



LONGTERMHANDSTAND

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KATA TRANKER

Kata Tranker (b. 1989, Székesfehérvár, Hungary) is an artist based in Budapest. She received her MFA in Painting from the Hungarian University of Fine Arts (2007–2012) and additionally studied media design at the Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften in Hamburg (2009–2010).

Tranker's practice spans installation, sculpture, collage, and object-making, united by a conceptual sensibility that draws on anthropology, primatology, and evolutionary theory to ask what it means — biologically and culturally — to be human. Her work turns on the uncertain borders between species, the gradual estrangement of the human animal from the natural world, and the legitimacy of art as a concept itself, grounding these expansive concerns in the personal and the intimate, and unfolding them through association and speculation rather than fixed argument. The narrative dimension of her work bears the imprint of personal memory — shaped not so much by events as by unexpected sensations, half-formed connections, and the friction between the universal and the deeply subjective.

Tranker works across paper pulp, clay, wood, found objects, books, and archival photographs, building her installations from modest, often ephemeral materials with meticulous attention to craft. The resulting works carry a distinctly haptic charge — hand-moulded and intimate in scale, their surfaces bearing the insistent trace of the maker's hand. A recurring preoccupation for the artist is the figure of the mother as a mythical and evolutionary force, reimagined through hybrid human-animal forms that draw on matriarchal symbolism to propose a more elemental understanding of care and creation. In recent years, this has drawn her practice further towards the mythical and the archaic. A body of sculptures and tactile, hand-formed reliefs takes its inspiration from the Egyptian myth of the Book of the Heavenly Cow — in which the goddess Nut raises the sky above the earth to restore cosmic order — tracing the path of a primordial mother figure who, through bodily transformation, becomes a vessel for the beginning of the world.



KATA TRANKER

CV

Education

2007-2012 Hungarian Academy of Fine Arts, Painting Department, MFA

2009-2010 Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften, Design department-Hamburg, Germany, - media design

