

# Bishkek Feminale: Results

THE FINALE OF HISTORY AND FIVE EXHIBITS OF THE SCANDALOUS EXHIBITION

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*Head First Into Emotional Development* -Amy Bassin, Mark Blickley, Frie J. Jacobs

*Head First Into Emotional Development* is made at the junction of the formats of the book of the artist and zine. Involving the genres of collage, graphics, abstract painting and minimalist poetry, the project tells about the female experience of gaining subjectivity. In fact, the authors continue the line of thought proposed by Simone de Beauvoir and partially developed by Betty Friedan.

Three books examine the attainment of female subjectivity and the overcoming of the “mystery of femininity.” The first book, “No Head, No Pain,” talks about meeting the expectations of the patriarchy. Drawings of naked headless women illustrate the topic of abandoning the individual in favor of social comfort: if a woman does not have a head, if she does not position herself as a subject with respect to surrounding reality, then she can ignore the painful restrictions imposed on her gender.

In the second book, “Saving Face,” women face the repressed part of their inner life. The person they save is their individuality, hidden behind the image of an “ideal” attractive woman, convenient for society. The mask image allows you to avoid confusion and toxic masculinity, but the suppression of subjectivity leads to painful frustration. One of the figures depicts a sword that cuts off the heads of women: they are replaced by masks facing the spectator, behind which are hidden indignation and resistance.

The third book - “Body of Work” - is dedicated to the final stage of the woman’s emotional evolution: she rejects the mask of indifference and turns to building her subjectivity. Having survived sexual and economic violence, it strives for independence and self-realization and becomes the subject of a social system that can influence it and overcome difficulties.