

## GEORGIAN PHOTOGRAPHY

Vakhtang Egiazarovi  
Photography

### Annotation:

The publication is dedicated to the history of the development of Georgian photography. When did Georgia join the unique world of photography, who was the first Georgian photographer who laid the foundation for the development of Georgian photography, who are the Georgian photographers who took Georgian photography outside of Georgia and introduced it to the general public.

The development of technology brought popularity to photography, and Georgia soon became involved in photography. Photographers who created Georgian photography came. At the end of the 19th century, a society of amateur photographers was formed in Tbilisi. In 1893, the first meeting of the Society of Amateur Photographers was held in Tbilisi. Since portraits, architecture, and family photos were the work of photographers at that time, the Society of Photographers set out to facilitate the study of photography, to diversify it, and to use it in various fields.

Alexander Roinashvili (1846-1898) played an important role in the history of Georgian photography. He was the founder of Georgian photography and the first Georgian professional photographer who had his own photo workshop (later he opened two photo workshops). Roinashvili opened the first dormitory for students near one of the workshops, which he financed himself and taught photography himself. The main theme of Alexander Roinashvili's work was the life of the Georgian nation, their economic and social existence. In 1880-89, A. Roinashvili traveled to different parts of Georgia and created a lot of interesting materials. He played an important role in the formation of the literacy society. After the death of Aleksandre Roinashvili, his property was transferred to the literacy society according to his will. Currently, a large part of Alexander Roinashvili's archive is preserved in the collection of the National Museum of Georgia.

Nino Jorjadze (1884 - 1968) is the first Georgian female photographer who created a photo chronicle of the First World War. She received her education in Europe, however, as soon as the war started, she joined the "International Red Cross Organization" and went to war as a nurse. In his diaries and photographs, he depicted the military actions of the First World War, daily news from the front, views of war-torn cities. He left more than 300 photos depicting the war to the public. The documentary chronicle of the war and the chronicle of the tragic events of the war. Nino Jorjadze's photographic work occupied a unique place in the history of Georgian photography.

Yuri Mechitov (1950), a professional photographer, engineer, teacher, occupies an important place in modern Georgian photography. 1980-1990 He was the photographer of the Institute

of Hydrometeorology, since 1986, the newspaper "Georgian film". Photocorrespondent, 1992-96 Rustaveli Theater photographer, 1996-2002 one of the heads of "Photo Bank". 1998-2002 art photography teacher at the Institute of Culture. In 2002-2004 he was the photo editor of the "Main Newspaper", in 2008-2010 he was an associate teacher at the Film Faculty of the Sh. Rustaveli State University of Theater and Cinema. In 2011, he founded and gives lectures at the Mechitov-Deisadze Photo Workshop. In 2012, he was the Deputy Minister of Culture and Monument Protection. He has participated in about 200 group and personal photo exhibitions. He worked for a number of publications as a designer, photographer and photo editor. He is the author of many photographic projects, including 5 projects commissioned by the World Bank. He has published public and creative publications, and is also the author of several prose works. Filmed in several feature films and documentaries. In 2009, the album "Sergo Farajanov-chronicle of dialogues" was released, in 2010 the album "101 portraits of Mechitov" was released, in 2014 the album "Sergo Farajanov in Yuri Mechitov's photos". Yuri Mechitov is still engaged in teaching activities.

Guram Tsibakashvili (1960) - photographer, chemist, art worker is one of the outstanding figures of Georgian photography. He has been working in the photography industry for a long time. His name is associated with the establishment and opening of many galleries, exhibitions, magazines, and museums. He recorded many priceless and historical shots for the history of Georgia on tape. His documentary and street photography has been the most important documentation since 1988. In his works, there are a lot of unique shots of the civil war of Georgia freed from the Soviet Union and the chaos that existed at that time. Guram Tsibakashvili is a participant in 20 personal and 60 group exhibitions. Some of his works are preserved in the Brooklyn Museum of Art, as well as in private collections: in Germany, USA, Amsterdam and Tbilisi. He has participated in group exhibitions: Berlin, Bratislava, New York, London, Vienna, Paris, Kyiv and Basel. He taught theory of photography at Tbilisi State University, worked as a photo correspondent for various magazines. He has published articles on photography and contemporary art. Guram Tsibakashvili is still engaged in teaching activities in the photo studio "Kolab".

Yuri Akofov is a modern professional photographer. He is a member of the Professional Photographers of Europe. In 2017, Yuri Akofov became the best wedding photographer in Europe and the owner of the Golden Camera. In 2018, he entered the top five in the wedding category and the top ten in the fashion category at the European Professional Photography Awards. In 2019-2020, he became the owner of the "Silver Camera" by the European Professional Photographers. He is the owner of the bronze medal of the United States Photographers Association, and is also the winner of several Georgian photo contests. He is the founder and lecturer of the course at the "Yuri Akofov Academy of Photography" where he continues to teach.