



2024/2025 ACADEMIC YEAR

FACULTY OF ART AND DESIGN
YEARLY REPORT

AGENDA

- IBU Unveils New Facilities at Faculty of Arts and Design
- International Journal of Art and Design (IJAD)
- Student Fashion Show
- Gift Fund
- Art Therapy
- High School Visits
- Sultan II. Abdülhamid Han's Yıldız Albums Exhibition & "Ottoman Period in Macedonia" Panel
- Visit of the Municipality of Karpoš to IBU
- BU Master's Students to Collaborate with Fashion Weekend Skopje for Hands-On Industry Experience
- Workshop



AGENDA

- Faculty of Fashion Design visiting the Esnaf studio
- IXVI Youth Spring Salon Exhibition
- IBU Student Fashion Show
- Book Promotion
- DIGIAGE Game Development Camp
- Exhibition A New Interpretation of the Macedonian Glagolitic Alphabet

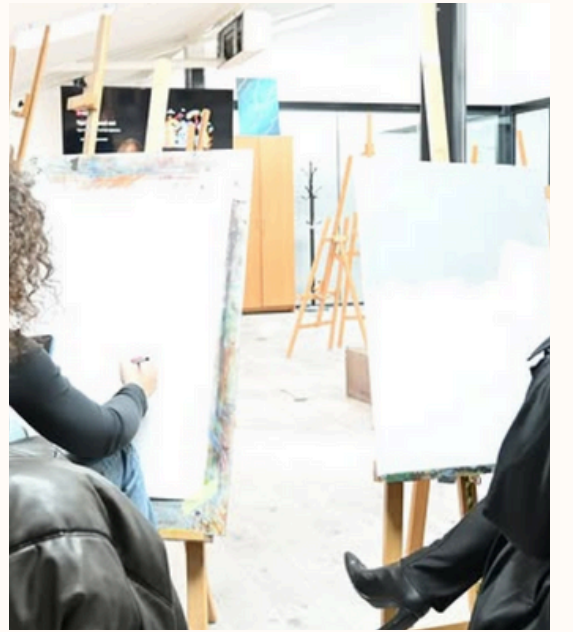


IBU UNVEILS NEW FACILITIES AT FACULTY OF ARTS AND DESIGN

International Balkan University (IBU) organized a ceremony for opening of the newly upgraded facilities within the Faculty of Arts and Design.

In this ceremony attended distinguished guests and members of the university community. The event, which took place on November 7, was graced by Prof. Dr. Lutfi Sunar, Rector of IBU, alongside faculty members, administrative staff, and students.

The new state-of-the-art spaces are designed to enhance the educational experience, providing students with the resources and environment needed to foster creativity and innovation.

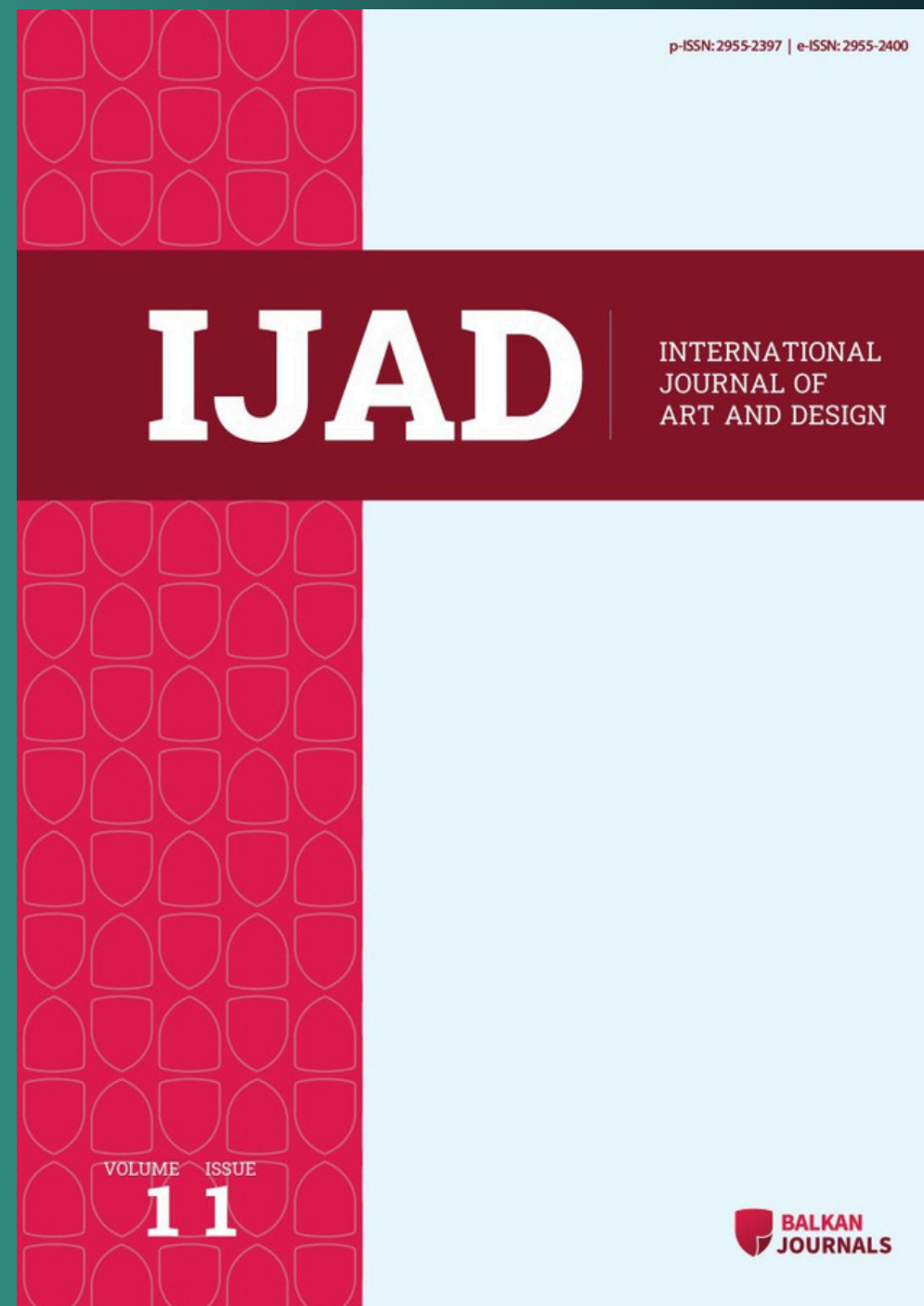


INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ART AND DESIGN (IJAD)



