

off white

June 8, 2018, DI Telegraph

CHARITY AUCTION TO BENEFIT THE COSMOSCOW
FOUNDATION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART



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FULL LIST OF THE ANNIVERSARY OFF WHITE CONTEMPORARY ART CHARITY AUCTION'S LOTS

The auction will benefit Cosmoscow Foundation for Contemporary Art

Moscow, DI Telegraph, 8 June 2018

Fifth anniversary **Off white** charity auction, for the first time curated by an independent curator and gallerist **Leopold Thun**, announces the full list of lots. Among the lots of the auction are the art works by both established and emerging artists such as **Takashi Murakami, Dan Flavin, Mariano Vivanco, Augustas Serapinas, Olga Chernysheva, Nikolay Koshelev, Taus Makhacheva, Alexandra Sukhareva, Evgeny Antufiev, Alexandra Paperno, Yelena Popova, Evgeny Granilshchikov, and Andrey Kuzkin** among others.

The title of the auction “свет/light” assumes an ambiguity of meanings. The wide diversity of meanings of the word “свет/light” helped to carve out four different understandings of its meaning: ***as symbol of space, life and the otherworldly; as allegory of a political condition; as a physical phenomenon or natural agent that stimulates sight and makes things visible; as portrayal of a social situation.*** These four chapters, into which the auction is divided, are continually challenged as most works are simultaneously tapping into several meanings at once.

The auction will take place in partnership with **Phillips** auction house for the second year running. One again, it will benefit the **Cosmoscow Foundation for Contemporary Art**.

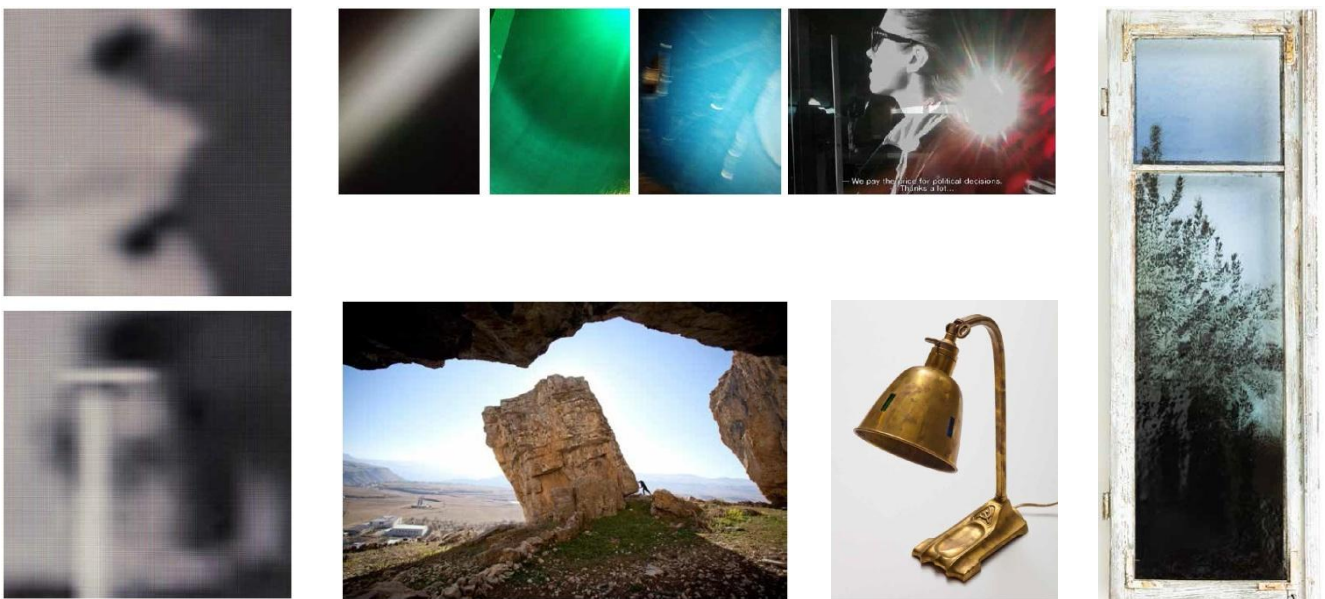
Auction will be supported by high-end luxury sport watch brand **Officine Panerai**, historically associated with the theme of light. For many years, Officine Panerai has been a supplier to the Royal Italian Navy, producing watches for them, an important feature of which was to ensure perfect readability even in low light conditions by using special luminescent substance. As a part of pre-auction exhibition preview Panerai will present for the first time in Russia – **L'Astronomo Luminor 1950 Tourbillon Moon Phases Equation of Time GMT Titanio 50mm**.

