



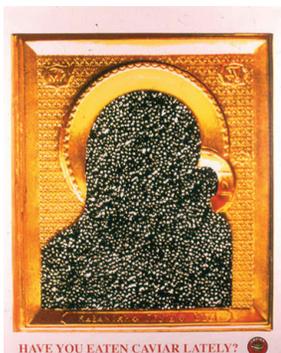
ALEXANDRE GERTSMAN CONTEMPORARY ART



Left to right, artworks by: Rimma and Valery Gerlovin, Mikhail Roginsky, Komar and Melamid, Vladimir Nemukhin, Boris Orlov,

Contemporary Russian art continues gaining its world-wide attention and recognition, and Paris has become one of its major venues in 2016. Centre Georges Pompidou – Musee d'Art Moderne, one of the world's most important art museums, is currently hosting the exhibition *COLLECTION! Contemporary art in the former USSR and Russia in 1950 - 2000*, consisting of artworks from the previous and newly acquired Pompidou's permanent collection. Several of the artists, who can be currently seen at the Alexandre Gertsman Contemporary Art Gallery's exhibit *Saluting Centre Pompidou!*, are also on display at the Pompidou's Musee d'Art Moderne: Rimma and Valeriy Gerlovin, Ilya and Emilia Kabakov, Komar & Melamid, Alexander Kosolapov, Vladimir Nemukhin, Boris Orlov, Mikhail Roginsky, Leonid Sokov and Vladimir Yankilevsky.

Left to right, artworks by: Alexander Kosolapov, Leonid Sokov, Ilya and Emilia Kabakov, Vladimir Yankilevsky; and exhibition opening reception



One of our biggest events of the year was dedicated to Moscow-born photographer, illustrator, composer, founder and a frontman of New York's band MAD MEG Ilya Popenko. In his first major exhibition this "multi-talented multi-media artist" — as described by Maya Pritsker in *Arts&Culture* at the *Russian Television Network of America* — presented not only his artwork, but MAD MEG's debut album, *Puberty Tales!* In this occasion the gallery organized an opening reception for Popenko featuring a live concert by MAD MEG. As Delarue wrote in the *New York Music Daily*,

"The band played a tantalizing preview for this show with an expansive, theatrical set at Alexandre Gertsman Contemporary Art, THE go-to gallery for A-list Russian artists these days. Despite the



MAD MEG and Ilya Popenko



Ilya Popenko SEE OF CAVIAR

fact that the band was playing practically all acoustic, they held a packed house rapt for practically an hour on an impromptu stage. Frontman Ilya Popenko swooped and circled out into the crowd: tall and wiry, decked out in a black suit, the Cave resemblance is unmistakable. But he's the rare, distinctive artist who's as adept at music as he is with visuals. His twisted Photoshopped tableaux – substituting his face for a series of twisted characters coiled up in corners, schmoozing sardonically around a holiday table or engaging in all sorts of sordid behavior – are as funny as his series based on the cult favorite Soviet cartoon Gena the Crocodile." Popenko's photos have been published by *The New York Times*, *Village Voice*, *Time OUT New York*, and *Rolling Stone Russia*.

At the event, Yulia Mamontova, who is a co-founder and CEO of *AnestasiA Vodka*, introduced this super premium brand—an exquisite small-batch hand-crafted vodka with a breathtakingly smooth finish. Ms. Mamontova, a New York city artist — who comes from a family of Ukrainian-born vodka producers—has created a spirit that has earned her a remarkable eight gold medals. The design of the bottle was commissioned to acclaimed New York award-winning designer Karim Rashid, who has also created products for Veuve Clicquot, Christofle, Alessi, Artemide and Vondom. The bottle of *AnestasiA Vodka* represents the visual embodiment of innovative American luxury: the stunningly sculpted crystalline decanter combines an appreciation for the natural processes used in creating this vodka with a sense of timeless class and beauty.