- International Journal of Art and Design (IJAD) launched the first issue containing five research articles in the field of Art and Design.
 - The IJAD aims to foster interdisciplinary dialogue, promote scholarly exchange, and advance knowledge within the diverse and dynamic fields of art and design. Through rigorous research, critical inquiry, and innovative perspectives, IJAD seeks to contribute to the enrichment of global discourse on visual culture, creative practice, and the transformative power of art and design in society.
- Led by Editor-in-Chief Aleksandra Ristovska and Secretariat Vladimir Gjorgjevski, this milestone reflects the dedication and collaborative efforts behind IJAD. Their contributions have been invaluable in bringing this vision to life.

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1
2024, JUNE



FIVE RESEARCH PAPERS FROM FACULTY OF ART AND DESIGN WERE PUBLISHED IN THE ISSUE OF IJAD

- “Avant-garde Movement in Landscape Design”
Author: Katerina Despot, Prof. Dr, UGD
Vaska Sandeva, Prof. Dr, UGD
- “Analysis and Evaluation of Software Tools for Creating HDR Images From LDR With Multiple Exposures”
Author: Vladimir Gjorgjieski, Associate Professor IBU
- “Transformation of the Poster as a Medium Through Virtual Reality Technology”
Author : Laze Tripkov, Professor IBU
- “The Influence of German Modernism in Macedonia”
Author : Katerina Despot, Prof. Dr, UGD
Vaska Sandeva, Prof. Dr, UGD
- “Art Redefined: AI’s Influence on Traditional Artistic Expression Industry: The Circular Model”
Author : Vladimir Gjorgjieski, Associate Professor IBU

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2 2024, DECEMBER



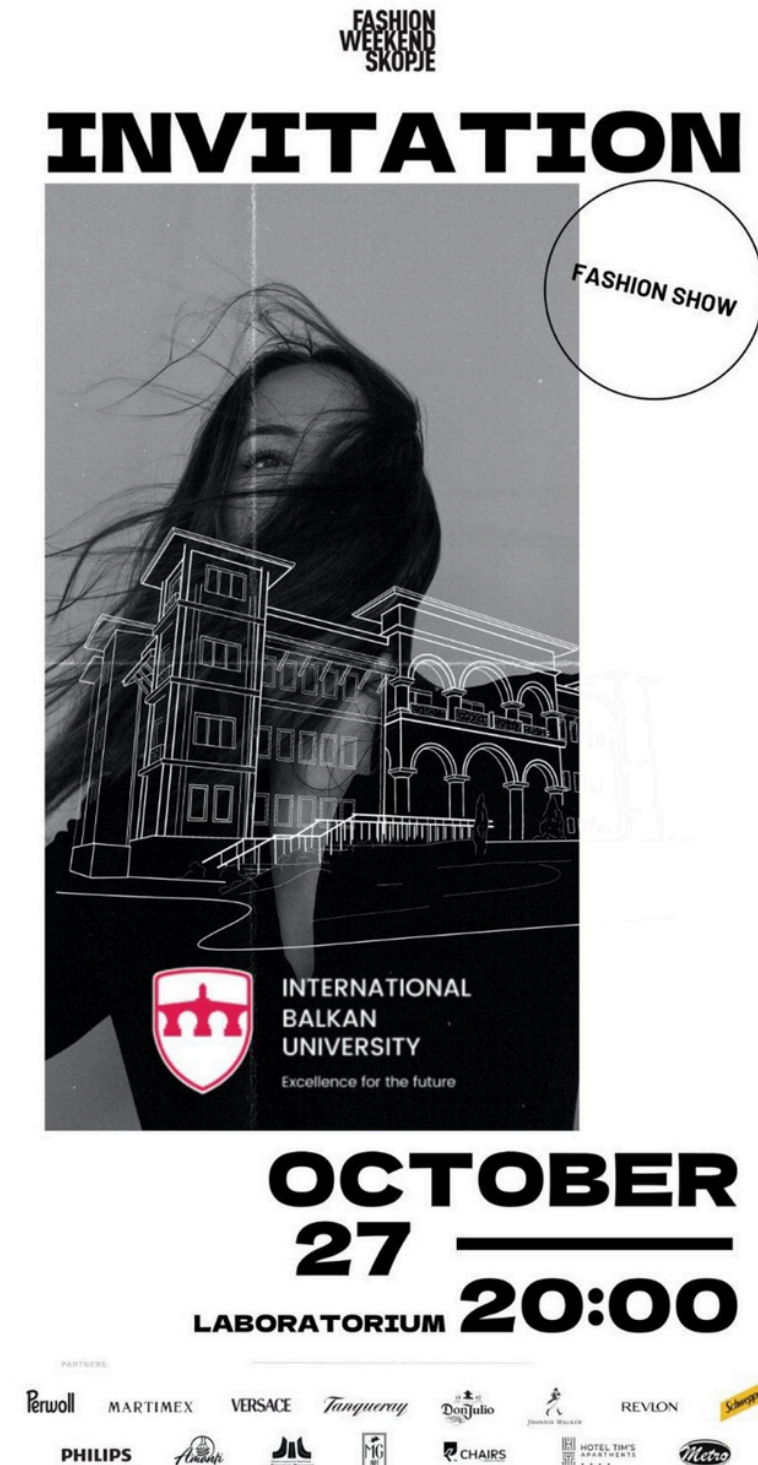
FIVE RESEARCH PAPERS FROM FACULTY OF ART AND DESIGN WERE PUBLISHED IN THE ISSUE OF IJAD

- “Historical References in Souvenir Design” Author
Asst. Prof. Ferhan Egemen Sunal IBU
- “Comparative Analysis of the Design Terminology”
Author: Svitlana Pryshchenko, Full Prof, Design
Department, STATE UNIVERSITY OF
INFRASTRUCTURE AND TECHNOLOGIES (SUIT,
KYIV UKRAINE)
- “Digital Fashion for Sustainable Cultural Diversity”
Author : Asst. Prof Emilija Slavkova IBU
- “AI - The New Technologies in Fashion: Reshaping and
Revolutionizing the Value Chain and Design Process”
Author : Marija Spaseska IBU
- “Adopting Circular Practices Across the Fashion
Industry: The Circular Model”
Author : Proff. Maja Gjureska IBU

STUDENT FASHION SHOW LABORATORIUM

The student showcase at Fashion Weekend Skopje highlighted the unique perspectives and boundless creativity of the next generation of Macedonian designers. Students from the Faculty of Art and Design at International Balkan University, including Rinessa Ahmeti, Sureja Yakupi, Marigona Rahmani, Hava Yahya, Hristina Gjordjieva, Luna Avramovska, Oja Osman, and Kefajet Ismaili, each brought their own stories and cultural influences to life through fashion.

