threatening our planet.

An integral part of the exhibition are the pages of *FloodZone*, published in 2019 by the prestigious Steidl Verlag (Göttingen, Germany). By displaying the spreads, the book is treated as an object, drawing attention to the sequence of its images. This allows for comparisons and contrasts to be drawn between

the photographic pairs as well as across the book. Sequenced by Samoylova with the renowned photo historian and curator David Campany (Managing Director of Programs, International Center of Photography, New York), the book is not an addendum to, but a critical component of, the project “FloodZone.”

Anastasia Samoylova (b.1984, Moscow, Russia; lives Miami, FL and New York, NY) received an MFA from Bradley University, Peoria, IL and an MA in Environmental Design from the Russian State University for the Humanities, Moscow. Her ongoing project “FloodZone” has been exhibited at the Orlando Museum of Art; USF Contemporary Art Museum, Tampa, both FL; as well as at Kunst Haus Wien, Austria; C/O Berlin, Wilhelm-Hack Museum, Ludwigshafen and Kunsthalle Mannheim, all Germany; Musée des beaux-arts, Le Locle, Switzerland; and Multimedia Art Museum Moscow. “FloodZone” has been highly acclaimed internationally, including features in *Artforum*, *Artpapers*, *The New Yorker*, *The Washington Post*, *El Pais*, *Die Zeit* and *Frankfurter Allgemeine*. Samoylova has been awarded a South Arts State Fellowship and a grant from the Michael P. Smith Fund for Documentary Photography, New Orleans Photo Alliance. Samoylova’s work is in the collections of the Museum of Contemporary Photography Chicago, IL; Pérez Art Museum Miami, FL; and Wilhelm-Hack Museum, among others. Samoylova is represented by Dot Fiftyone Gallery, Miami; Galerie Caroline O’Brien, Amsterdam, Netherlands; Sabrina Amrani Gallery, Madrid, Spain; and Peter Sillem Gallery, Frankfurt, Germany.

Back and Forth: The Space in Between

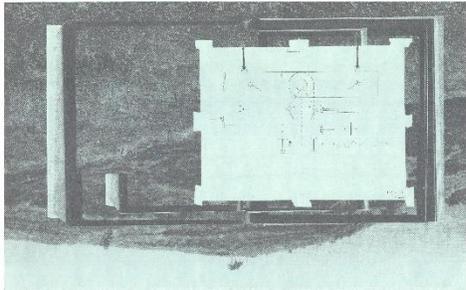
Back and Forth: The Space in Between, is **Ivanco Talevski’s** first major solo show in the United States. Presented in The Print Center’s second floor galleries, the ambitious exhibition is comprised of an extensive group of new works based in the dualities of Talevski’s personal narrative: his childhood in Communist Yugoslavia and his adulthood in the United States, as well as his travels back-and-forth between his homes in Philadelphia and Bitola, Macedonia. Co-curated by The Print Center’s Executive Director Elizabeth Spungen and its Jensen Bryan Curator Ksenia Nouril, this exhibition reflects on how each of these places evoke the sense of home for Talevski. It includes a recent series of drawings, which he projected onto buildings in Bitola and then photographed. He layers and reseats salient graphic motifs: architectural structures, figures, foliage, mirrors and flags. Their amalgamation creates a space “in between,” an imagined community into which the artist welcomes us.



Ivanco Talevski, *Projection #13*, 2021, 2021. *Wreckage: June 13*, 2021, 2021, charcoal on paper, projected on an empty home, Gyavato, near Bitola. Courtesy of the Artist

It is extremely gratifying to see this exhibition come together as the culmination of many years of studio visits and conversation with Ivanco. I was delighted to invite Ksenia Nouril to join me as co-curator for the project when she joined The Print Center's staff in 2019, adding her excellent eye and deep understanding of the art history of Eastern Europe. A project such as this, which is both collaborative and spurs an artist to think expansively and ambitiously, is for me, the most rewarding approach to exhibition making, and I am grateful for such an opportunity.

— Elizabeth Spungen, Executive Director



Ivanco Talevski and Vasko Dukovski, *Zanaetchii: Chekani*, from the series "Matriarch with Nine Stones," 2021, screenprint, 13" x 21".
Courtesy of the Artist

In the Zemel Family Gallery, the photographs are projected on the gallery walls, creating an immersive installation surrounding a sound-based installation conceived with Macedonian composer Vasko Dukovski. Dukovski composed and recorded a major audio piece in response to both Talevski's artwork and a child's game drawn from the work of Macedonian folklorist Marko Cepenkov (1829-1920), which is represented graphically on the floor. The nine-part symphony is presented alongside nine collaborative screenprints – which are based on Cepenkov's imagery, Dukovski's notations and Talevski's projections and photo collages.

