

3 МОСКОВСКАЯ БИЕННАЛЕ СОВРЕМЕННОГО ИСКУССТВА

PRESS RELEASE
5 June 2009

3 moscow biennale of contemporary art

**3 Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art
'Against Exclusion' – curated by Jean-Hubert Martin
The Garage, Center for Contemporary Culture Moscow
25 September – 25 October 2009
Opening: 24 September 2009**

Organizers:

**Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation
Moscow Government
State Museum and Exhibition Centre ROSIZO
Moscow Biennale Art Foundation**

The Organizers are delighted to announce details of the 3rd Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art. Entitled 'Against Exclusion' and curated by Jean-Hubert Martin the exhibitions and events which comprise this year's Biennale will present groundbreaking work by artists from often marginalised centres of contemporary art, including Africa and Oceania, whilst maintaining the ethos of the first two Moscow Biennales by providing an international platform for Russian art.

For the first time, the Moscow Biennale will cohere under a single curatorial vision, and be focussed on a single exhibition space. 'Against Exclusion' alludes to the capacious and open-minded conception of the contemporary art scene which animates the exhibitions and events of the Biennale. Many of the artists presenting work will be known from the familiar art world networks of the gallery, the museum, the art fair and the art biennale. The 3rd Moscow Biennale will seek however to place such artists in the context of the intense creativity that resides outside the conventional art circuit. Artists working at the fringes of the art world – from territories that do not fit on the usual maps of contemporary art production and consumption, and whose practices elude received ways of making and seeing work – will be shown in a spirit which aims to avoid didacticism, but nonetheless aspires to an inclusive global survey in the name of free creation.

The main exhibition of the 3rd Moscow Biennale will be shown in The Garage Center for Contemporary Culture Moscow, which has recently been renovated and inaugurated with an exhibition by Ilya and Emilia Kabakov in September 2008. This venue offers an outstanding one-level display space in a single room with a surface area of 8,500 m², and will provide a physical and conceptual focus for the Biennale. A number of collateral events and exhibitions will also take place around the city, constructing a dialogue with the principal exhibition and offering visitors the chance to address the notion of a globalised and decentred world of contemporary art from a range of perspectives.

The previous two Moscow Biennales were conceived as multi-curatorial projects and were developed by the international curatorial team under the direction of Joseph Backstein. For the forthcoming edition of the Biennale the renowned French curator Jean-Hubert Martin was appointed as the sole curator. Olivier Varenne of the Museum of Old and New Art in Hobart,

Tasmania, and Mattijs Visser (Zero Foundation, Düsseldorf) will assist him in his office. A number of museums and collections will contribute to the Biennale, lending works by artists from different continents: the CAAC (The Contemporary African Art Collection) and the MONA (Museum of Old and New Art) in Hobart, Australia. The Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art was established to bring focus to the hitherto neglected Russian art scene, to create a forum for the exchange of ideas between arts professionals, and to strengthen Moscow's unique position in the network of cultural capitals of the world.

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Curatorial statement – Jean-Hubert Martin

The organizer of an exhibition normally chooses a theme. In addition to the danger that the works will only illustrate the curator's thesis, artists in the past have often rebelled against this practice on the premise that their creative work should take precedence over a subject imposed by the curator. The compilation of works may seem superficial in light of the theme, or artistic directions may be overlooked to remain consistent with the theme.

For this reason, the *Biennale* is intended to be a panorama of works from all over the world—a concept that in itself is nothing new, but that aims to provide a wide variety of examples of the wealth and diversity of creativity throughout the world.

The title « *Contre l'exclusion* » (Against exclusion) refers to basic citizens' rights as well as to the aesthetic world now available to curious enthusiasts for all forms of art.

Even a short time ago, modern art has been defined as opposed to older art. The 2007 *Artempo* exposition at the Fortuny museum in Venice proved that this is no longer true today. Periods of consolidation have followed periods of analysis and research in complexity. Globalisation has ushered in a period of consolidation through real-time transmission of information, or at least of certain information, over the Internet. The risk is that globalisation will lead to homogenisation, as we have observed in the economy. The objective of this *Biennale*, however, is precisely to combine globalisation and heterogeneity by exhibiting hybrid works resulting from the unlimited cultural mixing in progress today. The art world has adopted integritism as an approach to this incredible mixing.

When art is considered less in terms of breaks than of continuity, it can be situated within a lengthy history. This outlook is not customary in the contemporary art world, perpetuated through ongoing amnesia maintained through cyclical avant-garde proclamations or more simply through successions of trends. It is true that addressing an historical perspective is at odds with more radical creativity. The lessons from history make us suspicious of the effects of trends and their pretences, while attention to creativity requires passion, that if not blind must at least be supported with virtually artless freshness. History teaches us the permanence of constants, while the contemporary approach seems only to focus on repetition, whereas creativity requires passion for originality, and a commitment to newness.