Guided by mentors Maja Gjureska, Emilia Slavkova, and Medina Hoxha, these young designers blended traditional elements with cutting-edge techniques, exploring themes of identity, heritage, and innovation. Each collection represented a fresh vision for the future of fashion in Macedonia. The show not only celebrated their immense talent but also offered a glimpse into a future where cultural roots and modern aesthetics come together in powerful new ways.

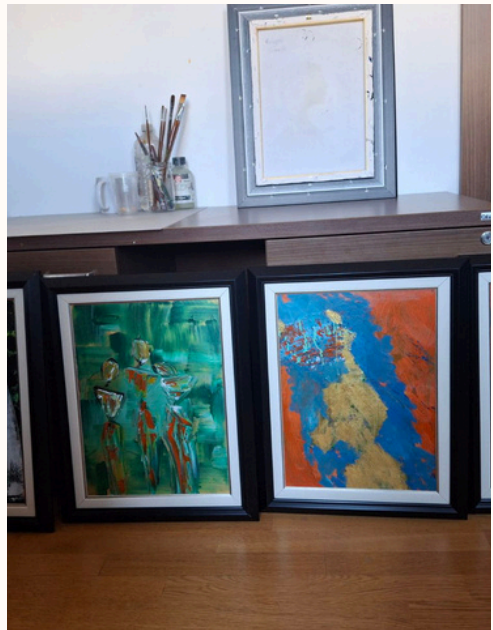






GIFT FUND

Student Assistents Anastasiya Radeska and Rijad Crnisanin and the Dean Proff.Dr. Aleksandra Ristovska from faculty of Art and Design have provided over 40 artworks for University's gift fund.



ART THERAPY

The Counselling and Psychological Service (CAPS) at International Balkan University recently organized a truly memorable and impactful Art Therapy Workshop, led by the exceptionally talented artist and teaching assistant Aleksandra Hadji-Naumova Atanasovska, with the support of the Faculty of Art and Design.

This inspiring event provided a unique opportunity for students to come together and engage in a transformative experience centered on self-expression, creativity, and emotional well-being through the therapeutic power of art.

Under the expert guidance of our teaching assistant Aleksandra Hadji-Naumova Atanasovska, participants were introduced to a variety of painting techniques, allowing them to explore and connect with their inner emotions. The workshop fostered a warm, safe, and relaxing environment, where students could unwind, express themselves freely, and discover the profound therapeutic benefits of art. The vibrant and imaginative paintings created during the session were a beautiful reflection of the creativity, resilience, and strength within our student community.

The event was an overwhelming success, offering not only a well-needed break from the stresses of daily life but also serving as a poignant reminder of the importance of prioritizing mental health and self-care.




HIGHLIGHTS



HIGHLIGHTS

HIGH SCHOOL VISITS

- On the 3th of March, the Faculty of Art and Design visited the high school for art Sh.M.P.K. "Gjoce Stojceski" in Tetovo. The purpose of the visit was to promote the faculty's programs and to establish connections with the high school for potential collaborations. The IBU promotion team, represented Prof.Dr. Aleksandra Ristovska, Asst. Prof. Emilija Slavkova and Asst.Prof. Medina Hodza .
 - The team from the Faculty of Art and Design was warmly welcomed by the school's president, who expressed his interest in working with the faculty.
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 - On Wednesday 05.03.2025, Prof. Dr. Aleksandra Ristovska, Prof. Laze Tripkov, and Prof. Maja Gjureska visited three high schools. They presented the International Balkan University (IBU) and faculty of art and design. The schools visited were SOU "Sv. Kiril i Metodij" in Negotino, SOU "Dobri Daskalov" and SOU "Kiro Spandžov - Brko" in Kavadarci. The professors introduced academic programs, scholarships, and Erasmus+ opportunities. Engaged students participated in discussions about their future education. The event strengthened ties between IBU and young talents.
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SULTAN II. ABDÜLHAMID HAN'S YILDIZ ALBUMS EXHIBITION & "OTTOMAN PERIOD IN MACEDONIA" PANEL

International Balkan University (IBU) hosted a prestigious cultural and academic event featuring the “Sultan II. Abdülhamid Han’s Yıldız Albums: Macedonia Exhibition” and the “Ottoman Period in Macedonia” Panel.

Organized in collaboration with the Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities (YTB) and the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Türkiye, the event attracted academics, students, and distinguished guests, highlighting the region’s shared historical and cultural heritage.

- Sultan II. Abdülhamid Han’s Yıldız Albums: A Glimpse into Ottoman Macedonia

The exhibition showcased historical photographs from the Yıldız Palace Photography Collection, commissioned by Sultan Abdülhamid II.

These meticulously preserved images from the late Ottoman period highlight the architectural, cultural, and social heritage of North Macedonia under Ottoman rule. Visitors had the opportunity to explore a rich visual history that connects the past to the present.

