## **COSMOSCOW ANNOUNCES SPECIAL PROGRAMMING FOR 2015 EDITION**

Cosmoscow Contemporary Art Fair: 11-13 September 2015, Gostiny Dvor, Moscow Supported by Credit Suisse



Georg Baselitz
Ostsee
2012
From the Collector's Eye
exhibition

**Cosmoscow**, Russia's only international contemporary art fair, is pleased to announce details of its 2015 programming. Highlights include the 'Collector's Eye' exhibition, a charity auction to benefit the Naked Heart Foundation, a special exhibition by the Vladimir Smirnov and Konstantine Sorokin Foundation, and the educational programme by Moscow Museum of Modern Art. This year's edition brings together such international galleries as Blain Southern (London), Javier Lopez (Madrid), Rosenfeld Porcini (London), and Barbarian (Zurich), alongside top Russian galleries Artwin, Gallery 11.12, Ru Arts, XL Gallery and more.

The popular 'Collector's Eye' special exhibition returns, this year titled *If I could... From an imaginary past to a certain future*. Exploring what the living room of a Russian collector in the 1960s and 70s might have looked like in a world without the Iron Curtain, the exhibition borrows works from private collections to imagine what this 'perfect' collection might look like, if money and censorship were not issues. Mixing periods and media, it will feature stylish 1960s Russian furnishings to complement walls adorned with the best of the Avant Garde and Old Masters. *If I could...* also has a 21<sup>st</sup> century twist, considering the young Russian collector of today by adding the vanguard of contemporary art to the collection with works by Georg Baselitz (*illustrated above*), Sherrie Levine, Brent Wadden and young Russian artists, among others.

Specially commissioned exhibition Cosmoscow projects, curated by the member of Fair's expert committee Elena Selina, will present works by young artists from Russian regions and consist of large-scale installation works by: Recycle group and ZIP group, both from Krasnodar; Ivan Gorshkov (Voronezh); and Ilya Dolgov (Voronezh, Kronstadt). The Fair will contain a 'Discovery' section, featuring galleries established less than five years ago, and those which represent emerging artists. There will also be an exhibition put on by the Vladimir Smirnov and Konstantine Sorokin Foundation, held off-site in the Foundation's studios. Founders of the Modern Arts Fund, their first project was executed within the framework of the first edition of Cosmoscow in 2010. The Moscow Museum of Modern Art will be running a series of educational lectures and public talks, prepared by the project curator Victor Miziano, as part of the non-commercial programme of the Fair.

**Vasili Tsereteli, Executive Director of the Moscow Museum of Modern Art**, said: "The Museum will present a series of publications devoted to major international exhibition project Impossible Community (Moscow, 2011-2015), which deals with problems of communication and the various forms of social interaction. We are



honoured to be a partner of the educational programme of Cosmoscow, which is one of the most important events in the cultural life of Moscow".

Again this year the *Off White* auction will take place at the start of the fair, with all proceeds benefitting the Naked Heart Foundation. Featuring works donated by participating galleries and artists, the auction is also supported by Christie's auction house. Highlights include works by Rachel Howard, Chao Lu, Alexandra Paperno and Evgeny Dedov.

Natalia Vodianova, the founder of the Naked Heart Foundation: I'm so glad that once again some of the most interesting Russian and foreign artists will get together for Cosmoscow, the international contemporary art fair, as such events contribute to the development and promotion of contemporary art in our country. As a philanthropist, I'm particularly interested in this subject, and I can see certain similarities in the development of contemporary art and charity sector in Russia - both categories are still emerging, and it is essential to develop them in new and innovative ways, going beyond the traditional tactics. Thanks to the completely unique off white auction last year, The Naked Heart Foundation received more than 200 thousand euros to help families raising children with special needs, and we are extremely grateful to the organisers for their decision to support the Foundation once again and to raise funds for educational projects of "Every child deserves a family" programme. In my opinion, collecting contemporary art is a great investment, but investment in goodness is no less important, and I hope that the tradition of combining these missions within Cosmoscow will continue.



Rachel Howard
Still Life (9 Roses)
2014
To be sold in the Off White auction

**Katya Vinokurova, Director of Christie's Moscow**, said: "Christie's is pleased to lend its support to the Off White Contemporary Art Auction, having been a supporter of the charity for the past 10 years. Off White provides an excellent opportunity to acquire exciting art from up and coming artists, while helping those in need".

Other partners of Cosmoscow include banking giant Credit Suisse, who have a long history of supporting the arts; Garage Museum of Contemporary Art, and Artsy, the online resource for collectors and galleries.