COSMOS AND TRANSCENDENCE



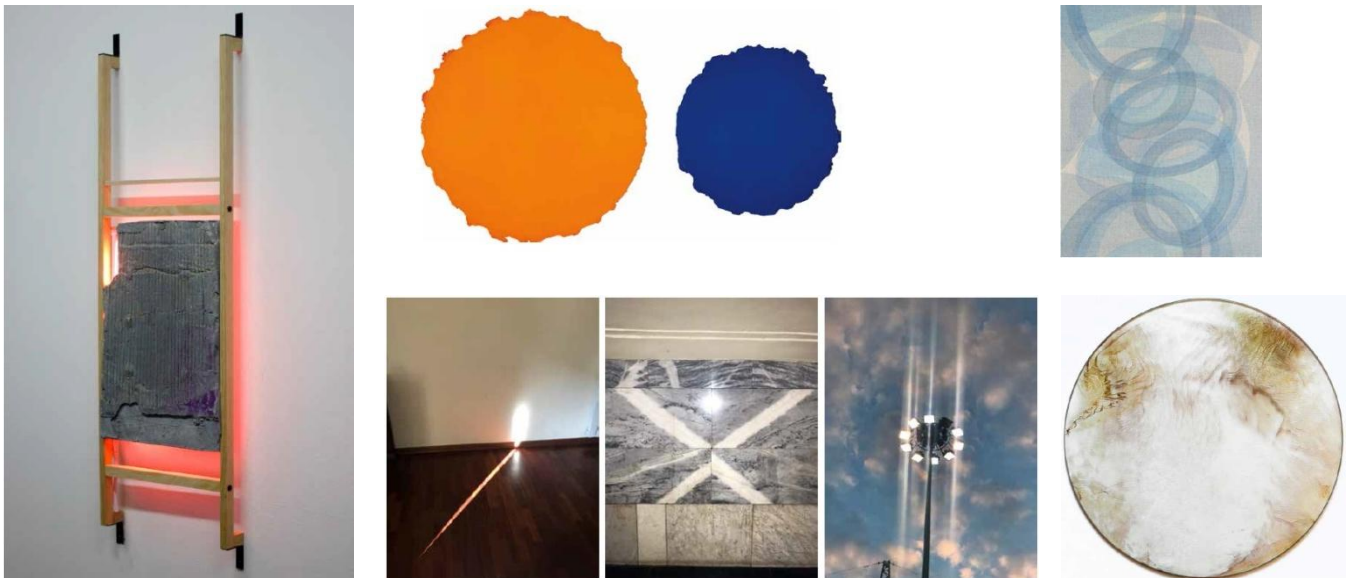
Takashi Murakami is best known for his contemporary combination of fine art and pop culture. In his lithograph *And Then x6 Red; And Then x6 Blue; And Then x6 Yellow* (2013) his stark imagery references extraterrestrial-like figures, playing with the reflective qualities of the smooth wove paper. **Nikolay Koshelev**, who was trained as a monumental painter, is one of the leading voices of painting working in Russia today. The transfer from monumental scale to canvas resulted in a unique painterly language. His work *Indika/sativa* (2017) brings together bold black brushstrokes with elements reminiscent of a night sky. Designed in 2016 for the legendary *The Observatory* project which took place at a remote observatory in the Republic of Karachay–Cherkessia, the elusive Yekaterinburg street artist **Timofey Radya** elevates monumental neon into the night sky, reminding us that the stars will always be brighter than us (the auction features 2016 photo *They Are Brighter Than Us*). In 1992 the International Astronomical Union convened in Rome, Italy, and officially abolished over fifty constellations which they deemed to be no longer valid. This list of the “victims” of unification and standardization forms the basis of **Alexandra Paperno**’s project represented at the auction with four works on paper (2016-2017) meticulously recreating the maps of the former constellations. The sale will also feature **Nicholas the Wonderworker icon**, a particularly elegant example of a late 19th century Russian icon. Its gilded background gives a further depth thanks to the light reflected back at the viewer.

