



2018

INTERNATIONAL  
CONTEMPORARY ART  
FAIR

## **COSMOSCOW INTERNATIONAL CONTEMPORARY ART FAIR ANNOUNCES DATES, VENUE AND ARTIST OF THE 2018**

**6-9 September 2018  
Moscow, Gostiny Dvor**

### **Taus Makhacheva is Cosmoscw 2018 Artist of the Year**

Cosmoscw, the only international contemporary art fair in Russia and the CIS, announces the 2018 edition of the fair will open from 6 – 9 September at Moscow’s Gostiny Dvor.

The 2018 edition will feature a number of specially commissioned projects, including a new solo project by Taus Makhacheva – who has been named as Cosmoscw 2018 Artist of the Year – and a site-specific project by Alexey Martins who was recently [announced as winner of 2017 Ruinart Art Patronat grant](#).

*“I am delighted that Cosmoscw Art Fair continues to grow with a higher number of visitors and more artist projects and commissions every year. Our focus continues to be on creating a platform for contemporary art in this region, to support emerging artists and create a space for cultural dialogue between Russia and the rest of the world. For this reason we set up the Cosmoscw Foundation for Contemporary Art with a dedicated programme of activity that will create career opportunities and new funding streams for young artists. The Cosmoscw team has amassed over five years of art fair experience, professional expertise and a high level of public interest, and we’re looking forward to another successful edition of the fair,”* says **Margarita Pushkina**, Founding Director of Cosmoscw International Contemporary Art Fair and Founder of Cosmoscw Foundation for Contemporary Art.

Russian artist Taus Makhacheva has been announced as the Cosmoscw 2018 Artist of the Year by the Cosmoscw Foundation for Contemporary Art. Taus has been invited to create a new commission that will be presented as part of the fair’s non-commercial programme and imagery of an existing work will be used throughout Cosmoscw 2018 visual identity. Taus Makhacheva (b. 1983) was also the recipient of Kandinsky Prize (2016) and Innovation Prize (2011), among others. In 2017 her work *Tightrope* (2015) was featured in the main project of the 57<sup>th</sup> Venice Biennale. The longlist of Cosmoscw 2018 Artist of the Year nominees was created by the Cosmoscw Foundation for Contemporary Art Expert Committee (Joseph Bakstein, Danila Bulatov, Valentin Dyakonov, Irina Gorlova, and Anna Tolstova). The winner was selected by the Foundation Board members (Marina Andreeva, Elena Latypova, Simon Mraz, and Valeriya Rodnyanskaya).

A wide range of significant art events will take place at the same time as Cosmoscw 2018 including a solo exhibition of Russian artist Sveta Shuvaeva – who was Cosmoscw 2016 Artist of the Year. Shuvaeva's exhibition will be a site-specific installation at the Moscow Museum of Modern Art supported by SmartArt Foundation from 5 September until 14 October.

### **Contacts for Press**

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### **Notes to Editors:**

#### **Cosmoscw**

Cosmoscw International Contemporary Art Fair was launched by Russian art historian, patron of young Russian artists, collector and philanthropist Margarita Pushkina in 2010 and aims to bring together both Russian and international collectors, galleries and artists. Cosmoscw is Russia's only international art fair taking place every September cementing its position in the international art calendar. The 5th anniversary edition of the fair took place at the Gostiny Dvor on 8-10 September 2017 representing a record number of 54 Russian and international galleries and welcoming 19,200 guests. Over 2,000 people visited Cosmoscw Collectors' Preview on the 7 September.

#### **Cosmoscw Foundation for Contemporary Art**

Established in 2017, Cosmoscw Foundation for Contemporary Art is based on the experience and expertise of the Cosmoscw team, which has been amassed over many years to combine its non-commercial initiatives. 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 arts philanthropy in Russia. The Foundation supports art prizes, 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.

#### **Taus Makhacheva**

Taus Makhacheva (b. 1983) holds BA in Fine Art from Goldsmiths (2007) and MFA from Royal College of Art (2013). Selected exhibitions: Venice Biennial (2017); Garage Triennial of Russian Contemporary Art (2017, Garage Museum of Contemporary Art); Museum ON/OFF, Centre Pompidou (2016); Shanghai Biennial (2016); Kyiv Biennial (2015); Moscow Biennale (2015 and 2011); Sharjah Biennial (2013); Liverpool Biennial (2012). Taus Makhacheva is the recipient of Kandinsky Prize (2016), 6 Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art Foundation Prize (2015), Future of Europe Prize, Museum of Contemporary art, Leipzig (2014), and Innovation Prize (2011).

#### **Alexey Martins**

Alexey Martins was born in Krasnoyarsk in 1989. He graduated from the Faculty of Painting of the Krasnoyarsk Art School and the Free Workshops Contemporary Art School of the Moscow Museum of Modern Art. In 2015, Martins was nominated for the Kandinsky Prize ("Young Artist. Project of the Year" nomination) for his joint performance "How to Talk about Art to the Siberian City" prepared together with the artist Igor Lazarev. Alexey's portfolio includes over 20 group exhibitions and four solo shows. He has participated in the 3rd Moscow Biennale of Young Art, the 12th International Festival of Landscape Objects, and the 7th Moscow International Biennale of Contemporary Art.