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off white **cosmoscow**
foundation

6TH *OFF WHITE* CHARITY AUCTION OF CONTEMPORARY ART BENEFITING COSMOSCOW FOUNDATION WILL TAKE PLACE AT MMOMA EDUCATION CENTER ON JUNE 4



PRE-SALE EXHIBITION | MAY 30 – JUNE 10

Pictured from left to right: “Empire” by Oleg Kulik; a work from “Khimki Life” series by Vladimir Dubossarsky and Alexander Vinogradov; “Legionary” by Olga Tobreluts

6th *Off white* charity auction of contemporary art benefiting Cosmoscow Foundation will take place at MMOMA Education Center on June 4. Internationally distinguished curator, director and author Nicolaus Schafhausen along with Cosmoscow foundation curator Alexey Maslyaev have selected works by Russian and international artists united by the topic **“Beyond Luxury”**. The auction will be supported by **Ruinart** and **St. Regis Moscow Nikolskaya**. Pre-sale exhibition will be supported by **MMOMA, Cosmoscow Museum of the Year**.

The auction will feature 21 lots by the following artists: Maria Agureeva, Ludmila Baronina, Andrey Bartenev, Uta Bekaia, Vladimir Dubossarsky and Alexander Vinogradov, Natalya Gudovich, Dagnini, TOY crew. Irina Korina, Oleg Kulik, Kirill Kto, Taus Makhacheva, Irina Petrakova, Raul Diaz Reyes, Natasha Tarr, Anna Titova, Olga Tobreluts, Maksim Trulov & Ksusha Lastochka, Farhad Farzaliyev, Maria Cheloyants and Ustina Yakovleva.

A pre-sale exhibition featuring discussions with artists, collectors and representatives of the art community will open on May 30. The exhibition will be open to the public from 12 pm to 9 pm through June 10.

Beyond Luxury

Luxury has many meanings. In addition to the extrinsic pursuit of distinction, prestige and social affiliation, luxury can also have individual, primarily intrinsically motivated and thus immaterial reasons.

Nicolaus Schafhausen: *“Our quest for luxury is also shaped by unconscious motives. We all buy products because of their symbolic meaning that connects us with the world as a whole. This is also what makes a good art collector who knows how to distinguish between the different meanings of luxury. The art collector buys art that corresponds to his individual values and thus becomes the symbol of a lifestyle that connects with others through art. And that is perhaps the most luxurious thing about art: the exchange with the other.”*

Off white history

Within four years since the inaugural auction, this event has become one of the most renowned and highly anticipated moment in the Russian art calendar that traditionally feature works of both renowned and young artists whose growing amount of achievements reinforce the quality of the *Off white* auction. Over the years works of art from such well-established international names as AES+F, Patrick Demarchelier, Mark Quinn, Daniel Lefcourt, Erwin Olaf, Roland Flexner, and Rachel Howard, have been auctioned alongside the works of emerging but already acknowledged Russian artists, including Evgeny Antufiev, ZIP group, Polina Kanis, Sergey Kishchenko, Irina Korina, Taus Makhacheva, Alexandra Paperno, Alexander Povzner, Sergey Sapozhnikov, and Danila Tkachenko among others

In total, over the past five years more than 90 artworks from 70 different artists have been auctioned. Some of those works have appeared for the first time at the *Off white* auction. For three consecutive years (from 2014 to 2016), the auction cooperated with the Naked Heart Foundation, fetching more than €550,000. In 2017 and 2018, the auction was hosted together with Phillips auction house totaling €290,700 and benefiting Cosmocosw Foundation for Contemporary Art and its programmes.

Notes to editors:

Press preview and a lecture about the auction will take place on May 29 (welcome reception starts at 5:30 pm). MMOMA Education Center address: 17, Ermolaevsky Lane. Accreditation: pr@cosmoscow.com.

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Nicolaus Schafhausen is an internationally distinguished curator, director, author, and editor of numerous publications on contemporary art. Curator of the 6th Moscow Biennale 2015, Schafhausen is also a Visiting Lecturer at HiSK, Higher Institute of Fine Arts, Gent. He has curated a number of international festivals and exhibitions such as "Media City" Seoul 2010, or the "Dutch House" for the Expo 2010 in Shanghai. In 2007 and 2009 he was the curator of the German Pavilion for the 52nd and 53rd Venice Biennale, and for the 56th Venice Biennale in 2015 he curated the Kosovo Pavilion. In addition to curating innovative and experimental exhibitions, national pavilions and other ambitious curatorial projects, Schafhausen has extensive experience leading renowned institutions such as the Frankfurter Kunstverein, the Künstlerhaus Stuttgart, the Witte de With Center for Contemporary Art in Rotterdam, and most recently the Director of Kunsthalle Wien (until March 2019).