POLITICAL ALLEGORY



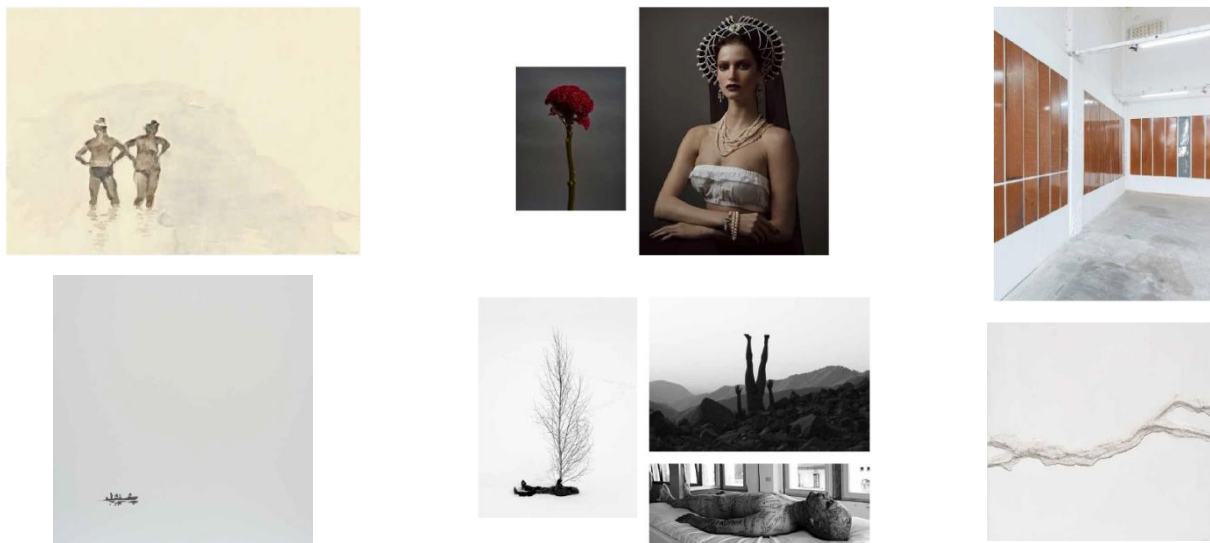
The series *Waiting for movement* (2011) by **Mikhail Tolmachev** is based on classified gun camera footage which was made available by Wikileaks in 2010, depicting the indiscriminate killing of over a dozen people in Iraq by US-American soldiers. The quadratic, blown-up, black-and-white images are visual fragments of those areas on a military screen, where the soldiers, waiting for movement, identified potential weapons in public space. *Untitled* photo-triptych (2017) and *At Dawn Our Dreams Become Brighter* video (2017) by **Evgeny Granilshchikov** are presented at the auction as one lot. Evgeny transforms his iPhone footage into a film-collage, where video-poetry, documentary and fiction are absorbed and mixed together, creating multilayer associations connected with personal and national histories. In her work titled *Endeavour* (2010) **Taus Makhacheva** questions the role of the artist in society. Pushing an immovable boulder to reveal the sunshine hiding behind it proves to be an impossible, herculean task. As the most prominent Lithuanian artist of his generation, **Augustas Serapinas's** practice is often aimed at restructuring socially engaged spaces. In the case of his *Untitled* work (2018) he safeguards local shed structures which are in a state of disuse and neglect due to a mass emigration that Lithuania has experienced since joining the European Union in 2004. The Soviet Empire style was not long-lived. Already by the later 1950s, with the beginning of the "era of industrial construction", the style became not just unfashionable, but was in fact criticised for "excessive ornamentalism." **Bronze lamp** from the 1930s offered for sale is a rare example of this significant approach to design.