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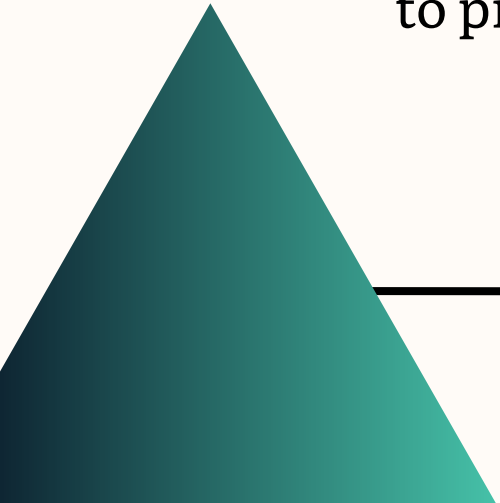


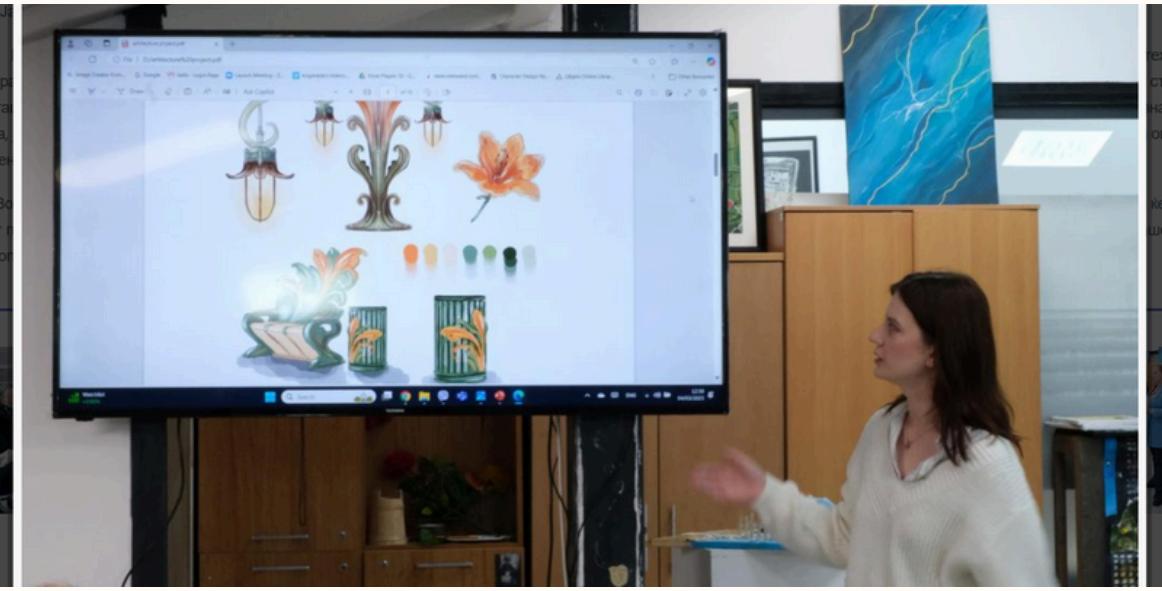


VISIT OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF KARPOŠ TO IBU

In accordance with the signed memorandum of cooperation between the Municipality of Karpoš and International Balkan University (IBU), a delegation led by Mayor Stevčo Jakimovski and members of the Municipal Council he visit the Faculty of Art and Design at IBU. On this occasion, following the brief introductory address by the head of the local government, the students of painting and digital art explained the concept, techniques, and inspiration behind the artworks they exhibited to the audience. Specifically, third- and fourth-year students from the class of Dean Prof. Dr. Aleksandra Ristovska presented their creative proposals through a professional presentation, offering conceptual solutions for the arrangement of parks within the territory of the Municipality of Karpoš. According to their vision, public spaces should be enriched with objects and structures dominated by amorphous organic forms, which would seamlessly blend into the natural environment. At this stage, it is only an initial initiative that is expected to develop further in collaboration with their colleagues from the Department of Architecture.

In this context, an open discussion was also held with Mayor Jakimovski and the councilors of Karpoš, aiming to find the most suitable solutions that would create more opportunities for mutual cooperation. Consequently, a delegation from the Municipality of Karpoš held a working meeting with the Rector of MBU, Ljutvi Sunal, where they discussed various options to provide support for student initiatives.





BU MASTER'S STUDENTS TO COLLABORATE WITH FASHION WEEKEND SKOPJE FOR HANDS-ON INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

A meeting was held with master's students under the guidance of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vladimir Gjorgjieski to discuss an exciting collaboration with Fashion Weekend Skopje (FWSK)—the most prestigious and longest-running fashion event in North Macedonia.

The partnership aims to provide students with hands-on experience in professional event branding, promotional material development, and active participation in the fashion industry.

This collaboration between Fashion Weekend Skopje and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vladimir Gjorgjieski's master's students marks a significant step in integrating education with industry practice.

By engaging in the event's promotional and creative aspects, students will not only refine their skills but also position themselves within the fashion and design industry.

The collaboration is expected to bring fresh perspectives to FWSK while offering students a unique platform to showcase their talents on a prestigious stage.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vladimir Gjorgjieski emphasized the importance of practical experience and expressed confidence in the students' ability to contribute meaningfully to the event's success. The meeting concluded with enthusiasm and a shared commitment to excellence from all participants.



HIGHLIGHTS



WORKSHOPS

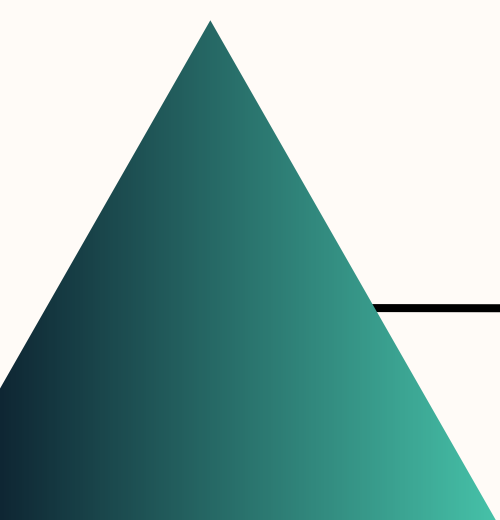
LEARNING TRADITIONAL BELT WEAVING TECHNIQUE

On 07.03.2025, the 4th year students of the Faculty of Fashion Design visited the Esnaf studio. Esnaf is a well-known craft brand dedicated to preserving and promoting traditional weaving techniques.

The workshop provided the students with knowledge about the weaving technique itself. The students saw different formats of looms that offer different results. They learned which yarns are suitable for this work, which are not, and saw how to make simple and complex motifs.

Each student, according to the instructions of Izabela Sokolovska, tried the process of setting, weaving and finishing the product. The students will be able to use these techniques in their final design projects in the course Fashion Accessories.

