



Press release

## **OFF WHITE CHARITY AUCTION TOTALED €172,000**

**All the proceeds will benefit Cosmoscow Foundation for Contemporary Art**

### **Two-days event was visited by more than 1000 people**

The fifth anniversary **Off white** charity auction totaled **€172,000 / 12,597,100 Rubles**. The auction took place at DI Telegraph on June 8 in partnership with **Phillips** auction house for the second year running. It was also supported by watch brand **Officine Panerai**, historically associated with the theme of light, which was the theme of the auction. The event was hosted by Russian actor, producer and TV presenter Ivan Urgant. All the proceeds will benefit Cosmoscow Foundation for Contemporary Art.

The list of top lots of the auction included three lithographs by Takashi Murakami sold for €17 000, and two photos by Mariano Vivanco sold for €16,000. As for the works by young Russian artists, they have shown great results as well: Nikolay Koshelev's 'Indika/sativa' was sold for €13,000, and 'Polar Explorers' by Alexey Martins went for €8,500, eight times exceeding its lower estimate.

Among the honorable guests of the evening welcomed by Margarita Pushkina, Founder of the Cosmoscow Foundation for Contemporary Art and Svetlana Marich, Phillips' Worldwide Deputy Chairman were: Vladimir Smirnov, Konstantine Sorokin, Teresa Mavica, Marina Sitnina, Ksenia Chilingarova, Anastasia Karneeva, Polina Askeri, Elena Lukovnikova, Fahad bin Mohammed Al Attiyah, Sigifredo di Canossa, and Marina Dolidze among many others.

Pre-auction exhibition preview on June 7 was visited by Oksana Bondarenko, Anzor Kankulov, Artem Korolev, Natalia Luchaninova, Natalia Osman, Karina Oshroeva, Alexander Perepelkin, Yasmina Muratovish, Alisa and Julia Ruban, Aizel Trudel, Tamuna Tziklauri, and many others.

Auction was 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 presented for the first time in Russia – L'Astronomo Luminor 1950 Tourbillon Moon Phases Equation of Time GMT Titanio 50mm.

[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 Cosmoscow 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.

## **Cosmoscow Foundation for Contemporary Art**

Established in 2017, Cosmoscow Foundation for Contemporary Art is based on the experience and expertise of the Cosmoscow 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 Cosmoscow 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 Cosmoscow Foundation for Contemporary Art Supervisory Board members, Russian artist Taus Makhacheva (b. 1983) was named Cosmoscow 2018 Artist of the Year. Smena Center of Contemporary Culture was chosen as Cosmoscow 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 Cosmoscow 2018 with the support of the Foundation.

## **Off white charity auction**

Launched by the Cosmoscow 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 Cosmoscow 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.

[www.panerai.com](http://www.panerai.com)

[www.facebook.com/paneraiofficial](https://www.facebook.com/paneraiofficial)

[www.instagram.com/panerai](https://www.instagram.com/panerai)

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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 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 Cosmoscow 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).