

**COSMOSCOW – RUSSIA’S ONLY INTERNATIONAL ART FAIR FOR CONTEMPORARY ART
– ANNOUNCES 2015 DATES AND VENUE**

Gostiny Dvor (Moscow), 11-13 September 2015



Moscow – Cosmoscov, the most anticipated contemporary art fair in Russia is proud to announce details for this autumn’s edition, when the Fair will be held at Gostiny Dvor (Merchant court) on 11-13 September 2015.

Russia also plays host this autumn to the 2015 Moscow Biennale for Contemporary Art, curated by Bart de Baere, Director, M KHA (Museum of Contemporary Art Antwerp) and the opening of an extensive Louise Bourgeois retrospective at the newly launched Garage Museum of Contemporary Art. The Cosmoscov programme aims to complement this dynamic cultural scene, further acknowledging Moscow’s growing role within the international art market, and acknowledging the building importance of contemporary art practice in Russia.

Gostiny Dvor is one of the most historically significant architectural monuments in the city of Moscow. Designed by Italian architect Giacomo Quarenghi at the order of Catherine the Great, the great halls of Gostiny Dvor will serve as a unique context for both international and Russian contemporary art, associating it with the rich and diverse cultural heritage of the region.

Margarita Pushkina and Sandra Nedvetskaia, Directors of Cosmoscw: *«We are delighted to be continuing our initiative devised to further develop and cement the contemporary art market in Russia, in turn generating more opportunities for artists and practitioners working in the region. We're also thrilled with our venue for 2015, the beautiful Atrium of Gostiny Dvor. Cosmoscw will be the first international contemporary art event of its kind to take place in this historic venue. In 2014 we set a high standard, and we look forward to delivering another high-quality presentation of contemporary art».*

Russian and international galleries that participated in 2014 reported steady sales, and many have confirmed their return to the fair. Key sales in 2014 included Marcel Broodthaers' *Portmanteau, 1965*, sold to a Russian collection. Moreover, the high standard of organisation, infrastructure, booth quality and overall professionalism comparable to any other major international fair was particularly underlined by participants and visitors.

Common ideological ground that was formed during the previous issue of the fair will once again see Cosmoscw partner with internationally renowned names and institutions such as Garage Museum of Contemporary Art, Naked Heart Foundation and Artsy, all of whom are looking to build on last year's collaboration.

The visual identity of Cosmoscw will this year be created by young Russian artist Alexandra Paperno, whose works are housed in the Moscow Museum of Modern Art, the National Centre for Contemporary Arts, the V-A-C Foundation and important private collections.

As a part of the Cosmoscw Artist Patron Programme launched in 2014, the artists Taus Makhacheva (the winner of V-A-C Foundation and M KHA programme), Evgeny Granilshchikov, Andrei Kuzkin and Urban Fauna Lab will receive the support of a dedicated patron, including Ekaterina Vinokurova, Anastasia Karneeva, Valeria Rodnyanskaya, Matthew Stephenson, Margarita Pushkina and Sandra Nedvetskaia.

Cosmoscw are lucky to receive the support of multiple international collectors and art professionals on their Advisory Board. This year's Board comprises Antoine Arnault, Natalia Vodianova, Dilyara Allakhverdova, Olga Vashchilina and Teresa Mavica. Birte Kleemann, the director of Michael Werner Gallery (New York) will join the Expert Committee of the Fair.

Additional information about the programme, exhibitors and parallel projects of Cosmoscw will be announced in the next press release to be out summer 2015. Follow us on our official website www.cosmoscw.com, [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

Notes to editors:

Cosmoscow

Initially launched by Margarita Pushkina in 2010, Cosmoscow aims to bring International and Russian artists and collectors together. Cosmoscow is Russia's only international contemporary art fair in Russia and will be held from 19 - 21 September, 2014 at the Central Manege, Moscow, situated close to the Kremlin and Red Square. The Fair will be co-directed by Margarita Pushkina and Sandra Nedvetskaia, former Director of Christie's, Russia. Around the city, satellite exhibitions will be held at the same time as the Fair as part of the carefully curated VIP programme alongside a major charity art auction that is intended to be an additional draw for key international collectors to come to Moscow in September. Cosmoscow coincided with Manifesta'10 in 2014.