We are grateful to Izabela from Esnaf for her dedication and hospitality, patience and willingness to transfer knowledge to new generations of fashion designers who are opening new spaces to inspire with their innovative ideas using traditional working techniques.



XVI YOUTH SPRING SALON

On the 22.04.2024, with the beginning from 20:00h, the group competitive exhibition "XVI Youth Spring Salon" will take place at the National Gallery of North Macedonia "Mala Stanica".

This year students from different educational institutions for art and design from North Macedonia will present their works created by following this year's topic "Water as imperative".

IBU students from the Faculty of Art and Design are participating in this art event with their works made under mentorship of Prof. Srdjan Micic.

We cordially invite you to the opening of this competitive group exhibition to support our students.

Our student Anastasija Radeska has won the 3rd Award, and the student Arta Limani won the award for collection of paintings.



IBU STUDENT FASHION SHOW

The Faculty of Art and Design at the International Balkan University attend this year's Student Fashion Show as part of fashionweekendskopje, a showcase of emerging talent and creativity in fashion design.

This year's show presents the voice of a new generation of designers who are redefining fashion through bold perspectives and thoughtful innovation. From sustainable and ethical practices to reflections on street fashion as a socio-cultural phenomenon, and explorations of aesthetics and form, each collection tells a compelling story.

This was more than a show—it was a mirror of a generation shaping the future with purpose, creativity, and courage.

Featuring collections by:

Aysin Seryani

Angela Krstevska

Angela Popovska

Berna Ahmed

Ebru Kalinka

Eldina Dalloshi

Esra Fazliji

Enesa Bekir

Hava Jahja

Hristina Gjorgjieva

Kjefajet Ismaili

Lazime Lusjani

Luna Avramovska

Oya Osman

Rinesa Ahmeti

Sara Said

Sureja Jakupi

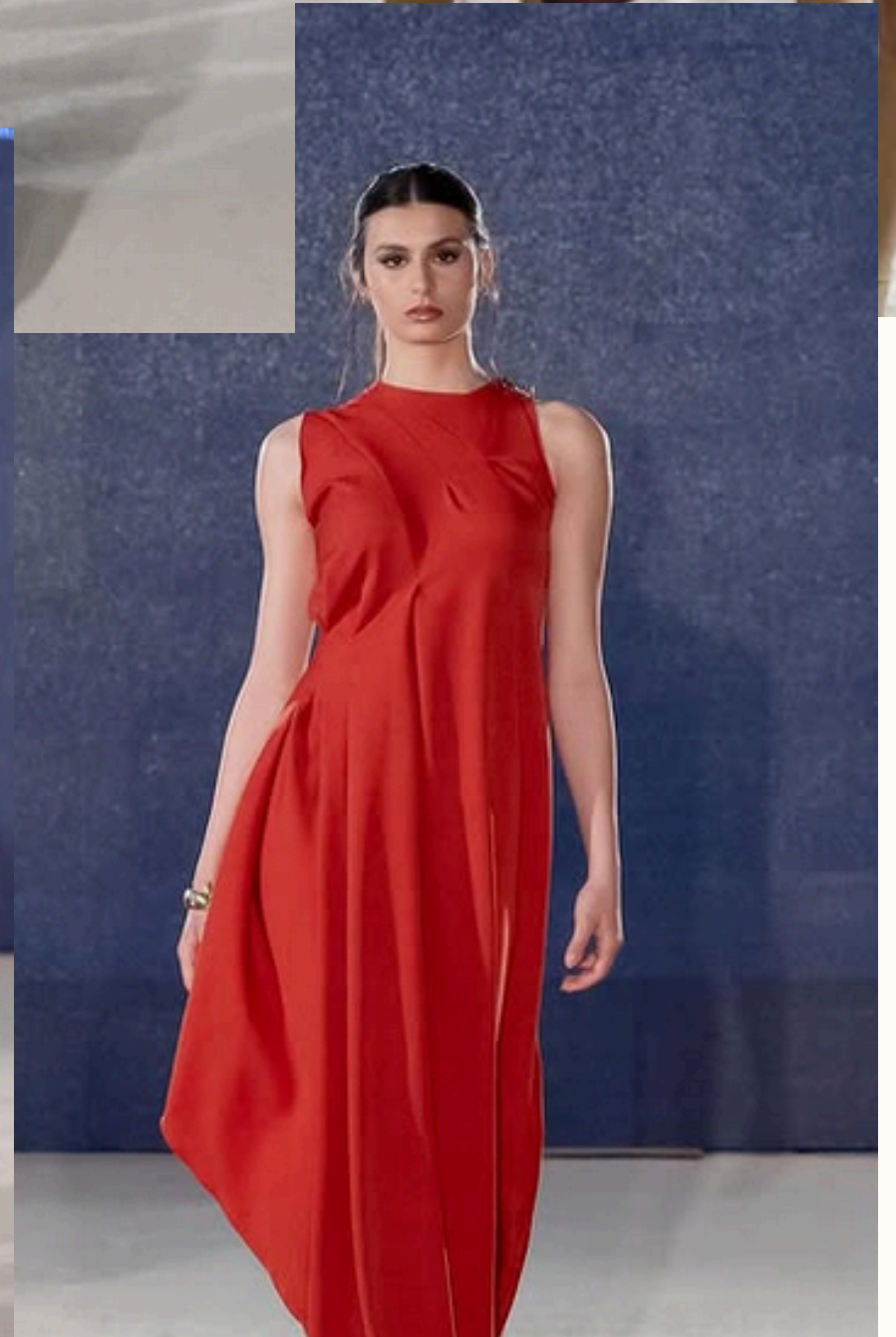
Marigona Rahmani

Mentors:

Proff: Maja Gjureska

Proff: Emilija Slavkova





LITERA FESTIVAL

Our second-year students in Graphic Design and Visual Arts, together with Prof. Srđan Micić and assistant Aleksandra Hadži Naumova Atanasovska, explored the magical world of children's literature at the LITERA festival!

Among the highlights was the wonderful retrospective of the artistic icon Orde Maneski, where his illustrations were presented for the first time!

The students had an inspiring meeting with contemporary illustrator Ivanka Niba, whose works presented at the festival bring fresh magic to modern children's books.

The visit offered valuable insights into the history of Macedonian illustrations and current trends in the world of children's literary art and visual storytelling.

