

Russian Sculptor Arrested for Giant Turd Installation

January 18, 2022



podslushano.piter / instagram

A Russian sculptor has been arrested for laying a giant turd in a central St. Petersburg park, local media [reported](#) Monday.

“It’s so beautiful that I pooped myself,” quipped Ivan Volkov in a since-deleted Facebook post that included a photo of his long, brown snow sculpture, according to St. Petersburg’s Bumaga news website.

Images of the fecal installation in the middle of St. Petersburg’s Field of Mars memorial park had circulated online since Thursday and immediately drew the authorities’ attention.

Municipal services told the Podyom news website that they removed the five-meter sculpture by Saturday. It attached a photo of the discolored figure with a snow head on one end, which the outlet said made the sculpture resemble a “caterpillar.”

Police arrested Volkov, 29, on charges of desecrating a burial ground, for which he faces

between three months and five years in prison.

St. Petersburg's Field of Mars houses a mass grave of victims of Russia's 1917 revolutions and civil war.

A police file [cited](#) by the Fontanka news website accused Volkov of “deliberately, cynically and immorally” placing “an art object made of snow in the form of giant feces in a yellow puddle.”

Volkov's mother [told](#) Fontanka that the sculptor, whose social media page [contains](#) a variety of snow sculptures, has taken part in group exhibitions in Moscow, New York and Berlin.

Volkov graduated from Moscow's Institute of Contemporary Art and the Stroganoff Academy of Design and Applied Arts. State media has previously [featured](#) his giant snow artworks, which have included tributes to delivery workers and public health officials battling the coronavirus pandemic.

The Znak.com news website reported later Tuesday that Volkov was [released](#) pending orders to appear in court.

Original url:

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2022/01/18/russian-sculptor-arrested-for-giant-turd-installation-a76068>