



PHILLIPS

2017

INTERNATIONAL  
CONTEMPORARY ART  
FAIR

## **Cosmoscow Fair partners with Phillips to hold the Off white charity auction**

**The auction will benefit the recently established Cosmoscow Foundation for Contemporary Art**

The 5th-anniversary edition of Cosmoscow will take place in the historic market building, Gostiny Dvor, on 8-10 September 2017 supported by strategic partner Credit Suisse, jewellery partner Messika, automotive partner Bentley and official partner Beluga Transatlantic.





**Cosmoscow**, Russia's only international contemporary art fair, announces a two-year partnership deal with **Phillips Auction House**, starting with the Off white charity auction as part of the fair's 5th anniversary edition. All proceeds will benefit the recently established **Cosmoscow Foundation for Contemporary Art**. The auction brings together 17 works by Russian and International contemporary artists linked by a common theme, this year's Cosmoscow Non-Commercial Programme topic "Where is the Revolution?" inspired by the 100 years anniversary of the revolutionary events of 1917. The auction that will take place on September 8, the first public day of the Fair, will be held by Phillips' auctioneer **Henry Highley**.

This year's auction will feature works by the following contemporary artists, among them are **Tato Akhalkatsishvili, Evgeny Antufiev, Sergei Borisov, Valery Chtak, Ivan Gorshkov, Tatiana Hengstler, Vlad Kulkov, Marko Mäetamm, Igor Moukhin, Alexandra Paperno, Pavel Pepperstein, Michael Pybus, Marc Quinn, Daro Sulakauri, Ivan Tuzov, Arseny Zhilyaev and Anya Zholud**. All of them in their special way deal with different aspects of revolution as a notion. For example, the hectic and disturbing palette of Vlad Kulkov's *Untitled*, along with its dynamic composition refers to the revolution of consciousness, a shift in outlook as necessary preconditions for revolution, allowing to build a new system out of chaos. Whereas Pavel Pepperstein in his *Who is to Blame?* watercolor uses the image of a parrot to emphasize the loss of revolutionary message contained in such 'leftist' works of 19th century Russian literature as Herzen's *Who is to Blame?* and Chernyshevsky's *What to Do?* by means of formal and thoughtless repetition of their formulas. Daro Sulakauri's *The Black Gold* photograph shows an electric circuit that is part of the mine management system. It is marked by the year of the October Revolution, serving as a 'fragile' evidence of the utopian aspirations' collapse.



“We are happy to announce the forth-in-a-row Off white auction that has firmly established itself as one of the brightest and most memorable events of the fair’s programming. We are very grateful to everyone who has been providing support for the project over the years. It’s a pleasure to partner with Phillips for this occasion and I hope that through our partnership we will bring great attention to Russian contemporary art and contribute to the auction’s success”, says **Margarita Pushkina, Founding Director, Cosmoscw.**

“Phillips Auction House supports contemporary Russian art in many ways – by engaging particular art pieces into international auction context, by conducting charity auctions in Russia to benefit museums and art institutions, and by facilitating different educational and exhibition initiatives. Partnering with the only Russian contemporary art fair carries on this important tradition. The Off white auction is a unique opportunity to not only purchase works by the most sought-after contemporary artists, but also to make a personal contribution to the worthy cause of Russian art development”, says **Svetlana Marich, Phillips’ Worldwide Deputy Chairman.**

“The year 2017 provides us with a special cause to approach history and its heritage. Anniversary is a perfect occasion to reflect on the significance and meaning of the revolution in modern culture. The Off white auction lots expand our understanding of ways to address revolutionary themes”, says **Alexei Maslyaev, Cosmoscw Non-Commercial programme curator.**



All proceeds from the auction will benefit the Cosmoscow Foundation for Contemporary Art, an institution established this year combining Fair's non-commercial initiatives, undertaken in recent years. The main objective of the Foundation is the systematic support of contemporary art in Russia, its integration into the international context, the promotion of young talents, and the development of philanthropy in Russia. The Foundation holds contests, delivers its own projects, and also provides non-contest funding to support unique cultural initiatives.