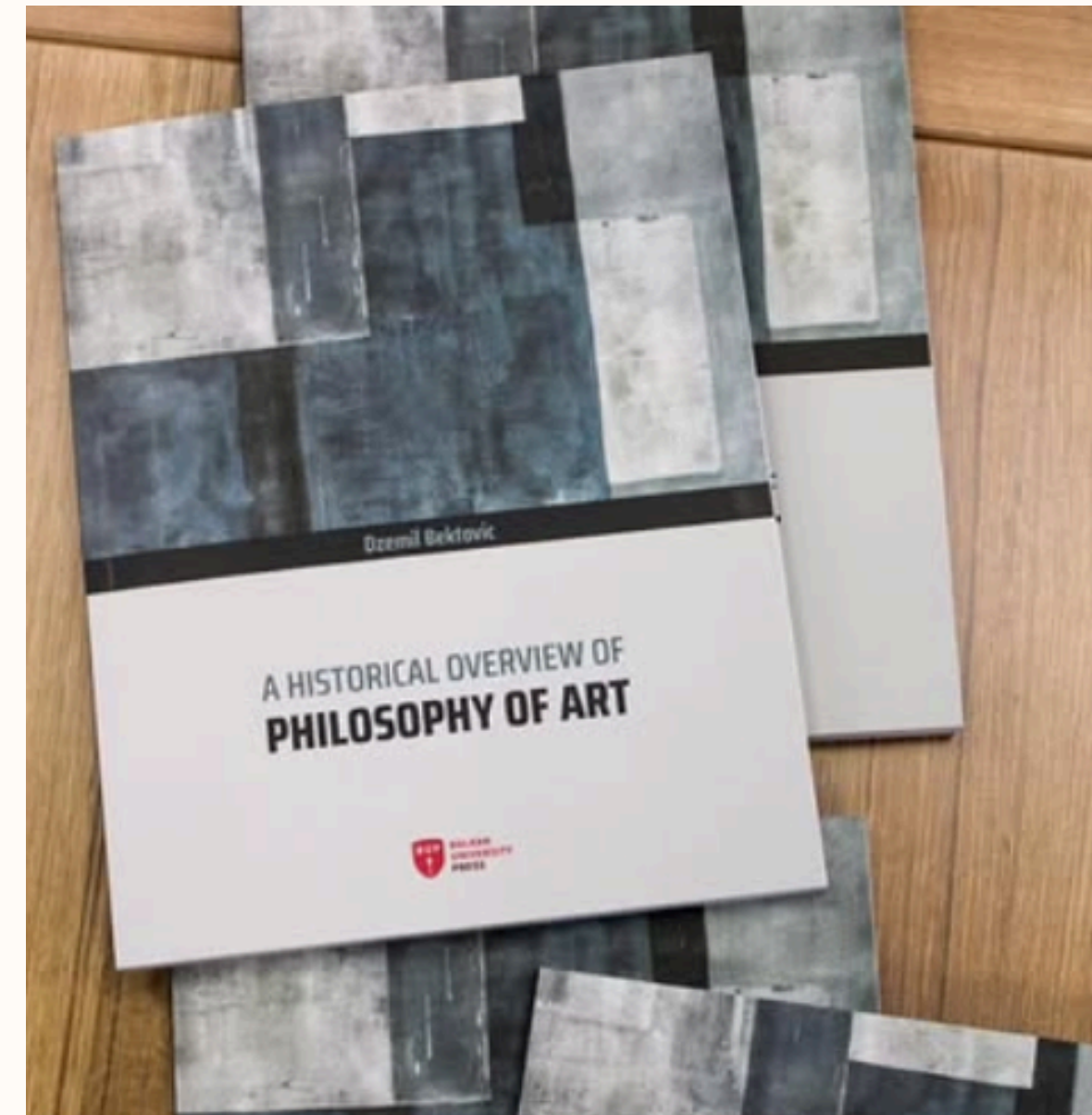




A HISTORICAL OVERVIEW OF PHILOSOPHY OF ART

We had the pleasure of hosting the official promotion of "A Historical Overview of Philosophy of Art" by Prof. Dr. Džemil Bektović initiated and supported by the International Balkan University and organized by Faculty of Art and Design.

The event brought together an inspiring panel of speakers and guests, including Prof. Dr. Bejtula Demiri, Prof. Dr. Hasan Džilo, Prof. Dr. Laze Tripkov, and Ms. Ivana Bećiragić of Balkan University Press. Together, they explored the timeless questions of art, beauty, and philosophical thought.





DIGIAGE GAME DEVELOPMENT CAMP 2025 OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED AT IBU

As part of this year's program, Professor Laze Tripkov from FAD delivered a presentation on "The Importance of Virtual Reality in Game Design."

The session delved into how VR is reshaping the gaming experience, emphasizing immersive design principles and the evolving role of storytelling in virtual environments.

The camp continues at International Balkan University until April 25, guiding participants from concept development to playable VR prototypes.



CHARACTER DESIGN

As part of this year's program, Teaching Assistant Aleksandra Hadji-Naumova Atanasovska from FAD presented "The Importance of Character Design in Video Games."

The session touched on the core principles of character design and the creative process of building characters that connect through visual storytelling.

The camp continues at International Balkan University until April 25, guiding participants from concept to playable prototype.





HIGH SCHOOL VISITS

- IBU Promotion Team Visits SUGS Georgi Dimitrov High School in Skopje.

As part of International Balkan University ongoing promotional activities the IBU Promotion Team represented by Vice Rector Prof. Dr Snezana Bilic and the Dean of FAD Prof Dr. Aleksandra Ristovska and Student Assistant Anastasija Radeska visited the High School in Skopje into present the university and its academic offering.

The team received a warm welcome from the school representatives and the students , who showed great enthusiasm and interest during the team's presentation. The session offered students in-depth insights into IBU's academic , programs , scholarships options and campus life.

We extend our warming thanks to the school representatives and students for their warm hospitality, active participation, and curiosity.





A NEW INTERPRETATION OF THE MACEDONIAN GLAGOLITIC ALPHABET

On April 11, the Institute of Slavic Studies at the Jagiellonian University hosted the official opening of the exhibition "Visual + Virtual: A New Interpretation of the Macedonian Glagolitic Alphabet" by the renowned Macedonian visual artist Prof. Laze Tripkov. The exhibition presents the Glagolitic script through an innovative virtual concept, offering a completely new perspective on this cultural heritage as part of immersive digital reality.