Art from the 1970s—conceptual and minimal art, and *arte povera*—has often seemed to push art to its formal limits, to defy any commentaries, to the point where any exegesis becomes vain. The commentary was quite vengeful and totally dominant. We have only to consider the literature devoted to the "void" in art. These trends taught for some time in the schools have been a source of academism and obsession with intellectualism. According to this current of conceptual art, art is only an illustration or transposition of a philosophical concept or policy. Art has more complex ingredients: it requires an alchemy of distanciation and engagement in one's era, for which the being's investment transcends any marketing strategies.

Inclusion in one's era does not require literality in art vis-à-vis the events.

In a disenchanted world dominated with positivism and materialism, the artist still has the possibility to move and delight with his or her own means (which can appropriately be called a language): shapes and colours, by reconstructing a world with the often archaic processes

available to the artist. As a result of the domination of linguistic semiology and, in its mobility, conceptual art, the specific language of the visual arts has veered towards discourse and writing. Now, artists have from time immemorial communicated among themselves through visual thought deriving from nonverbal ideation. In psychism, it is the site for intuition and sensitivity that functions concurrently with language and logic, but does not necessarily require verbal or linguistic expression. This visual thought makes trans-cultural interpretations possible.

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List of the Artist

1. Marina Abramović
2. AES+F
3. Aji V.N.
4. Yury Albert
5. Ghada Amer
6. El Anatsui
7. José Bedia
8. Michel Blazy
9. Blue Noses
10. Alexander Brodsky
11. Frédéric Bruly Bouabré
12. Céleste Boursier-Mougenot
13. Maurizio Cattelan
14. Chéri Chérin
15. Sheba Chhachhi
16. Dinos and Jake Chapman
17. Ivan Chuikov
18. Tony Cragg
19. Berlinde de Bruyckere
20. Wim Delvoye
21. Braco Dimitrijevic
22. Atul Dodiya
23. Anita Dube
24. Gloria Friedmann
25. Dmitry Gutov
26. Fiona Hall
27. Aspassio Haronitaki
28. Leni Hoffmann
29. Romuald Hazoumé
30. Huang Yong Ping
31. Jean-Olivier Hucleux
32. Alfredo Jaar
33. Anish Kapoor
34. William Kentridge
35. Kimsooja
36. Valery Koshlyakov
37. Agatoak Kowpsi
38. Juul Kraijer
39. Samuel Kane Kwei
40. Jean-Jacques Lebel
41. Alexander Lobanov
42. Rafael Lozano-Hemmer
43. Heinz Mack
44. Esther Mahlangu
45. Djambawa Marawili
46. Christian Marclay
47. Annette Messager
48. Tatsuo Miyajima
49. Vik Muniz
50. Doreen Reid Nakamarra
51. Ernesto Neto
52. Anatoly Osmolovsky
53. Mike Parr
54. Pavel Pepperstein
55. Julius Popp
56. Markus Raetz
57. Ravinder G Reddy
58. Reynold Reynolds
59. Claude Rutault
60. Chéri Samba
61. Conrad Shawcross
62. Chiharu Shiota
63. Yinka Shonibare
64. Jason Shulman
65. Roman Signer
66. Haim Sokol
67. Gerda Steiner & Jörg Lenzlinger
68. Yuan Sun and Yu Peng
69. Wolfgang Tillmans
70. Cyprien Tokoudagba
71. Dmitry Tsvetkov
72. Tunga
73. Spencer Tunick
74. Koen Vanmechelen
75. Stanislav Volyazlovsky
76. Regina Wilson
77. Nawurapu Wunungmurra
78. Erwin Wurm
79. Yang Jiechang
80. Afghan Carpets

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Special Guest Program

The Special Guest program presents personal expositions of the outstanding contemporary artists. The important figures of the modern art scene.

