

OFF WHITE CHARITY AUCTION WAS HELD IN AN UNUSUAL ART SPEED DATING FORMAT AS PART OF THE COSMOSCOW 2020

The auction totaled €113,900

On Friday, September 11, the 7th Off white charity auction was held as part of the Cosmoscw 2020 in partnership with the Embassy of the State of Qatar to the Russian Federation, with the support of the Ruinar House and strategic partner v confession agency. The proceeds amounting to €113,900 will be donated to the Cosmoscw Foundation for Contemporary Art Support Fund except for the proceeds from the sale of the work by Ramin Nafikov, a participant in the 2nd Triennial of Russian Contemporary Art. They will be donated to the endowment foundation of the Garage Museum of Contemporary Art, Cosmoscw 2020 Museum of the Year. The hosts of the evening were Olga Shelest and Fedor Pavlov-Andreevich.

2020 is the year of non-standard ways out of any situation, so this year the Cosmoscw Foundation has reinvented the format of the traditional evening and invited guests to take a fresh look at the format of gala dinners, auctions and social interaction. Any auction is always an art speed dating, a dynamic meeting with art with quick decision making playing a key role.

The auction curated by Mohammad Salemy who offered the topic "Fiction & Forecast: New Generative Aesthetics" featured 23 artworks by Russian and international artists such as Vika Begalska and Alexander Vilkin, Anna Zhelud, Zina Isupova, Richard Kennedy, Taisiya Korotkova, Kirill Makarov, Takashi Murakami, Ramin Nafikov, Katja Novitskova, Pavel Otdelnov, Pavel Peptstein, Mika Plutitskaya, Alexander Plusnin, Alexander Povzner, Lev Povzner, Raúl Díaz Reyes, Jaanus Samma, Janek Simon, Alexandra Sukhareva, Aleksei Taruts, Margo Trushina, Artem Filatov, SLAVS AND TATARS

The Off white charity auction with the ART SPEED DATING concept became an art dinner of a new format where guests met with art and its connoisseurs in unusual conditions: three times during the evening the guests found themselves alone at the table with a new person without violating social distance.

The guests of honor of the auction, who were welcomed by the hostess of the evening Margarita Pushkina, the Founding Director of the Cosmoscw fair and the Founder of the Cosmoscw Foundation for Contemporary Art, were the Ambassador of Qatar to the Russian Federation Fahad Bin Mohammed Al-Attiya, Valeriya Rodnyanskaya, Boris Belotserkovsky, Anton and Victoria Borisevich, Inna Bazhenova, Anton Belov, Kseniya Chilingarova, Kristina Krasnyanskaya, Anna Andronova, Lana Grineva, Kseniya Tarakanova, Julia Chernova, Ilya and Valentina Davydik, Sergey Ryabtsov, and others.

Among the highlights of the auction were the works by **Pavel Otdelnov** (Cosmoscw 2020 Artist of the Year), and **Ramin Nafikov**, participant of the 2nd Garage Triennial of Contemporary Russian Art.

The evening ended with the concert of the famous American singer of Russian origin Polina who the Grammy Award for her collaboration with Eminem ("Legacy") and author of other hits that

made it to the top lines of the world charts. She presented her new project "Contessa" where she tries on dozens of different roles.

After dinner, the guests from Gostiny Dvor moved to Red Square in GUM for the official after party of the auction at the new BARBOSCO, where Mikhail Kusnirovich and Timur Guguberidze met the guests personally.

OFF WHITE AUCTION HISTORY

Since its inception in 2014, the Off white auction has become one of the brightest cultural events, which traditionally offers works of established and emerging artists. The works by internationally acclaimed authors such as Takashi Murakami, AES+F, Patrick Demarchelier, Mariano Vivanco, Marc Quinn, Daniel Lefcourt, Erwin Olaf, Roland Flexner, and Rachel Howard go side by side with pieces by young but already distinguished Russian artists, including Evgeny Antufiev, ZIP art group, Polina Kanis, Sergey Kishchenko, Irina Korina, Taus Makhacheva, Alexandra Paperno, Alexander Povzner, Sergey Sapozhnikov, Alexey Martins, Timofey Radya, Danila Tkachenko, and many others.

A total of over 110 works by 90 contemporary artists have been presented at the Off white auction over the course of six years with some of them making their first appearance. For three years in a row (from 2014 to 2016), the auction collaborated with the Naked Heart Foundation, collecting more than €550,000 during this time. In 2017 and 2018, the auction was held together with the Phillips auction house. In 2019, the Off white charity auction was held at the MMOMA Educational Center. Over the past three years, Off white's total revenue amounted to €394,700 with all funds going to the Cosmoscow Foundation for Contemporary Art and benefiting the implementation of its programs.

MOHAMMAD SALEMY

Curator of the 7th Off white charitable auction. Mohammad Salemy is an independent Berlin-based artist, critic and curator from Canada. Salemy is the Organizer at The New Centre for Research & Practice. He holds a BFA from Emily Carr University and an MA in Critical Curatorial Studies from the University of British Columbia. His writings have been published in e-flux, Flash Art, Third Rail, Brooklyn Rail, Ocula, Arts of the Working Class and Spike.

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