The author Prof. Tripkov, also delivered an lecture titled "The Immersion of Macedonian Glagolitic Alphabet in Virtual Reality ", attended by students from the Institute and streamed for students in Macedonia as well. It was an exciting experience to witness the Glagolitic script in such a transformative and contemporary light.

The exhibition will remain open until May 15, 2025. It is part of the celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of the Macedonian language lectorate at the Jagiellonian University.

The project is supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of the Republic of North Macedonia






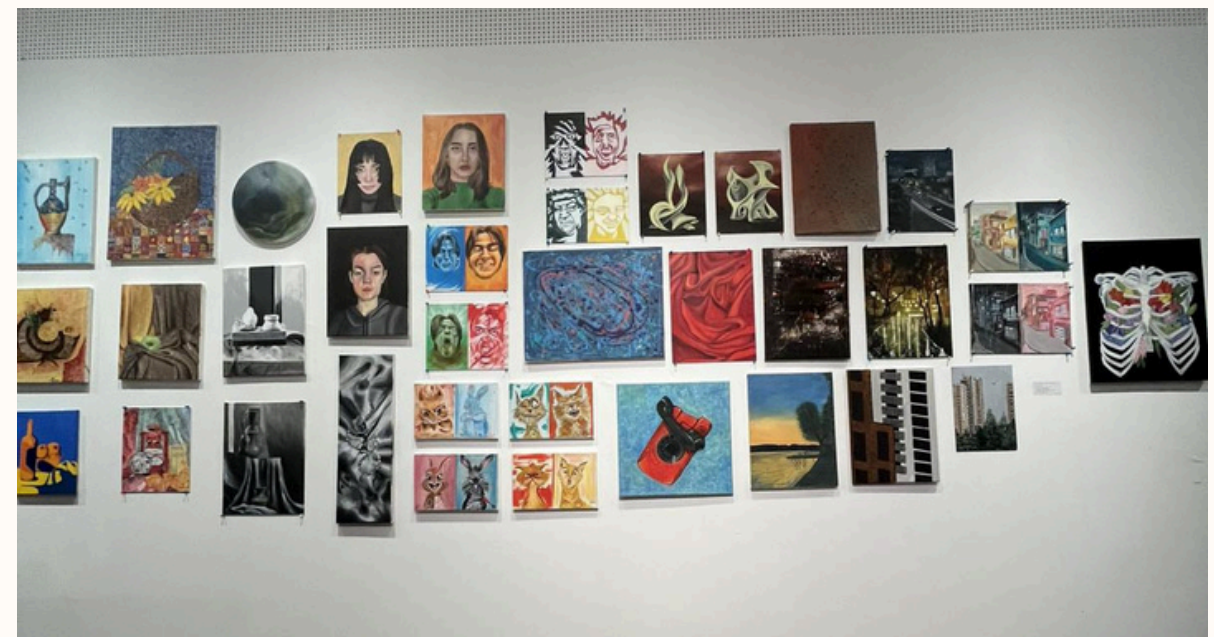
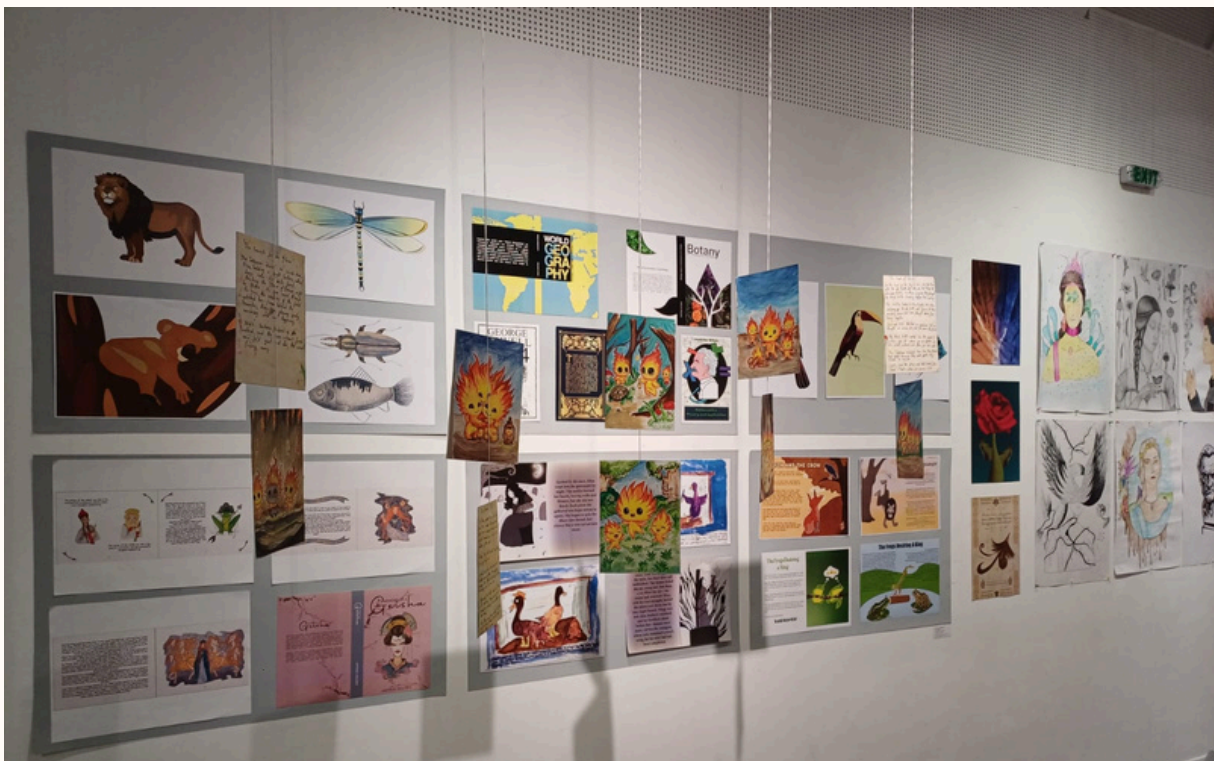
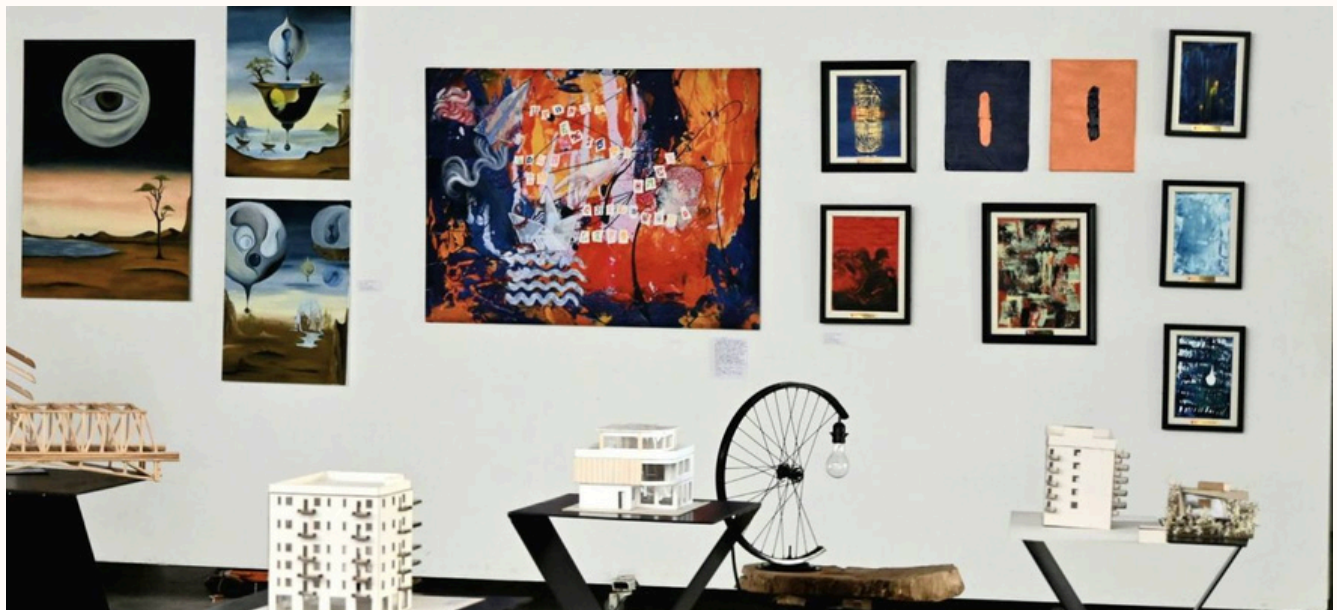
2025 ANNUAL EXHIBITION FAD

