



ALEXANDRE GERTSMAN CONTEMPORARY ART



Patron of the arts Dr. Fred Levine, Ph.D. and Alexandre Gertsman

So who says there's no place left for art in this world? Not Alexandre Gertsman, nor the rest of us here at his gallery. Nor the rest of the world, as all of this past year's prosperity and significant events have shown.

2014 has demonstrated the continuous success of the contemporary art market, with all major auction houses reporting record sales. Likewise, Alexandre Gertsman Contemporary Art has received a great deal of interest from American, European and Russian collectors who have been acquiring works by contemporary artists born in the Former Soviet Union. A series of major thematic, group, and solo exhibitions were staged at the gallery, and widespread attention by public and press media indicated its growing popularity and respect. The gallery was featured in articles by Arts Newspaper and Creative Living magazine—among other American, European and Russian press. Additionally, it was covered by RTN/WMN, RTVI, and international radio programs, and appeared in different YouTube presentations.

This past year, we organized five major group exhibitions with the participation of over 40 of the gallery's artists and three solo exhibitions – of Vladimir Clavijo-Telepnev, Andrei Volkov, and Natalya Nesterova, also celebrating Nesterova's seven decades of artistry. A multitude of guests came to view these exhibitions, meet and greet the artists and acquire a book about Nesterova that was published by the gallery and signed by the artist. Many of the works represented at our gallery are by artists included in the permanent collections of The Metropolitan Museum of Art, MoMA, and Guggenheim Museum in New York, as well as the



Artist Natalya Nesterova

Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden in D.C., Tate Gallery in London, Museum of Modern Art in Cologne, The Hermitage and The Russian Museum in St. Petersburg, National Art Museum in Kiev, Ukraine, and National Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow.



Gene Shapiro of Shapiro Auctions, New York; Geza von Habsburg of Faberge Co. and Winston Art Group

published a number of books about the artists from the Former Soviet Union now living worldwide, and has also participated in the National Conference as a book signer for several of his publications. As such, he added a crucial educational element to the event.



Nicolas Ilijne, author, curator and art consultant

was instrumental in organizing such major exhibitions as Kazimir Malevich – Suprematism and Amazons of the Avant-Garde. In October, international cultural elite gathered at the gallery to celebrate Mr. Ilijne: there were representatives of The Guggenheim Museum, MOMA, The Jewish Museum, Zimmerly Art Museum of Rutgers University, Sotheby's, Christie's, and Phillips auction houses, artists, art historians and journalists. It was an evening of art, uniting both different countries and several continents.

At the 31st Annual National Conference of The Appraisers Association of America, which took place at the New York Athletic Club, Alexandre Gertsman was invited to participate as a speaker in the Made in Russia: The Legacy of an Empire panel, with fellow panelists Dr. Geza von Habsburg of Faberge Co. and Winston Art Group, and Gene Shapiro, President of Shapiro Auctions in New York. The panelists contributed their expertise to an important audience made up of appraisers, art advisors, gallerists, auction house representatives and others within the art community. Throughout his over two-decade art career in the U.S. Alexandre Gertsman has written, edited, contributed, and

However, 2014 was significant for more people than just Mr. Gertsman. It was also a jubilee year for Nicolas Ilijne, one of the most respected and influential leaders of the art world. Born in France but raised in Germany, Nicolas is a French and Russian author, editor, curator, and art consultant. Many of his books and exhibitions have involved the Russian and Western art of the 1920s - 2010s. He organized the Guggenheim Museum's blockbuster exhibitions RUSSIA! (which Alexandre Gertsman was a Member of the Leadership Committee for), the survey of Russian art from the icons of XIII century to contemporary art, and The Great Utopia, a retrospective of Russian avant-garde art from 1913 to 1932. He



Gary Milner, actor; Federico Castelluccio, actor; Boris Gluzberg, VP, CNB



Alexandre Gertsman; Spencer Soloman, Producer to Daniel Radcliffe; Yfat Reiss Gendel, Foundry Media; Bradley Gendell, Acclivity Capital Management

As a token of gratitude, Alexandre Gertsman, Boris Gluzberg and Joseph Sedillo of City National Bank, and Adam Katzman of Strategies for Wealth invited their clients for a client appreciation cocktail event. The event was well received by an exclusive group of art enthusiasts who were excited to once again attend the gallery. Prominent businessmen, writers, TV and musical producers, and art collectors – all enjoyed the creativity of contemporary artists whose works were showcased on the gallery’s walls. Guests included Spencer Soloman, Producer to Daniel Radcliffe, Yfat Reiss Gendell of Foundry Media, Screen Actors Guild Award Nominee Federico Castelluccio of The Sopranos, bestselling author Rebecca Serle, Bradley Gendell of Acclivity Capital, and actor Gary Milner, recently seen in Peter Pan Live!