PHYSICAL PHENOMENON



By using original seventeenth-century formulae for creating mirror surfaces, **Alexandra Sukhareva** creates uncontrolled patterns on prepared glass surfaces. One of such works titled *Afterword* (2018) is offered for sale. In his *Untitled* triptych (2017) **Evgeny Antufiev** visualizes three different types of light: the natural light shining through his living room window in Moscow; the artificial light radiating onto a football field and the glow of light reflecting off a block of marble in the Moscow subway. The seamless mutation from one physical state into another is a recurrent theme in the artist's oeuvre, who is opening a large solo exhibition in Palermo coinciding with Manifesta this summer. **Yelena Popova** creates elaborate paintings, paying special attention to artistic materials. Hand-drawn without using a stencil the *Parametric paintings* series is based on mathematically accurate compositions (for sale is one *Untitled* work from 2018). Through sculpture, painting and neon, **Levan Mindiashvili** focuses on the transitional, "liquid" state of today's social forms and deals with the fragility of current paradigms and value systems. The auction features his *Untitled* work from 2017. The American minimalist **Dan Flavin** is widely recognised as the godfather of light works. In the rare case of *Guggenheim Tondo: two works* (1994) he made use of circular colourful shapes in the form of two double-sided mezzotints in two colours on handmade paper to convey his interest of dialoguing with the surrounding space.

SOCIAL SITUATION



Mariano Vivanco is one of today's leading fashion photographers who has been experimenting with portraits, nudes, and flowers all of his life. This delicate diptych, featuring a flower and a model wearing a traditional Russian headdress (*Lonely Brain, London, 2015; Russian Hat I, 2011*) is a prime example of the intimate and direct style that made him one of the most sought after photographers of his time. *Close people* (2016) is a monumental installation by **Natalia Zintsova** consisting of forty-four dismantled elevator panels and a mirror. Human traces, from scratches in the mirror to scribbles on the wooden panels, become testament of the charged social encounter that happens in our daily life. **Olga Chernysheva** is known as a sensitive and perceptive observer of the daily life in Russia. In *Moskva River* (2018) the empty landscape prompts a wave of melancholy, evoked by the feeling of pale summer light. Siberia is at the heart of the art produced by **Alexey Martins**, who grew up in the city of Krasnoyarsk. In the case of the *Polar Explorers* series (2018), Martins plays with the uniformity of sky and snow, as they blend into one white landscape, in which only small settlements of explorers are recognisable as such. Monumental photographic triptych by the performance artist **Andrey Kuzkin** (*Filled With Illnesses*, printed in 2018; *Stuck Upside Down № 27*, printed in 2018; *Tree Growing From a Man*, printed in 2018) brings together the documentation of three of his most significant performative works to date. In all three performances the artist's body takes the central stage as it raises questions about the boundaries between life and arts as well as the human body and nature. **Denis Patrakeev's** oeuvre lies in the synthesis of art and science. His monochrome square *Passage of the World – 3* (2017) is ruptured by violent horizontal cracks. Through this gesture Patrakeev searches for a new type of mythology: one that brings his art into symbiosis with the elemental forms of nature.

[Off white auction e-catalogue](#)

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Cosmoscow

Cosmoscow International Contemporary Art Fair was launched by Russian collector and philanthropist Margarita Pushkina in 2010 and aims to bring together both Russian and international collectors, galleries and artists. Cosmoscow is Russia's only international art fair taking place every September with its own spot in an international art calendar. The 5th anniversary edition of the fair took place at the Gostiny Dvor on September 8-10, 2017 representing a record number of 54

Russian and international galleries and welcoming 19,200 guests. Over 2,000 people visited Cosmoscw Collectors' Preview.