• As part of its end-of-year activities, the Faculty of Art and Design at International Balkan University proudly organized the 15th Annual Student Exhibition, hosted at the Museum of the City of Skopje. This milestone event brought together students from all departments, Visual Arts, Graphic Design, Interior Design, and Fashion Design, presenting a wide range of creative and academic work developed throughout the academic year.

The exhibition opened to a packed museum and a wonderful crowd of visitors, including families, colleagues, high school students, alumni, and members of the wider cultural and academic community. The atmosphere was vibrant and celebratory, offering our students a unique opportunity to share their work publicly and gain professional presentation experience.

Organized in close collaboration with faculty members, the exhibition reflected our commitment to hands-on learning, mentorship, and real-world engagement. It was a strong reminder of the talent and energy within our faculty, and a fitting conclusion to an inspiring academic year.





2025 ANNUAL EXHIBITION FAD

As part of this year's activities, the Faculty of Art and Design participated in the "Professors and Students" exhibition at MKC, held from June 17 to 30. The exhibition celebrated the creative exchange between faculty and students, presenting the results of their academic collaboration in a public setting.

Participants included:

Prof. Laze Tripkov with Ilka Sopi and Elena Dimcevska

Asst. Aleksandra Hadji-Naumova Atanasovska with Dilara Ibrahim and Teodora Bandeva

Prof. Maja Gjureska with Kjefajet Ismaili and Hristina Gjeorgjieva

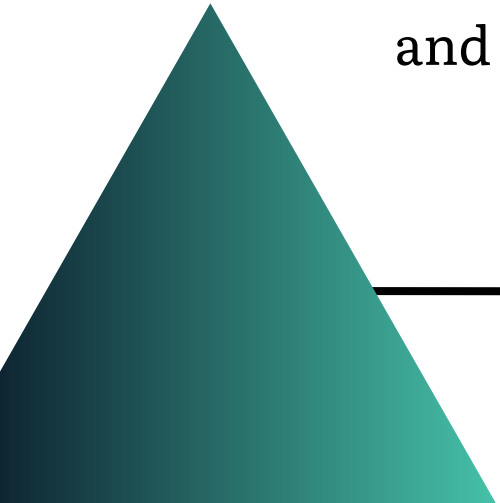
Asst. Prof. Ferhan Egemen Sunal with Flutra Bekteshi and Besijana Rushiti

Asst. Prof. Emilija Slavkova with Luna Avramovska

Prof. Srdjan Micic with Sare Kerimi and Katerina Tancevska

Lecturer Marija Spaseska with Anesa Redzepi and Hana Cakoli

The exhibition attracted a great audience and showcased the vibrant ideas, styles, and voices shaping the future of art and design.





PARTICIPATION OF IBU FACULTY OF ART AND DESIGN AT FEERIC FASHION WEEK 2025

On July 19, 2025, students from the Faculty of Art and Design at International Balkan University took part in the prestigious Feeric Fashion Week Gala held at Piața Huet in Sibiu, Romania. This internationally renowned event is known for promoting emerging designers and celebrating global creativity, innovation, and diversity in fashion.

Our students presented their collection titled "Reflections", which explored themes of sustainability, ethical design, and the intersection between streetwear aesthetics and conceptual fashion. The garments featured fluid draping, structured silhouettes, and a thoughtful material selection, including organic cotton, recycled denim, eco-leather, and reflective details. The concept emphasized modularity and versatility while expressing a critical view of contemporary fashion norms.

This participation marked a significant step for our students, providing them with an international platform to present their creative vision, engage with peers and professionals from across Europe, and experience the dynamic nature of a global fashion week.