"I am honoured to be invited as the auctioneer for the charity auction at Cosmoscow, the only contemporary art fair in Russia. I am excited to see works that are at the forefront of Russian contemporary art and to help to take part in the development of this exciting market", **says Henry Heighly, Phillips' Head of Evening Sale, 20th Century & Contemporary Art, and the Auctioneer for the Off white charity art auction at Cosmoscow.**

[Link to the images of the highlights of the Off white auction](#)

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**Notes to editors:**

**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.

**Cosmoscow International Contemporary Art Fair**

Cosmoscow International Contemporary Art Fair, aimed at bringing together both Russian and international collectors, galleries and artists, was launched by Russian collector and philanthropist Margarita Pushkina in 2010. Today Cosmoscow is the only international art fair in Russia and the CIS. Since 2014 it is an annual September event with its own place in an international art calendar. The latest edition of the fair took place at the Gostiny Dvor on September 9-11, 2016 representing 38 Russian and international galleries and welcoming nearly 16,000 guests. Two thousand people visited Fair's collectors' preview.

**Cosmoscow Foundation for Contemporary Art**

Celebrating its 5th anniversary, Cosmoscow decided to combine its non-commercial initiatives, undertaken in recent years, integrating them into a separate institution – Cosmoscow Foundation for Contemporary Art. The Foundation is based on Cosmoscow experience and expertise, accumulated over the years. The main objective of the Foundation is the systematic support of contemporary art in Russia, its integration into the international context, the promotion of young artists, and the development of philanthropy in Russia. The Foundation holds contests, delivers its own projects, and also provides direct funding to support unique cultural initiatives. The Foundation carries out activities in the following areas: education; execution (financial support) of certain projects and cultural initiatives, selected on both contest and non-contest basis; purchase of contemporary art works and their donation to museum collections.

**OFF WHITE AUCTION 2017 LOT LIST**

**Tato Akhalkatsishvili, two works from the Psilocybin Mushrooms series (2014)**

**Courtesy of the artist and Erti Gallery, Tbilisi**

**Evgeny Antufiev, work from the Fragile Things series (2016)**

**Courtesy of the artist and Pechersky Gallery, Moscow**

**Sergei Borisov, Student (1993)**

**Courtesy of the artist and RuArts Foundation, Moscow**

**Valery Chtak, Mike Naumenko (2016)**

**Courtesy of the artist and Triangle Gallery, Moscow**

**Ivan Gorshkov, Landscape from the Hyperspace and Anteater project (2016)**

**Courtesy of the artist**

**Tatiana Hengstler, Flash Art (1999)**

**Courtesy of the artist and XL Gallery, Moscow**

**Vlad Kulkov, Untitled (2011)**

**Courtesy of the artist and Vladey, Moscow**

**Marko Mäetamm, Karl Marx (2016)**

**Courtesy of the artist and Temnikova & Kasela Gallery, Tallinn**

**Igor Moukhin, work from the Protests series (1999)**

**Courtesy of the artist and XL Gallery, Moscow**

**Alexandra Paperno, three works from the Rooms series (2017)**

**This lot is enhanced with a special opportunity to visit the artist's studio**

**Courtesy of the artist and Shaltai Editions gallery, Moscow**

**Pavel Pepperstein, Who is to Blame? (2011)**

**Courtesy of the AVC Charity Foundation, Moscow**

**Michael Pybus, Klein Skull (2017)**

**Courtesy of the artist and Tatjana Pieters Gallery, Ghent**

**Marc Quinn, work from the Stardust series 2012**

**Courtesy of the artist**

**Daro Sulakauri, The Black Gold (2016)**

**Courtesy of the artist and Erti Gallery, Tbilisi**

**Ivan Tuzov, Ninel (2013)**

**Courtesy of the artist and Marina Gisich Gallery, St. Petersburg**

**Arseny Zhilyaev, New Daily Life (2011-2017)**

**Courtesy of the artist**

**Anya Zholud, Sheltered by the State (2017) and Shame Pain Rage (2017)**

**Courtesy of the artist and ART4, Moscow**