Alexey Maslyaev is a curator, cultural historian, the Head of the Research and Teaching Methodology Sector of the Moscow Museum of Modern Art Education Department. He is also a curator of the Cosmocosw International Contemporary Art Fair Non-Commercial Programme. He has been nominated for the Innovation Prize in the nominations "Curator Project" ("No Water Tomorrow" exhibition) and "Regional Project" ("Story Demands To Be Continued" exhibition)



Official Partner

Maison Ruinart was established in 1729 in the Age of Enlightenment. Today Ruinart is committed to contemporary art revealing audacious vision and innovative, immersive experiences. In 1896, the Maison cooperated with young Czech artist Alphonse Mucha: he designed an advertising poster glorifying the highest quality of Ruinart champagne. The art-work sparked a furore and made history as a magnificent example of Art Nouveau. Since then, Ruinart is inseparably related to contemporary art: the Maison works with the worlds' best artists and supports large exhibitions around the world. In the last 10 years, Ruinart collaborated with Maarten de Baat, Nacho Carbonell, Gideon Rubin, Herve Van Der Straeten, Pete Hein Eek, George Russell, Hubert le Gall, Erwin Olaf, India Mahdavi, Patricia Urquiola, Nendo, Ron Arad, Jaume Plensa and Liu Bolin who have created a great number of unique pieces of art.



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Official Hotel

The St. Regis Moscow Nikolskaya is located at the heart of Moscow, only a few minutes' walk from the Red Square and the Kremlin, the well-known Bolshoi Theatre, GUM and TSUM. Hotel has 210 spacious rooms and suites. St. Regis Moscow Nikolskaya offers guests Italian Osteria A Tavola, Robusto Cognac room, Orlov Lobby bar and lounge as well as 6 conference halls, including Rooftop Bar with a panoramic Kremlin view. Hotel's Iridium SPA is opened 24 hours and offers guests a sauna, steam room, 10-metre indoor pool and a fully equipped fitness centre. The hotel features the signature St. Regis Butler Service, providing anticipatory and personalized service to each guest.



Cosmoscow Museum of the Year

The Moscow Museum of Modern Art (MMOMA) is the first state Russian museum and was founded in 1999 by Zurab Tsereteli, President of the Russian Academy of Arts. His private collection of more than 2.000 works by important 20th century masters was the core of the Museum's permanent display and now it is one of the largest and most impressive collections of modern and contemporary Russian art, which continues to grow through acquisitions and donations. Today the Museum, with its six venues in the historic centre of the city, plays a vital part in the Moscow art scene. On of the buildings, MMOMA Education Center aims to become a platform for self-education, creative and social initiatives, academic research and will contribute the integration into the cultural life wide social groups. The Museum's permanent collection represents major stages in the formation and development of the avant-garde, especially in Russia. MMOMA's priorities are to promote young and emerging artists, bringing them into the contemporary artistic process, its own publishing program, laboratory expertise and to create inclusive projects. Today Museum develops special exhibition and education program for Russian cities. In 2019 MMOMA celebrates its 20th anniversary.

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Cosmoscow Foundation for Contemporary Art

The Foundation runs operations in three areas: execution of cultural projects, education, and replenishment of museum collections. The execution of cultural projects division includes such programmes as Artist of the Year and Institution of the Year. It also includes the Credit Suisse Cosmoscow Prize for Young Artists and the Ruinart Art Patronat grant. The educational division features Cosmoscow Talks and Cosmoscow Kids programmes along with the Cosmoscow Art Forum. As part of the replenishment of museum collections division, the Foundation acquires works of a contemporary artist to donate to a Russian museum selected as Museum of the Year. In 2017 works by Andrey Kuzkin were donated to the State Tretyakov Gallery, and in 2018 the collection of the Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts was enriched with video works by Taus Makhacheva. Systematically developing each direction, the Foundation forms a critical view of the art system's problems and contributes to their solution. It creates conditions for the professionalization of the environment and the visibility of Russian authors for the international community, thereby overcoming the gap between Russian and foreign contexts and forming a unified cultural field.

off white

Off white charity auction

Established in 2014, the *Off white* contemporary art auction is an annual charitable initiative of the Cosmoscow International Contemporary Art Fair. For three years (2014 to 2016) the auction benefited the Naked Heart Foundation totaling €550,000 in general. Since 2017, the auction benefits the Cosmoscow Foundation for Contemporary Art.