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6 September

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# What We Are Made Of – the first ever curated exhibition of works by distinguished Qatari artists in Russia as a part of Cosmoscow 2018

- A launch of the 5-year partnership between Cosmoscow and Qatar Airways as a part of the Year of Culture Qatar-Russia 2018
  - Focus on cultural activism and female artists
  - **Educational programme featuring artists from Qatar**

Press Release, 31 August, 2018 - Cosmoscow is honored to announce the first ever exhibition of Qatari contemporary art in Russia entitled What We Are Made Of curated by Reem Fadda, an independent curator and art historian. The exhibition, supported by the Main Partner of Cosmoscow, Qatar Airways, taking place within the Year of Culture Qatar Russia 2018, will consist of two instalments. The first one will showcase the works of five pioneering and most prolific Qatari artists known for their influence and cultural activism in Qatar: Yousef Ahmad, Faraj Daham, Ali Hassan, Amal Al-Aathem & Mohammed Al Atiq. The second instalment will present a more nuanced understanding of what the meaning of feminism is in Qatar, featuring mainly sculptures and installations of leading contemporary female Qatari artists: Noor Abuissa, Sophia Al Maria, Bouthayna Al Muftah, Hana Al-Saadi, Aisha Al-Suwaidi, Ghada Khater, Maryam Yousef Al-Homaid.

"This exhibition represents a more nuanced understanding of what is meant by "growth" and "development" happening in Qatar, through an existential materialistic underpinning. The artists respond critically to their environment and historical conditions, and base their practice on a primarily material and textural approach," said Reem Fadda, curator of the exhibition.

The exhibition brings together a curated selection of Qatari artists from different generations, showcasing the remarkable historical development of the artistic avant-garde and progressive sensibility of artists in Qatar. They question issues such as the loss of tradition and collectivity, rising consumerism, isolation from nature and society, women's issues and even comment on the current political state of affairs in the

Gulf. They do so through the mediation of a wide variety of materials, from dried palm leaf, wood, steel, aluminum, to even concrete. The exhibition will also show a multidisciplinary connection between art and design.

"We are honored to contribute to the process of strengthening cultural dialogue between Qatar and Russia and to introduce Cosmoscow guests to the work of the distinguished Qatari artists. I am extremely grateful to our Main Partner Qatar Airways and personally to H.E. Akbar Al Baker, H.E. Fahad bin Mohammed Al Attiyah, Ambassador of the State of Qatar to the Russian Federation, and curator Reem Fadda for making the first exhibition of Qatari contemporary art in Russia possible," added Margarita Pushkina, Founding Director of Cosmoscow International Contemporary Art Fair and Founder of Cosmoscow Foundation for Contemporary Art.

As a part of the public educational programme, there will be two panels during the days of the fair coinciding with the exhibition. Each will host multiple speakers from Qatar and Russia, providing the opportunity to give a voice to the museum directors, and the artists participating in the exhibition.

# Panel #1 - THE DIRECTOR: New Narratives, New Visions

Date: September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Time: 1 pm Speakers:

- Zelfira Tregulova, Director, The State Tretyakov gallery, Moscow, Russia
- Anton Belov, Director, Garage Museum of Contemporary Art
- Reem Fadda, former Associate Curator, Middle Eastern Art for the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi Project
- Vasili Tsereteli, Executive Director, Moscow Museum of Modern Art
- Nayla Hadchiti, moderator, Collector and Patron of SEAL Lebanon

The panel is aimed to discuss the role of museum directors, their challenges and goals in developing the vision of their organizations with a special focus on contemporary art institutions from Qatar and all around the world. The conversation will provide an opportunity to explore the variety of museums' concepts, aimed at managing large collections, and different aspects of institutional relations with artists and arts practitioners. How do museums make a difference? What are the programmes developed for the audience locally and how to make a long-lasting impact internationally? How does an art institution handle the global dynamics of evolving art, political and social environments, remaining relevant?

# Panel # 2 - THE ARTIST: What We Are Made Of

Date: September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Time: 5 pm Speakers:

- Bouthayna Al Muftah, artist, Doha, Qatar
- Ghada Khater, artist, Doha, Qatar
- Taus Makhacheva, artist, Moscow, Russia
- Mohammed Al Atiq, artist, Doha, Qatar
- Reem Fadda, moderator, Ramallah, Palestine

A selection of the artists, participated in the exhibition What We Are Made Of, will discuss their diverse artistic practices, alongside with Russian artist Taus Makhacheva, Cosmoscow 2018 Artist of the Year, who is presenting a newly commissioned work at the fair.