Phillips

Phillips is a leading global platform for buying and selling 20th and 21st century art and design. With dedicated expertise in the areas of 20th Century and Contemporary Art, Design, Photographs, Editions, Watches, and Jewelry, Phillips offers professional services and advice on all aspects of collecting. Auctions and exhibitions are held at salerooms in New York, London, Geneva, and Hong Kong, while clients are further served through representative offices based throughout Europe, the United States and Asia. Phillips also offers an online auction platform accessible anywhere in the world. In addition to providing selling and buying opportunities through auction, Phillips brokers private sales and offers assistance with appraisals, valuations, and other financial services.

Cosmoscw Foundation for Contemporary Art

Established in 2017, Cosmoscw Foundation for Contemporary Art is based on the experience and expertise of the Cosmoscw team, accumulated over many years to combine its non-commercial initiatives. The main objective of the Foundation is the systematic support of contemporary art in Russia and the promotion of young artists. The list of Foundation's activities includes purchase of contemporary art works and their donation to museum collections. For example, in 2017 as part of the partnership between Cosmoscw and the State Tretyakov Gallery a special acquisition of three works by Russian artist Andrey Kuzkin was made to the museum's permanent collection. Another important direction of the Foundation's activities is targeted support of certain artists carried out in a number of directions. By the decision of Cosmoscw Foundation for Contemporary Art Supervisory Board members, Russian artist Taus Makhacheva (b. 1983) was named Cosmoscw 2018 Artist of the Year. Smena Center of Contemporary Culture was chosen as Cosmoscw 2018 Non-Profit Institution of the Year. Smena is an independent initiative without private or state funding, established in Kazan, Russia in 2013. It incorporates a contemporary art gallery, a lecture hall, bookstore, and a publishing house. Projects by both Artist of the Year and Non-Profit Institution of the Year will be represented at Cosmoscw 2018 with the support of the Foundation.

Off white charity auction

Launched by the Cosmoscw International Contemporary Art Fair in 2014, the Off white auction is an annual charitable event. For the first three years the auction was benefiting the Naked Heart Foundation, having raised more than €550,000 for the Foundation's programs to support children in need. As of 2017, the auction is benefitting the Cosmoscw Foundation for Contemporary Art.

OFFICINE PANERAI

Founded in Florence in 1860 as a workshop, shop and school of watch-making, for many decades Officine Panerai supplied the Italian Navy in general, and its specialist diving corps in particular, with precision instruments. The designs developed by Panerai in that time, including the Luminor and Radiomir, were covered by the Military Secrets Act for many years and were launched on the international market only after the brand was acquired by the Richemont Group in 1997. Today Officine Panerai develops and crafts its movements and watches at its Neuchâtel manufacture. The latter are a seamless melding of Italian design flair and history with Swiss horological expertise. Panerai watches are sold across the world through an exclusive network of distributors and Panerai boutiques.

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DI Telegraph is a venue for conferences, seminars and other events. In addition, DI Telegraph provides a large coworking space for 380 seats. DI Telegraph is located in the heart of Moscow, in the historic building of the Moscow Central Telegraph, 5 minutes walk from the Okhotny Ryad metro station. On average, the DI Telegraph hosts 220 different events per year from two-hour lectures to full-fledged conferences, as well as tastings, job fairs, fashion shows, concerts and exhibitions.

Leopold Thun is an independent curator and gallerist based in London. He holds an MA in Art History and International Relations from the University of St Andrews. Before he joined ARTUNER, he worked for Sotheby's, the New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York, the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Copenhagen and the Belvedere Wien. Leopold co-runs Emalin gallery in London. Leopold also sits on the Committee of the Outset Young Production Fund.

Alexey Maslyayev 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 Cosmoscw 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).