Russian Center New York, led by Elena Branson, organized an evening in celebration of the 215th birthday anniversary of the Russian author of the Romantic era Alexander Pushkin. Anatoly Kargapolov, Senior Consul of the Consulate General of the Russian Federation in New York, emphasized in his remarks that the birthday of the greatest Russian poet and the founder of modern Russian literature is being celebrated by the United Nations as an important international cultural event. Peter von Berg, a film and theater actor known for roles in Cast Away and The Americans, as well as poet, translator, and playwright Julian Henry Lowenfeld, were reading Pushkin’s work. An acclaimed spinto soprano Anya Fidelia sang works by Tchaikovsky and Glinka, based on Pushkin’s poems and poetry, accompanied by a winner of international piano competitions Irina Morozova. Pushkin’s bust, created by the sculptor Mikhail Zvyagin, was part of the gallery’s exhibition. Northern Cross Foundation is planning a gift of this sculpture to the city of New York.



Anatoly Kargapolov, Senior Consul of the Russian Consulate General in NY; and Elena Branson, President of Russian Center New York

Being an avid and continued supporter of the arts, Alexandre Gertsman also hosted a traditional annual cocktail reception for Martha Graham Dance Company’s national Board of Directors and a



Jamarr Lewis of Citibank

In addition to this, Mr. Gertsman has also shown his appreciation for some of his clients and friends by hosting private dinners in the heart of the gallery. While many of these dinners' guests have visited the opening receptions for the exhibitions or the private events numerous times, sitting in the midst of works by some of the world's most promising and celebrated artists takes wining and dining to another level. At one of the dinners, for instance, Mr. Gertsman lightened the mood with entertainment from performer Bob Levine, a prominent and admired figure in New York's and Fire Island's cabaret scene for several decades. Bob brought his amazing, powerful voice and charm, providing the perfect "appetizer" for an evening of art and conversation.



Bob Levine, cabaret singer



Alexandre Gertsman and Prof. Robert Cancro, MD

fundraiser for the Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance. The longest continually operating school of dance in the U.S., it has students from different parts of the world, including Ukraine. The company's major benefactors were in attendance, along with supporters and friends of the company and the dancers. Alexandre Gertsman has also donated several pieces of artwork and a gallery's tour with cocktails for a group of art and ballet enthusiasts at Martha Graham Company's annual celebration taking place at the Scandinavia House in Manhattan.

At another dinner, Mr. Gertsman's long-standing friend and collector Dr. Robert Cancro, Professor and Chairman Emeritus of Psychiatry at New York University Medical Center, expressed his opinion about current relations between the United States and Russia. The dinner's guests were also fascinated by Robert's story of his development, in the Soviet time, of a U.S.-Russian research consortium on terrorism and posttraumatic stress disorder, and him being instrumental back in the 1980s in bringing the use of psychiatric clinics towards dissidents in the Former USSR to the attention of the World Psychiatric Organization. In the post-Perestroika era, however, Robert Cancro has been

an honorary guest of the Russian medical and scientific community more than once. Dr. Cancro, who as a three-decade Chair of the NYU Psychiatry Department was the longest-serving academic chairman of a department of psychiatry in the nation, has been a longtime consultant to the World Health Organization, the United States Secret Service and the Department of Justice, the World Psychiatric Association and no less than our New York Yankees.



Alexander Kosolapov, artist; Alexandre Gertsman; Grisha Bruskin, artist



Olga Bronfman, stylist; Dr. Dmitry Bronfman; Alexandre Gertsman

As for 2015, an exciting array of exhibitions, art publications, presentations, public and private events and fundraisers, concerts and book-readings are planned at our gallery, and we look forward to seeing you all!

The gallery is located at 652 Broadway, Floor 2, off Bleecker Street, and is open by appointment only.

For further information please visit www.agcontemporaryart.com or call 646-344-1325.



Design: Vlada Reznikova
Photos: Vlada Reznikova, Yuriy Sandulov, Russian Center New York
Editorial: Nathan Liu, Aaron R. Rodriques