The influence of Cepenkov and his ethnographic sketchbooks is threaded through the exhibition, and inspired Talevski's *Book of Drawings*, published in conjunction with the exhibition with support from the Sachs Program for Arts Innovation at the University of Pennsylvania. Like Cepenkov, Talevski looks to the mundane objects around him as subject matter, highlighting the intricacies of our everyday lives. *Book of Drawings* marks a significant milestone in Talevski's career and complements the exhibition in its content and evocation of the artist's research-driven process. The artist's first monograph, it includes contributions by Nouril as well as scholars Sandra Ristovska (Assistant Professor, Media Studies, University of Colorado Boulder), Katica Kulavkova (Professor, Philology, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, Skopje, Macedonia) and Kevin Platt (Edmund J. and Louise W. Kahn Term Professor in the Humanities, Department of Russian and East European Studies, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia).

Talevski is a long-time member of The Print Center's community. We are thrilled to present his new work in Philadelphia after years of research, planning and creating. The multi-faceted work represents Talevski's ongoing interest in identity and migration whilst pushing the parameters of print within his practice.

Ivanco Talevski (b.1983, Bitola, Macedonia; lives Philadelphia and Bitola) is an interdisciplinary artist and educator. He received a BFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore and an MFA from the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. Talevski has had solo exhibitions at MC Gallery, New York and Napoleon, Philadelphia, as well as the Prima Center Berlin, Germany; KIC Gallery, Skopje Museum

and Institute of Bitola and People's Theater, Gevgelija, all Macedonia. His work has been in group exhibitions at the International Print Center New York; Guanlan Original Printmaking Base, Shenzhen, China; Sakima Museum of Art, Okinawa and Tokyo Metropolitan Museum, both Japan; International Print Triennial, Kraków, Poland; Seoul Museum of Art, South Korea; and National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts. He has numerous awards including a Guanlan International Print Prize and Pollock Krasner Grant. He is a Senior Lecturer at the Weitzman School of Design, University of Pennsylvania.

Programs

Opening Reception

Thursday, September 23, 6:00 – 7:30pm

In lieu of The Print Center's usual gallery talk preceding the opening reception, a recorded gallery tour will be available at printcenter.org beginning September 22. This adjusted event format, as well as extra outdoor space during the reception, are temporary safety measures. All visitors are required to be vaccinated and wear facemasks while indoors.

Artist Talk and Book Launch with Ivanko Talevski

Thursday, October 28, 6:00pm

Talevski will discuss his work and launch his new publication *Book of Drawings*, created in conjunction with the exhibition.

Panel Discussion: Art, the Environment, and Environmental Justice

Wednesday, November 10, 6:00pm

A conversation with **David Hartt** (Associate Professor of Fine Arts, University of Pennsylvania), **Alexis Schulman** (Assistant Professor of Biodiversity, Earth and Environmental Science, Drexel University) and **Giovanna Di Chiro** (Professor of Environmental Studies, Swarthmore College) reflecting on themes and issues addressed in *FloodZone*, moderated by Ksenia Nouril.

All of The Print Center's exhibitions and programs are free and open to the public.

In order to safely respond to COVID-19 conditions, protocols and event presentation details (i.e. onsite or virtual) will be announced the week of the program. Please visit our website, Facebook, Instagram or Twitter feeds for up-to-date information.

About The Print Center

Mission

For more than a century, The Print Center has encouraged the growth and understanding of photography and printmaking as vital contemporary arts through exhibitions, publications and educational programs. The Print Center has an international voice and a strong sense of local purpose. Free and open to the public, it presents changing exhibitions, which highlight established and emerging, local, national and international contemporary artists. It mounts one of the oldest art competitions in the country, now in its 96th year and the Gallery Store offers the largest selection of contemporary prints and photographs available for sale in Philadelphia, as well as being available online.

Funders

Support for The Print Center is offered by Bryn Mawr Trust; COVID-19 Arts Aid PHL Fund; Dolfinger-McMahon Foundation; Forman Family Fund; Sheila Fortune Foundation; Fund for Children; Allen Hilles Fund; Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Foundation; Christopher Ludwick Foundation; Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox; The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; National Endowment for the Arts; William Penn Foundation; Pennsylvania Council on the Arts; The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage; Philadelphia Cultural Fund; The Philadelphia Foundation; Rosenlund Family Foundation; Henrietta Tower Wurts Memorial; and our Board of Governors, Luminaries, members and friends.

We are grateful to Curatorial Assistant Rosemary Haynes for her assistance in preparing the exhibitions.



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Free and open to the public
Tuesday – Saturday, 11:00am – 6:00pm

Vaccination is required to enter
All visitors are required to wear facemasks

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