Margarita Pushkina

Patron and Collector Ms. Pushkina founded Cosmoscow in 2010 and is both an art historian and patron of young Russian artists. Having studied at Lomonosov Moscow State University, she went on to publish the architecture journal Project Classics from 2000-2010. At the same time she was the Managing Director of Kit Finance Private Banking and oversaw the creation of their corporate contemporary art collection.

Sandra Nedvetskaia

Ms. Nedvetskaia joins Cosmoscow after almost ten years at Christie's, where she was instrumental in building the Russian and CIS market, working with top collectors from the region and overseeing a series of significant exhibitions across Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan. Advising clients on works for sale across the world, Sandra is a well known face internationally and a great advocate of contemporary Russian art. She is also a Trustee of the Naked Heart Foundation which works to transform the lives of Russian children.

LLC «Trading House Shatior»

Founded in April 1998 LLC «Trading House Shatior» for almost 15 years manages the complex area of Gostiny Dvor that comprises 13 thousand square meters. The company has a great experience in using Gostiny Dvor area as an exhibition hall, which is comparable to the major international exhibition venues. Gostiny Dvor holds international exhibitions, significant city events, shows and presentations with a great success. Every year the atrium of Gostiny Dvor holds more than 40 events on various subjects.

Garage Museum of Contemporary Art

Founded by Dasha Zhukova in 2008, Garage Museum of Contemporary Art is a place for people, art, and ideas to create history. Through an extensive program of exhibitions, events, education, research, and publishing, the institution reflects on current developments in Russian and international culture, creating opportunities for public dialogue, as well as the production of new work and ideas in Moscow. At the center of all these activities is the Museum's collection, which is the first archive in the country related to the development of Russian contemporary art from the 1950s through the present. Garage is a non-profit project of The IRIS Foundation.

Naked Heart Foundation

Naked Heart Foundation, a charity organisation that strives to provide a safe and inspiring environment for every child living in urban Russia, as well as insuring support for the care of children with special needs and their families, was founded by Natalia Vodianova in 2004. The organisation built its first play park in 2006 in Nizhny Novgorod and has since built 120 in Russia and globally. In the last 10 years Natalia and the Naked Heart Foundation have raised over €20 million for charity. Throughout the last 10 years the Naked Heart Foundation and the Love Ball it's crucial fund raising gala and auction event have benefited from the participation and collaboration of various contemporary artists such as Sir Peter Blake, Jake and Dinos Chapman, Tracey Emin, Damien Hirst, Ilya and Emilia Kabakov, Pavel Kaplevich, Jeff Koons, Marc Quinn. World-renowned photographers Paolo Roversi, Patrick Demarchelier and Mario Testino have also contributed hugely both their work and time to help Natalia and her team to fundraise for the cause.

Artsy

Artsy is an online platform for discovering, learning about, and collecting art via cutting-edge technology. Artsy is built by world-class engineers and designers in collaboration with leading arts professionals. Artsy has created one of the largest online collections of contemporary art and is powered by The Art Genome Project. It currently features over 175,000 artworks from over 2,000 renowned galleries and 300 institutional partners including museums and foundations from around the globe. Artsy launched publicly in October 2012 and since has grown to over 280,000 registered users, serving over 300 million artwork impressions to an international audience across 180+ countries. Artsy launched its iPhone app this fall, which was downloaded over 100,000 times in its first month and featured by Apple as a "Best New App." Since its launch, Artsy has introduced significant new features including partnerships with leading art fairs, bidding functionality for online benefit auctions, and the ability for enthusiasts and experts alike to contribute insights and anecdotes through posts. By bringing together art, science, design and engineering, Artsy aims to foster new generations of art lovers, museum-goers, collectors, and patrons.