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Moscow
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2019 International
contemporary
art fair

RUINART TO BECOME COSMOSCOW EXCLUSIVE PARTNER

Moscow – Cosmoscow International Contemporary Art Fair and the House of Ruinart have signed a three-year partnership agreement. As part of this agreement, an acting performance by Maria Agureeva, who is this year's Ruinart Art Patronat winner, will be presented at the main venue of the Cosmoscow in Gostiny Dvor on September 6–8, 2019.

The Ruinart Art Patronat grant was established by the Cosmoscow Foundation for Contemporary Art in 2017 to offer support to contemporary Russian artists providing them with opportunities to create new work and evolve their practice. The long list for the Ruinart Art Patronat contest includes contemporary Russian artists nominated by Cosmoscow exhibitors. Each of the selected artists presented their site-specific project proposals for Cosmoscow and the winner is voted for by a panel of jury members. Alexey Martins was the first winner of the Ruinart Art Patronat. His *Black Forest. Black Sky* installation was presented as part of Cosmoscow 2018.

"I am very pleased that our partnership with Ruinart enters a new stage of natural development. It is important for us to cooperate with brands that support of art as part of their corporate mission. We are proud to present the Ruinart Art Patronat grant for the second year. Last year Alexey Martins became the winner and his installation was a central element of the Fair's visual appearance. I am glad that together we can give artists a chance to implement their projects," said **Margarita Pushkina, Founding Director of Cosmoscow.**

"Well-known for its close association with the world of contemporary art from the end of the 19th century, the House of Ruinart eagerly supports the most important art events around the world and collaborates with the most prominent representatives of contemporary art. We are very pleased that the global cooperation between the House of Ruinart and international artists translated into Ruinart Art Patronat, a Russian project which enables artists to bring their ideas to life and present their work at Cosmoscow, the most ambitious and large-scale event of the Russian art scene," said **Sebastien Vilmot, Moët Hennessy Russia Managing Director**

The 7th Cosmoscow International Contemporary Art Fair will take place at Moscow's most Gostiny Dvor on September 6–8 with the Collectors' and VIP Preview on September 5, starting the international art calendar. Cosmoscow will be supported by its long-standing partners: Main Partner Qatar Airways, Strategic Partner Credit Suisse, and Automobile Partner Audi. Two new appointments will help the fair to strengthen its positions at the international art scene: Simon Rees has been appointed as a new Art Director of the Fair, while author and curator Alistair Hicks has joined the Cosmoscow Advisory Board.

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.

Ruinart

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.