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# Note to editors:

#### Reem Fadda

Reem Fadda is an independent curator and art historian. She is a former Associate Curator, Middle Eastern Art for the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi Project from 2010 to 2016. Recently she worked as artistic director of the 6<sup>th</sup> Marrakech Biennale (2016), and curated the inaugural exhibition of the newly opened Palestinian Museum, titled Jerusalem Lives (2017). Last year Fadda was presented with the 8<sup>th</sup> Walter Hopps Award for Curatorial Achievement, awarded by the Menil Collection.

#### Cosmoscow

Cosmoscow International Contemporary Art Fair was launched by an art historian, young Russian artists' patron and collector 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.

**Cosmoscow 2018** will take place from 7 to 9 September 2018 at Gostiny Dvor, supported by Main Partner **Qatar Airways**, Strategic Partner **Credit Suisse**, Automobile Partner **Audi**, Official Partner **Beluga**, and Official Hotel **St. Regis Moscow Nikolskaya**. **6 September** is dedicated to collectors, press and art community. Public viewing is from **7 to 9 September** from 12 to 8pm.

# **Cosmoscow Tickets**

#### **Partners**



#### **Main Partner**

Qatar Airways, the national carrier of the State of Qatar, is celebrating more than 20 years of Going Places Together with travellers across its more than 150 business and leisure destinations. The world's fastest-growing airline will add a number of exciting new destinations to its growing network in 2018, including Tallinn, Estonia; Valletta, Malta and many more, flying passengers on board its modern fleet of more than 200 aircraft.

A multiple award-winning airline, Qatar Airways was named 'World's Best Business Class' by the 2018 World Airline Awards, managed by international air transport rating organisation Skytrax. It was also named 'Best Business Class Seat,' 'Best Airline in the Middle East,' and 'World's Best First Class Airline Lounge.'

Qatar Airways is a member of the oneworld global alliance. The award-winning alliance was named the World's Best Airline Alliance 2015 by Skytrax for the third year running. Qatar Airways was the first Gulf carrier to join global airline alliance, oneworld, enabling its passengers to benefit from more than 1,000 airports in more than 150 countries, with 14,250 daily departures.

Oryx One, Qatar Airways' in-flight entertainment system offers passengers up to 4,000 entertainment options from the latest blockbuster movies, TV box sets, music, games and much more. Passengers flying on Qatar Airways flights served by its B787, A350, A380, A319 and select A320 and A330 aircraft can also stay in touch with their friends and family around the world by using the award-winning airline's on-board Wi-Fi and GSM service.

Qatar Airways proudly supports a range of exciting international and local initiatives dedicated to enriching the global community that it serves. Qatar Airways, the official FIFA partner, is the official sponsor of many top-level sporting events, including the FIFA 2018 and 2022 World Cups, reflecting the values of sports as a means of bringing people together, something at the core of the airline's own brand message - Going Places Together.

Qatar Airways Cargo, the world's third largest international cargo carrier, serves more than 60 exclusive freighter destinations worldwide via its world-class Doha hub and also delivers freight to more than 150 key business and leisure destinations globally with more than 200 aircraft. The Qatar Airways Cargo fleet includes eight Airbus A330 freighters, 13 Boeing 777 freighters and two Boeing 747-8 freighters.



#### Year of Culture Qatar-Russia 2018

2018 has been announced as a Year of Culture between Qatar and Russia. Despite the differences in size, climate and geography, our countries share common values - the will to modernize yet save and cherish national traditions and the goal to build the most comfortable infrastructure maximizing human potential.

Cross-cultural collaborations between Russian and Qatar cultural, educational and social institutions (museums, galleries, charity foundations, universities etc.) will be a meeting point for two distinct cultures, which unite respect for their historical heritage and the ability to respond to the challenges of contemporary world. These areas reflect Russia's and Qatar's mutual interest towards key cultural spheres in which the accent on one's needs and aspirations becomes the key to nation's prosperity.

The Year of Culture Qatar-Russia 2018 create an atmosphere of trust and understanding which is crucial to build business relationships and strengthen economic, tourist and cultural partnership between two countries.

