



BEYOND CONFLICT

&

THE UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL  
OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF LONDON

PRESENT

## CHILD OF WAR

A COLLABORATIVE EXHIBITION WITH  
ARABELLA DORMAN

Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral, Duke St, London

22<sup>nd</sup> May – 9<sup>th</sup> June 2024



# Child of War

Award winning war artist, **Arabella Dorman** is pleased to announce *Child of War*, a major new exhibition, featuring artwork created in response to current global events and Dorman's recent travels in Ukraine. Alongside Dorman's paintings and installation work, *Child of War* reveals war from a child's perspective, as told in their own voices and illustrated in their own hands.

Held in collaboration with the mental health charity **Beyond Conflict** and the **Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral** in London, the exhibition will feature art and literature by children from Ukraine, Syria, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan and Britain, depicting the devastating consequences of war as seen through their eyes.

Curated by Dorman and based on her first-hand experience as a war artist for nearly two decades, the exhibition will form a dialogue between adult and child, exploring the profound and lasting psychological impact of conflict related trauma, and the ways in which children of today may be rehabilitated and supported in our increasingly divided and violent world.



Makariv, Ukraine, 2023

*“I would try  
desperately to  
think about my  
childhood but I  
couldn’t.*

*The war memories  
formed a barrier  
that I had to break  
in order to think.”*

Ishmael Beah

Remains, Hostomel, Ukraine 2023







# ARABELLA DORMAN

*Fine Art & Portraiture*

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L O N D O N

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**Arabella Dorman** is an award winning, internationally renowned war artist and one of Britain's leading portrait painters.

Arabella's work explores the realities of conflict today, its immediate impacts and long-term consequences. She worked as an officially accredited war artist in Iraq and Afghanistan for over a decade, and in more recent years has worked in Palestine, Gaza, Lebanon, Syria and Ukraine.

Arabella enjoys a prominent reputation as a public speaker and fundraiser. She has been listed in BBC's Top 100 Women and Salt Magazine's 100 Most Inspiring Women and was awarded winner of the Oman Masterpiece 2021.

Her war paintings and humanitarian work has been profiled across international and national television, radio and print, including The New York Times, BBC, CNN, Aljazeera, Radio 4, BBC World Service, and featured on the front cover of The Times, The Guardian and The Sunday Times Magazine.

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# BEYOND CONFLICT

*"We're honoured to be associated with this important initiative. Our charity was set up to provide free mental health support to victims of war and the frontline workers who help them. Beyond Conflict's formation was inspired by the words of one young Iraqi refugee who fled ISIS in 2016.*

*"She told me victims of war urgently needed mental health support as 'we are drowning in memories'. Her words had a profound impact. Even after fleeing to a place of safety, they continued to live in terror. It has become clear through Beyond Conflict's work that providing mental health support is a literal lifeline."*

Beyond Conflict Co-Founder Edna Fernandes

Beyond Conflict is the mental health charity for victims of war, terrorism and displacement. Established in January 2018, our charity aims to deliver free mental health support and training to survivors of conflict and to frontline workers serving them. Working with local partners on the ground, we have projects helping Ukrainian refugees; Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh who fled the 2017 Myanmar genocide; and helping widows and orphans in southern Iraq. We are currently working to develop a project to support civilians in Israel and Gaza. We believe that every person in the world should have the right to access free mental health support.

For more information on *Child of War* or *Beyond Conflict* please contact:

Edna Fernandes, Beyond Conflict Director Co-Founder: [ednalouisa@gmail.com](mailto:ednalouisa@gmail.com)

Dawn Chamarette, Beyond Conflict Communications Head: [dawnchamarette@gmail.com](mailto:dawnchamarette@gmail.com)

## Narmina Mammadova

*Child of War* will be presented in partnership with Narmina Mammadova, founder of the art competition, *War Through Children's Eyes*. Now in its second year, *WTCE* was organized by the Azerbaijani Community, as a tribute to the 30th anniversary of the Khojaly massacre that took place in Azerbaijan on 26<sup>th</sup> February.

Since its implementation, *WTCE* has provided a powerful conduit for schools and parents to engage with children about the realities of war and how they can help affected children.



*"I decided to do more to give a voice to voiceless children affected by wars around the world.*

*... to raise awareness of the issue and give children a platform to express their understanding of conflict through art and writing."*

War Through Children's Eyes Founder, Narmina Mammadova

