



Press release, May 14, 2019

## RUSSIAN INTERNATIONAL AT THE 58<sup>TH</sup> VENICE BIENNALE PRESENTED A ROUND TABLE, A SITE-SPECIFIC INSTALLATION BY IVAN GORSHKOV, AND PREMIERED THE FILM ABOUT THE NEMOSKVA TRANS-SIBERIAN ART EXPEDITION



Photo: Grisha Galantnyy

On Thursday 9 May, more than 150-people attended RUSSIAN INTERNATIONAL, a Round Table, a Site-specific installation and a Cocktail Reception dedicated to contemporary Russian art in a global and national context, at the Ca' Dolphin hall of Ca' Foscari University of Venice. The event was hosted by: Cosmoscow International Art Fair, Moscow Museum of Modern Art (MMOMA) and ROSIZO-NCCA. The round table discussion featured **Margarita Pushkina**, Founding Director of Cosmoscow art fair and the Cosmoscow Foundation; **Alisa Prudnikova**, Commissioner of the NEMOSKVA Project and Ural Industrial Biennial of Contemporary Art; **Vasili Tsereteli**, Executive Director of the Moscow Museum of Modern Art; **Xiaoyu Weng**, Curator of the Ural Industrial Biennial of Contemporary Art; **Simon Rees**, Art Director of Cosmoscow art fair; and **Stanislav Kasparov**, Director of the Business support division for regional operations, of SIBUR. The discussion was moderated by **Richard Wallis**, Editor-in-chief of *Russian Art Focus*; and was kindly supported by **The Vladimir Potanin Foundation** and **SIBUR**.

Notable attendees included: Nic Iljine, Javier Perez, Matthew Stephenson, Sarah Wilson, Kathleen Weyts, Inke Arns, Oksana Oracheva, Olga Temnikova, Olga Strada, Ekaterina Iragui, Elvira Tarnogradskaya, Anna Barinova, Elena Panteleva, Maria Katz, Kestutis Kuizinas, Olga Egarmina, Natalia Akhmerova, Elena Zhukova and Alexey Novoselov. The cocktail reception was hosted in partnership with **illy** and **Simple**.

The event also featured the first showing of the installation *Cocktail Reception Gone Wild* by Voronezh-based artist **Ivan Gorshkov**, an artistic rethinking of a cocktail reception as a social form transformed into a kinetic sculpture. Crude, creepy and sometimes monstrous, rude and cute, funny and ridiculous like circus monsters – the characters and images incorporated in the installation attracted and repelled the public at the same time, leaving no one indifferent. MMOMA is staging a solo-exhibition by Ivan Gorshkov's exhibition later this summer.

**Margarita Pushkina:** *“Cosmoscow considers the promotion of contemporary Russian artists on the international art scene as one of its top priorities since the foundation of the fair in 2010. I judge the success of the project by how many like-minded people it can gather. Over the years, Cosmoscow has acquired a number of long-term partners who share our aspirations and belief that Russia's contemporary art has enormous global potential. The number of our initiatives aimed at its fulfillment is growing year-to-year, with the help of the Cosmoscow Foundation established in 2017. I'm sure that together we will achieve amazing results.”*

**Alisa Prudnikova:** *“For the NCCA with its network of branches throughout Russia, it has always been important to develop the local cultural infrastructure and create conditions for the development of artists. Another equally important mission is the integration of Russian art into a global context. Based on these strategies, we initiated the NEMOSKVA platform to raise critical questions about the presentation of national art and the "manifestation" of Russia's regions on the world map. After a touring symposium, we identified the need for residencies. And a new center for curatorial practices is being established. On June 27, the opening of the “12th time zone: A report from Russia” exhibition dedicated to the results of our symposium will open at BOZAR in Brussels. We are also waiting for the opening of the 5th Ural Industrial Biennale, which has displayed brilliant results for 10 years now, and has made Yekaterinburg a point of attraction for art professionals from all over the world.”*

**Vasili Tsereteli:** *“This year, MMOMA celebrates its 20th anniversary. Being the first state museum of contemporary in Russia, it is our mission to promote contemporary art, support young artists and reintroduce the names of forgotten artists – who left Russia. We eagerly work with the regions: last year alone, the geography of our MMOMA footprint covered 9 Russian cities including Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, Tobolsk, Stary Oskol, and Krasnoyarsk. The task is not only to get public acquainted with our collection but also to engage in education. For each project in the regions, our team prepares a unique program. In Moscow, at the 7 venues of MMOMA, there are more than 60 projects that are different in structure and task: they include exhibitions of works by graduates of our school, major solo retrospectives of avant-garde artists, representatives of Socialist art, complex interdisciplinary projects (i.e. the General Rehearsal hosted together with the VAC Foundation and the Kadist Foundation). There is a strategic division working with young Russian artists. This winter, the research project by Pavel Otdelnov gained much international attention. Titled PROMZONA, it was about a complex of chemical plants in the artist's hometown, Dzerzhinsk (Nizhny Novgorod Region). I am very pleased that this fall we will participate in Cosmoscow as the Museum of the Year, and will be able to acquaint the guests of the fair with our ambitious plans.”*

**Stanislav Kasparov:** *“Wherever our enterprises operate, we aim for SIBUR to make a significant contribution to the development of that region to improve the quality of life of people in partnership with local authorities, social institutions, and citizens. In terms of culture, we have two priorities: creating opportunities for citizens to be engaged in diverse leisure activities, acquainting them with the latest cultural trends, as well as educational modules for cultural managers. We are aware that while art tours take place once or twice a year, cultural life should be a permanent component of a prosperous and healthy society, and it is important to focus on the development of regional representatives of creative professions, providing opportunities for their growth, improving the quality of cultural products they have access to. Thanks to the NEMOSKVA project, many artists from the SIBUR regions now have such opportunities – they were able to present their works and get acquainted with the best representatives of the international contemporary art scene.”*

The event concluded with the premiere of **NEMOSKVA: Art in Regions** a documentary dedicated to the NEMOSKVA Symposium, the largest international Trans-Siberian art expedition. The Red Pepper Film team (director K. Verkhovzin, cameraman A. Khudyakov): *“We tried to convey the state of the movement and drive*

*the participants were in, as well as talk about young artists working in remote areas of Russia.”* The soundtrack featured compositions of such Russian bands as Shortparis, Pasosh, Daniel Shake and Naadya.

**Partners:**