#QatarRussia2018 Instagram.com/qatarrussia Facebook.com/QatarRussia2018



# **Strategic Partner**

Credit Suisse – one of the world's leading financial services companies. Its strategy builds on Credit Suisse's core strengths: its position as a leading wealth manager, its specialist investment banking capabilities and its strong presence in its home market of Switzerland. Credit Suisse seeks to follow a balanced approach to wealth management, aiming to capitalize on both the large pool of wealth within mature markets as well as the significant growth in wealth in Asia Pacific and other emerging markets, while also serving key developed markets with an emphasis on Switzerland. Credit Suisse employs approximately 46'840 people. The registered shares (CSGN) Credit Suisse Group AG are listed in Switzerland and, in the form of American Depositary Shares (CS), in New York. Further information about Credit Suisse can be found at <a href="https://www.credit-suisse.com">www.credit-suisse.com</a>.



# **Automobile Partner**

The Audi Group, with its brands Audi, Ducati and Lamborghini, is one of the most successful manufacturers of automobiles and motorcycles in the premium segment. It is present in more than 100 markets worldwide and produces at 16 locations in twelve countries. 100 percent subsidiaries of AUDI AG include Audi Sport GmbH

(Neckarsulm), Automobili Lamborghini S.p.A. (Sant'Agata Bolognese, Italy) and Ducati Motor Holding S.p.A. (Bologna, Italy). In 2017, the Audi Group delivered to customers about 1.878 million automobiles of the Audi brand, 3,815 sports cars of the Lamborghini brand and 55,900 motorcycles of the Ducati brand. In the 2017 fiscal year, AUDI AG achieved total revenue of €60.1 billion and an operating profit of €5.1 billion. At present, approximately 90,000 people work for the company all over the world, more than 60,000 of them in Germany. Audi focuses on sustainable products and technologies for the future of mobility.



# Official partner

Beluga is the number one vodka in the super-premium and ultra-premium segments in Russia. Its unrivalled taste has made Beluga a renowned global brand and a symbol of luxury and success. The entire Beluga Vodka range is produced at the historical Mariinsk Distillery, established in 1900 in one of the most tranquil areas of Russia, in the heart of Siberia some 300 kilometers from the nearest town. Beluga combines industry-leading, cutting-edge equipment and traditional techniques to create a truly exclusive product. Made with a special malt spirit and natural Siberian ingredients, including the purest water from artesian wells, all Beluga vodkas undergo a unique resting period lasting from 30 and 90 days. The result is an exquisite, velvety and luxurious taste, with each bottle having a distinct character. The perfect accompaniment for caviar, Beluga vodka is best appreciated neat. <a href="https://www.vodka-beluga.com">www.vodka-beluga.com</a>



#### **Partner**

Since opening in 2007 "Vremena Goda" has been known for its leading position in the fashion world and in lifestyle of the most sophisticated Muscovites. "Vremena Goda" carries more than 150 brands among which: CHANEL, BURBERRY, BREGUET, CARTIER, STELLA MCCARTNEY, VALENTINO, SALVATORE FERRAGAMO and many others, as well as children's multi brand store ENDLESSSTORY. "Vremena Goda" occupies 6 floors with a total area of 32 000 square meters, of which 643 square meters are covered by beauty stores. ALDO COPPOLA beauty salon, "Vremena Goda" cinema, Italian, Asian and international cuisine restaurants, steak-house, VIVALDI karaoke are places which are intended to satisfy even the most demanding tastes. The biggest gourmet grocery in Moscow «Globus Gurme» is located on the ground floor of "Vremena Goda". Design center Vremena Goda Home is located on the fourth floor, where you can find the most exquisite furniture and interior brands, including VISIONNAIRE and VOIX LUXURY LIVING.



# Official Hotel

The St. Regis Moscow Nikolskaya is a luxurious hotel located in the historical center of the city, the heart of the Russian capital, just a few steps away from the Red Square, the Kremlin and Gostiny Dvor – Cosmoscow Fair's venue. The hotel offers 210 spacious rooms and suites, including the Presidential and Royal suites, 160 sq.m. each. Some of the rooms overlook the Lubyanka Square, others face a cozy inner courtyard. The hotel features an Italian osteria A Tavola, Lobby Bar Orlov, 6 conference rooms, including the Rooftop Hall with a panoramic view of the Kremlin and the Red Square. The hotel also offers an exclusive Iridium SPA complex with an indoor pool and patio, sauna, hammam and a modern fitness center. A distinguished feature of the hotel is its butler service for all room types, which provides individual service for every guest. www.stregismoscow.com @stregismoscownikolskaya