



2014 INTERNATIONAL
CONTEMPORARY ART
FAIR

Collecting Young Russian Art 2014, V-A-C Muhka

**A new annual scheme in support of contemporary artists in Russia,
as hosted by Cosmoscow art fair, 19-21st September**

2014 launch to be complemented by the Cosmoscow Artists' Patron Programme

V-A-C Foundation and Muhka (Museum voor Hedendaagse Kunst, Antwerp) are proud to announce the launch of an annual scheme designed to support the next generation of Russian artists, and to open out their current practice to the wider world.

For *Collecting Young Russian Art, V-A-C Muhka*, five Russian curators will have the chance to nominate two young artists each from their country. After discussion, the curators will shortlist four of the artists to present to a jury consisting of Teresa Iarocci Mavica, Director of V-A-C Foundation, Bart De Baere, Director of Muhka and a different international curator chosen each year to sit in on the jury. For the launch year, the four finalists' work will be exclusively presented at the Cosmoscow art fair in Moscow this September. During the opening days of the fair, V-A-C will publicly announce the acquisition of a work by one of the four finalists, which will go into the Muhka Collection in Antwerp.

This year, the V-A-C Muhka acquisition will be further enhanced by the introduction of the *Cosmoscow Artists' Patron Programme*. This special programme will pair each of the four finalists with a designated patron for a 12 month period, in the hope that their invested interest will further enable the artist's practice. At the fair, the work of the four selected artists will be received by Russian-speaking and international art professionals, gallerists and collectors, and the visiting public.

"V-A-C are delighted to be launching Collecting Young Russian Art, V-A-C Muhka in collaboration with the art fair, Cosmoscow." Teresa Iarocci Mavica, Director V-A-C Foundation.

"Cosmoscow was born out of a desire to bring different elements of the contemporary art scene in Moscow and beyond together, ultimately in support of the talented artists I saw here in Russia," comments Margarita Pushkina, Founding Director of Cosmoscow. "We're proud to be hosting a new scheme with the V-A-C Foundation, who have already proven how important support of contemporary art."

-End-

Press contact: Brunswick Arts

UK/US

Damian Chandler

+44(0) 20 7936 1290

cosmoscow@brunswickgroup.com

Europe

Julia Niebuhr

+33(0) 1 53 96 83 83

cosmoscow@brunswickgroup.com

Notes to Editors:

Cosmoscow

Initially conceived and launched by Margarita Pushkina in 2010, Cosmoscow aims to bring international and Russian artists and collectors together. Cosmoscow is Russia's only international art fair in Russia and will be held from 19 - 21 September, 2014 at the Old 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. Exhibiting international galleries will include Massimo di Carlo, Campoli Presti and Temnikova&Kasela Gallery, alongside Russian participants such as XL Gallery and Gallery 21. Amongst other institutions, key partners of the fair include the Garage Museum of Contemporary Art, YARAT and the V-A-C Foundation. Cosmoscow is proud to be supported by a strong advisory board counting major international art world figures such as Dilyara Allakhverdova, Teresa Mavica, Olga Vashchilina, Natalia Vodianova and Antoine Arnault.

www.cosmoscow.com

Margarita Pushkina

Ms. Pushkina was the Director and founder of Cosmoscow for its first edition in 2010 and is a collector, art historian and patron of young Russian artists. Having studied at Moscow State University of Lomonosov, 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 10 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.

Manège

The Central Exhibition Hall "Manege" with the support of Department of Culture conducts exhibitions of contemporary artists from 2012. In 2013 "Manege" participated in Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art for the first time. In 2014 "Manege" presents a grandiose project of Peter Greenaway and Saskia Boddeke "The golden Age of the Russian Avant-garde". Over 406 000 people visited "Manege" in 2013.

V-A-C Foundation

V-A-C is a not-for-profit private institution founded in Moscow in 2009, committed to supporting contemporary art in Russia. The Foundation's focus is directed towards contemporary art and cultural practice with the aim of providing a platform for creativity in the wider sense of the word. They strive to be actively engaged in artistic production, rather than the patronage or sponsorship of ongoing artistic processes. V-A-C is deeply committed to the growing importance of art made in Russia as well as the new generations of artists from around the world.

<http://v-a-c.ru/>

Cosmoscow public opening dates:

19.09.14 Friday 12.00 – 16.00 pm

20.09.14 Saturday 12.00 – 21.00 pm

21.09.14. Sunday 12.00 - 21.00 pm

Adress:

Manege square, 1

Moscow

125009 Russia