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## Press release

### **Ten Ukrainian Women in Public Art Project For Refugee Week on June 19**

#### **'InFlight-OnLanding' - Photo Museum Ireland, Meeting House Square, Dublin 2.**

A public art project by Varvara Keidan Shavrova and 10 Ukrainian women participants

#### **Opening Photocall event with HE Larysa Gerasko, Ambassador of Ukraine to Ireland.**

When: **Monday 19th June at 12 noon**

Where: **Photo Museum Ireland, Meeting House Square, Temple Bar, Dublin 2.**

The Exhibition & installation will be open to the public for Refugee Week (June 20-25).

**'InFlight-OnLanding'** is a public art installation that addresses the human aspect of the crisis brought on by Putin's invasion of Ukraine. Varvara Keidan Shavrova, an Irish artist with Ukrainian heritage, is working collaboratively with ten Ukrainian female refugees and migrants now based in Ireland.

The impressive collaborative piece will be mounted as an overhead outdoor parachute-like installation in Meeting House Square. The artwork invites viewers to look up and share in the women's feelings of suspension and displacement and their sense that Ireland is a place of safety and refuge.

Between March and June, the group created artworks exploring the women's responses to events of the last 18 months. They worked on personally meaningful photographic images, through appliqué, montage and traditional Ukrainian folk craft embroidery techniques, as well as silkscreen printing on fabric. Undertaking this tactile, meditative, process created a space where the women could process and reflect on their own experiences and share aspects of their stories in visual form.

#### **A personal testimony from one of the women artists:**

*'It is the very beginning of spring and I arrived in Dublin three weeks ago. On the road of timelessness, between Februaries. Like jumping into the abyss. For the first time. When you have a parachute under your belt, but you never know for sure, what if it's the one, the only time it won't open?...And as I stand at the edge of the abyss, staring into the thick, bottomless darkness, I have only a parachute behind me.'* – **Tetiana Odokiienko** (Kharkiv)

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Further examples of the women's work, and videos about the workshop process, are on display in the Artists' Project Space in Photo Museum Ireland.

Participants: **Tetiana Kovalova (Kyiv), Svitlana Litmanova (Chmielnickyi), Olha Matso (Kyiv), Anna Mosina (Mariupol), Katerina Naumova (Mariupol), Tetiana Odokienko (Kharkiv), Tetiana Piontkovska (Kyiv), Liubov Poltavets (Enerhodar), Svetlana Vicheva (Artsy), Maryna Zaretska (Kyiv).**

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Varvara Keidan Shavrova and individual art project members (English speaking) are available for interview, by appointment.

**For more information contact:**

Tanya Kiang, Photo Museum Ireland [tanya@photomuseumireland.ie](mailto:tanya@photomuseumireland.ie) 086 8886959

Yvonne Judge, Ukraine Civil Society Forum [hello@yvonnejudge.ie](mailto:hello@yvonnejudge.ie) 087 6624775

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VARVARA KEIDAN SHAVROVA



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**Photo Museum Ireland CLG**  
Registered in Ireland  
No. 158866  
RCN: 20206237 CHY22855

**Meeting House Square,  
Temple Bar, Dublin 2, Ireland**  
D02X406

**T:** +3531 671 4654  
**E:** [info@photomuseumireland.ie](mailto:info@photomuseumireland.ie)  
**photomuseumireland.ie**