Cosmoscow was founded by the Patron and collector Margarita Pushkina, and is co-directed with Sandra Nedvetskaia, former head of Christie's Russia, with the specific purpose of creating an international calendar event for Russia, at a time of increased recognition of contemporary art in the country. Bringing together major Russian art world players, the fair opens current contemporary art practice to international audiences, as well as to creating more opportunities for Russian-speaking artists.





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### Cosmoscow

Initially launched by Margarita Pushkina in 2010, Cosmoscow aims to bring International and Russian artists and collectors together. Cosmoscow is the only international contemporary art fair taking place in Russia and will be held from 11 - 13 September 2015 at Gostiny Dvor, 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 for the Naked Heart Foundation that is intended to be an additional draw for key international collectors to come to Moscow in September. In 2015 Cosmoscow coincides with the Moscow Biennale and a major retrospective of Louise Bourgeois at the Garage Museum of Contemporary Art.

#### **Credit Suisse**

Credit Suisse is one of the world's leading financial services providers. As an integrated bank, Credit Suisse offers clients its combined expertise in the areas of private banking, investment banking and asset management. Credit Suisse provides advisory services, comprehensive solutions and innovative products to companies, institutional clients and high-net-worth private clients globally, as well as to retail clients in Switzerland. Credit Suisse is headquartered in Zurich and operates in over 50 countries worldwide. The group employs approximately 46,400 people. The registered shares (CSGN) of Credit Suisse's parent company, 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>.

## **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.

# **Garage Museum of Contemporary Art**

Garage Museum of Contemporary Art is a place for people, art, and ideas to create history. Founded in 2008 by Dasha Zhukova, the museum is the first philanthropic institution in Russia to create a comprehensive public mandate for contemporary art and culture. The organization was initially housed in (and received its name from) the renowned Bakhmetevsky Bus Garage in Moscow, designed by the Constructivist architect Konstantin Melnikov. In 2012, Garage relocated to Gorky Park, to a temporary pavilion specifically commissioned from award-winning architect Shigeru Ban. A year later, a purpose-built Education Center was opened next to the Pavilion. On May 1, 2014, Garage Center for Contemporary Culture changed its name to Garage Museum of Contemporary Art, reflecting the founder's commitment to providing long-term public access to living artists and art histories. On June 12, 2015 Garage welcomed visitors to its first permanent home. Designed by Rem Koolhaas and his OMA studio, this is a groundbreaking preservation project that has transformed the famous Vremena Goda (Seasons of the Year) Soviet Modernist restaurant built in 1968 in Gorky Park, into a contemporary museum.

### Artsy

Artsy's mission is to make all the world's art accessible to anyone with an internet connection. We are the leading resource for learning about and collecting art from over 3,000 leading galleries, 500 museums and institutions, 40 international art fairs and select auctions. We provide free access via our website (Artsy.net) and iPhone and iPad apps to 300,000 images of art and architecture by 40,000 artists, which includes the world's largest online database of contemporary art. Artsy's encyclopedic database spans historical works, such as the Rosetta Stone and the Colosseum, to modern and contemporary works by artists such as Pablo Picasso, Willem de Kooning, Richard Serra, Sarah Lucas,





and <u>Cindy Sherman</u>. Artsy is powered by The Art Genome Project, a classification system that maps the connections between artists and artworks across time.

### **MMOMA**

The Moscow Museum of Modern Art was founded by Zurab Tsereteli, President of the Russian Academy of Arts. It is the first state Russian museum that concentrates exclusively on the art of the 20th and 21st centuries. Today the Museum, with its five venues in the historic center of the city, plays a vital part in the Moscow art scene. The Museum's permanent collection represents the major stages in the formation and development of the avant-garde, especially in Russia. Many works have been acquired from European and American galleries and auction houses, and thus returned from abroad to form an integral part of Russia's cultural legacy. An extensive section of the permanent display is devoted to Non-Conformist art of the 1960s–1980s. Apart from expanding the permanent collection and organizing multiple temporary exhibitions each year, the Museum engages in various other activities, including research and conservation work, book publishing and others. One of the Museum's priorities is to promote young and emerging artists, bringing them into the contemporary artistic process.

### **Vladimir Smirnov and Konstantine Sorokin Foundation**

In 2008, combining their efforts and creative ideas, Vladimir Smirnov and Konstantin Sorokin created the Modern Arts Fund. Its doors were thrown wide open to artists creating their art without frameworks, borders or conditions. The Fund's mission is to promote young Russian artists, and it supports them by providing opportunities to put creative ideas into practice. The Fund put on its first project, "WC", with great success in December of 2010 within the framework of the first Cosmoscow art fair. In 2011, the Fund acquired its own studios. The former factory premises today bring the visions of contemporary Russian artists to life, as works are created for the Fund's projects.