Olga Chernyshova, Russia

Venue: to be specified

Antony Gormley, Great Britain

Project: Domain Field

Venue: The Garage Center for Contemporary Culture Moscow

Dates: July 16 – September 2, 2009

www.garageccc.com

Antony Gormley, Great Britain

Project: Event Horizon

Venue: Moscow center

Dates: September 25 – November 22, 2009

<http://www.3rd.moscowbiennale.ru/en/>

Michail Grobman, Israel

Project: Collages

Venue: Moscow Museum of Modern Art

Dates: September 26 – October 25, 2009

<http://www.mmoma.ru/en/>

Bertrand Lavier, France

Venue: Moscow Museum of Architecture

Dates: September 25 – October 25, 2009

<http://www.muar.ru/eng>

Vladimir Sychev, Russia

Venue: to be specified

Vladimir Tarasov, Russia

Venue: Manage, Central Exhibition Hall

<http://www.mdf.ru/english/>

Luc Tuymans, Belgium

Project: Against the Day

Venue: BAIBAKOV art projects, Red October Chocolate Factory

Dates: September 25 – October 25, 2009

<http://baibakovartprojects.com/>

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Special Projects

American Communists in Moscow

Curator: Yevgeniy Fiks

Walking Tours

Art Digital

Venue: M'ARS, Centre for Contemporary Arts

Arte Povera

from the «Castello di Rivoli» collection

Curator: Olga Sviblova

Venue: Manage, Central Exhibition Hall

The Art of Connecting. New names

Venue: to be specified

Art on Site

Curators: Evgenia Vdovichenko / Karina Karaeva / Anna Matveeva / Alisa Prudnikova / Irina Chesnokova

Venue: National Centre for Contemporary Arts (NCCA)

Art or Death

Curator: Olga Golovanova

Venue: Moscow Museum of Modern Art (MMOMA)

Black Hole

Curators: Elena Yaichnikova / Nikolas Audureau

Venue: WINZAVOD, Moscow Contemporary Art Center

Brutally Yours

Curators: Tatiana Volkova / Andrey Parshikov

Venue: to be specified

Capitalism as Religion

Curators: Oksana Sarkisyan / Aleksey Pensin

Venue: The State Central Museum for Contemporary History of Russia

Focus on Korea

Curator: Yulia Tikhonova

Venue: The State Museum of Oriental Art

Gastarbaiters of Spirit

Curator: Maria Sigutina

Venue: The Elena Berezkina Foundation for Visual Art Support "Era"

G.L.U.K

Curators: Marina Koldobskaya, Anna Franz
Venue: Atelier №2

The History of Female Art in Post Soviet Environment

From feminism to gender problematic of 1990 – 2008.
Curators: Oxana Sarkisyan, Natalia Kamenetskaya
Venue: Moscow Museum of Modern Art (MMOMA)

Image of Man in Art: from Modernism to the Present Day.

Exhibition of works from Ekaterina and Vladimir Semenikhin's collection.
Curator: Aleksandra Kharitonova
Organizer and venue: EKATERINA Cultural Foundation

Interpretation of the object in the Moscow Conceptual movement.

From the collection of the Moscow archive of the contemporary art.
Curator: Aleksandra Danilova
Venue: to be specified

Kudymkor – Locomotive of the Future

Curators: Ekaterina Degot / Leonid Tishkov
Venue: WINZAVOD, Moscow Contemporary Art Center

M'ARTian Fields

Venue: M'ARS, Centre for Contemporary Arts

Moscow. TSUM. 2009

Curator: Oleg Kulik
Venue: TSUM Department Store

New Old Cold War

Curator: Yulia Aksenova
Venue: Red October Chocolate Factory

Not Toys

Curator: Irina Lebedeva
Venue: The State Tretyakov Gallery on Krymsky Val

Red - Red

Curators: Elena Tsvetaeva / Evgeny Umansky / Yulia Bardun
Venue: to be specified

Russian Povera

Curator: Marat Guelman
Venue: Red October Chocolate Factory

The Situation

Curator: Elizabeth M. Gardy
Venue: to be specified

Show and Tell

An artist and His Model
Venue: Stella Art Foundation

Sound in Z

Forgotten experiments in sound and electronic music in early 20th-century Russia
Curator: Christina Steinbrecher
Venue: Art Banking Club

Supernatural

Curator: Anna Bitkina

Venue: WINZAVOD, Moscow Contemporary Art Center

Surburbs. Tekstilschiki

Venue: on site project

Swedish Family

Venue: Moscow Museum of Modern Art (MMOMA)

Swedish Wall

Curator: Andrey Bartenev

Venue: Moscow Museum of Modern Art (MMOMA)

Ultra-New Materiality or Hommage to Restany

Curators: Teresa Mavica / Andrey Parshikov

Venue: Moscow Museum of Modern Art (MMOMA) at Ermolaevsky per.

Video Art@Dom Musiky

Curator: Antonio Geusa

Venue: Moscow House of Music

Wonder World. Waiting for a restless future

Curator: Stefano Pezzato

Venue: EKATERINA Art Foundation

Labor Movement

Curators: Sergey Khachaturov, Arseny Zhilaev

Venue: Project Fabrika

Visitor information

Main project official Opening: September 24, 19:00 (invitation required)
Opening hours: Monday – Thursday, 11:00 – 21:00, Friday – Sunday, 11:00 – 21:00
Address: 19A, Obraztsova str., Moscow, Russia
Admission: 100 rubles / 2,5 euro
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