Solo and duo shows

2025 Book of the Heavenly Cow, Longtermhandstand, Budapest, HUN

2025 Wandering troops of sensations, Rechnitzer gallery, Budapest, HUN - duo with Eszter Kálóczy

2022 Herczeg Klara art Award 2021, Foton gallery, Budapest, HUN - duo with Tibor Várnagy

2022 Arcadia, Viltin gallery, Budapest HUN - duo with Luca Sára Rózsa

2021 Lucy in the Sky With Diamonds, Szent István Király Museum, Székesfehérvár, HUN

2020 Discrete infinity - Viltin gallery, Budapest HUN - duo with András Király

2020 A hairy line - Kunstverein Eisenstadt, AT - duo with Katrin Plavcak

2020 In times gone by. - Pince, Budapest, HUN - duo with Adam Ulbert

2019 The Hochstädters, Hungarian Jewish Museum, Budapest, HUN

2018 Logic of fuzzy sets, Viltin gallery, Budapest, HUN

2018 Birth of Venus, Parthenon-friz terem, HUFA, Budapest, HUN

2017 Missing perpetuity, Paksi képtár, Paks, HUN

2017 La mere qui flane, Sopa gallery, Kosice, SK

2016 Common set, Deák képtár, Székesfehérvár, HUN

2013 Repechage, Viltin gallery, Budapest, HUN

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Selected group shows

- 2025 Big Bang. Expanding Collection Horizons, Ludwig Museum, Budapest, HUN
2025 HÓSEGRADÓ: Sitdownandrelax, Longtermhandstand, Budapest, HUN
2025 Constelations, Paris-B, Paris, FR
2025 Call Your Mom, Longtermhandstand, Budapest, HUN
2025 Habitat, Hungarian National Gallery, Budapest, HUN
2025 Women's quota, Ludwig Museum, Budapest, HUN
2024 'Everyone was a child', Kastner community, Budapest, HUN
2023 Becoming. The force of existence, HAB, Budapest, HUN
2023 Handle with care, Ludwig Museum, Budapest, HUN
2023 My rhino is not a myth, Art Encounters Biennial, Timisoara, RO
2022 Smaller worlds, Ludwig Museum Budapest, HUN
2022 ThisPlay, Arter Istanbul, Istanbul TR
2022 Auf der Suche nach einem besseren Leben, Schloss Esterházy, Eisenstadt AT
2022 Drafting futures, Q Contemporary, Budapest HUN
2021 Metaphysical passage through a zebra, Ludwig Museum Budapest, HUN
2021 Esterházy Art Award short list 2021, Ludwig Museum Budapest, HUN
2021 All that is mine. Body and psyche in the work of five Hungarian artists, Arcadia Missa, London, GB (online)
2021 Invisible spectra, Pannonhalma Archabbey, Pannonhalma, HUN
2021 Islands of hapiness, Collegium Hungaricum Berlin, Berlin GER
2019 Esterhazy Art Award 2019 Short List, Ludwig Museum, Budapest, HUN
2019 Camera Lucida, Hungarian National Gallery, Budapest, HUN
2019 Skúter IV - Action of Young Art, Jan Koniarek Gallery, Trnava, SK
2019 Fine art in the spirit of internationality - exhibition of Leopold Bloom Award, Ludwig Museum, Budapest, HUN
2018 Dreams Come From The Past, Not From The Future, Löwenpalais, Berlin GER
2016 Rain come down!, Z2o Sara Zanin gallery, Rome, IT
2016 Concept: Zero, Korean Cultural Center, Budapest, HUN
2015 Syntopia, OFF-Biennale, Budapest, HUN
2015 Postscript: correspondent works, Artq13, Rome, IT
2014 Nykarleby recall, Bothnia Biennale, Nykarleby, FIN
2014 8 rooms/4 AIRs, das weisse haus, Vienna, AT
2014 derkó.pécsi.2014, Kunsthalle, Budapest, HUN
2013 Liget30 - independent reactions - Olof Palme house, Budapest, HUN
2012 International artist exchange 2012 - Aterlierfrankfurt, Frankfurt am Main, GER
2012 Sejt- Akvárium klub, Budapest Sejt II. - Museum of Modern Art, Debrecen, HUN

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Scholarships, awards

2025 Lokart Biennale Main Prize
2021 Esterhazy Art Award
2021 Herczeg Klara Art Award
2020 Derkovits Gyula scholarship
2019 Smohay Art Prize
2019 Derkovits Gyula scholarship
2017 Visegrad Fund, Visual Residency in KAIR Kosice, Slovakia
2014 Derkovits Gyula scholarship
2014 AIR program, studio das weisse haus, Vienna, Austria
2012 Artist in residence, Mino, Gifu prefecture, Japan
2012 Artist in residence program, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
2010 Artist in residence program, Nykarleby, Finland

Art Fairs

2026 Group Show, Feria Material, Mexico City, Mexico
2025 Group Show, Art-O-Rama, Marseille, France

Public Collections

Arter - Istanbul, Turkey
Hungarian Jewish Museum - Budapest Hungary
Luwig Museum - Museum of Contemporary Art, Budapest Hungary
Hungarian National Gallery - Budapest Hungary
King Saint Stephen Museum - Székesfehérvár, Hungary
Ferenczy Museum - Szentendre, Hungary



Kata Tranker
Sarcophagus with dancers
78 x 60 x 82 cm
Paper pulp, aluminum leafs, threads, lichen
2026

6,500 usd + vat



Kata Tranker
Parents
25 x 11 x 7 cm
Paper pulp, smashed stone
2026

2,500 usd + vat



Kata Tranker
Cuddling hominids
25 x 11 x 7 cm
Paper pulp, smashed stone
2026

2,500 usd + vat



Kata Tranker
Ancestors with red algae
65 x 39 x 6 cm
Paper pulp, mother of pearls, aluminium leaves, watercolour
2026

5,500 usd + vat



Kata Tranker
Aquatic apes - Encounters
29 x 24 x 4 cm
Paper pulp, mother of pearls, aluminium leaves, watercolour
2026

4,500 usd + vat



Kata Tranker
Aquatic apes - Drinkers
29 x 24 x 4 cm
Paper pulp, mother of pearles, aluminium leaves, watercolour
2026

4,500 usd + vat



Kata Tranker
Aquatic apes - Bathers
31 x 23 x 4 cm
Paper pulp, mother of pearls, aluminium leaves, watercolour
2026

4,500 usd + vat



Kata Tranker: *Marsh at Tethys Ocean and Pannonian Sea* (Installation made of 4 reliefs),
Adam and Eve (central figures), 2021 Invisible spectra, Pannonhalma Archabbey,
Pannonhalma, Hungary



Kata Tranker: *Sarcophagus*, paper pulp, samshed stone, flowers
85 x 48 x 100 cm, 2020



Kata Tranker: *Book of the Heavenly Cow*, 2025, Installation view
Longtermhandstand, Budapest, Hungary



Kata Tranker: *Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds*, 2021, Szent István Király Museum, Székesfehérvár Hungary



Kata Tranker: *Ancestor's dish*, installation, paper pulp, smashed stone, plasticine
300 x 200 x 180 cm, 2020

We are happy to assist you at any time.



+36303395065

love@longtermhandstand.art