Karim Rashid, awards-winning designer, and Yulia Mamontova, CEO of AnestasiA Vodka and an artist

Having presented a number of group-exhibitions throughout the year, we also hosted several solo exhibits. After presenting his work earlier this year at the Moscow Museum of Modern Art and The Russian Museum in St. Petersburg, Russian-Canadian artist Dmitry Gretskey had his first major American exhibition *THEREAFTER* at Alexandre Gertsman's Gallery. Mr. Gretskey, who is a Kandinsky Prize Nominee in Russia and a Kingston Prize Finalist in Canada, was joined at the exhibit by his wife and collaborator Evgenia Kats. The show was a tremendous success, and the gallery hosted a private reception and dinner for Mr. Gretskey and Ms. Katz, to give the artists a chance to interact with collectors and the New York art-establishment. At the dinner, Gretskey talked about the importance of his drawings in his body of work, and Dr. Alla Rosenfeld—a renowned art historian and former Russian Sotheby's Director—held an exciting dialogue with Mr. Gretskey and the rest of the attendees. Dmitry Gretskey was in the -news later in the year when the popular Russian daily newspaper *Kommersant* reported that a Gretskey piece had sold at the *Viennacontemporary* art fair for the record price of 40,000 Euros.



Artist Evgenia Kats and her installation



Alexandre Gertsman and artists Evgenia Kats, Dmitry Gretskey and Natalya Nesterova



Artist Oleg Dergachov and his work DREAMER

There was another solo exhibition of a half-Canadian artist, but this time it was the "artistic product" of Ukraine's Lviv National Academy of Fine Arts: sculptor Oleg Dergachov. Mr. Dergachov—who continued his studies in Germany and Poland—works with cartoon, paintings, graphics and has won over 70 international art awards. His work can be found not only in major art museums of his native Ukraine and Russia, but also at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, Mediotheek of the Bobur,

Centre Georges Pompidou, and Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art in Iran, among other museums worldwide.



Artist Matuschka in front of her installation

AG Contemporary Art Gallery hosted a retrospective exhibition of Matuschka, a New York based artist of Ukrainian descent, and an activist and author whose photos and essays have been widely published in a variety of international publications since the 1980s. The artist discussed the works on display, and also shared stories of three decades of her artistic and social activities. Her accolades include the prize-winning 1993 cover of the *New York Times* Sunday magazine, The Rachael Carson Award for her work addressing environmental concerns, a Gold Award from the World Press Foundation and a Pulitzer Prize nomination for photography. In 1996 the artist's poster "Time for Prevention" commissioned by Greenpeace won the Best Environmental Poster Award in 2003, and 2011 *LIFE* magazine chose Matuschka's iconic self-portrait "Beauty out of Damage" for their special tribute "One Hundred Pictures That Changed the World." Matuschka's work has been featured in numerous museums including The Cooper Hewitt Museum in New York, The National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C., Musee de l'Elysee in Lausanne, Switzerland, and The Photographic Museum of Helsinki.

Composer and jazz pianist Eva Novoa also gave a recital at the gallery. A selected group of guests admired the artwork on display while enjoying songs that will be included in Novoa's fourth—soon to be released—album. Novoa has received international media acclaim for her previous CD "Butterflies and Zebras". A four stars review in *DownBeat* magazine, described her as a "bold and restless pianist moving easily between acute precision and painterly fervor". The album was recorded in collaboration with the Ditmas Quartet and GRAMMY Award winning producer Jeremy Loucas. Ms. Novoa has also recorded in the Netherlands, and frequently performs in Holland, Germany, Switzerland, France, Belgium, Portugal, Norway, and her native Spain.



Eva Novoa, composer and jazz pianist

The Dark Ash Films' manmade event was a night to celebrate the birth of this new and exciting film production company. The young and talented team at Dark Ash is producing impactful and original projects that combine classic beauty with avant-garde techniques. Dark Ash Films' President Sean Russel Herman and Executive Director Paul Mara —both seasoned producers and actors—presented their new company to a group of film, theater



Boris Gluzberg, Sr. VP, CNB, Sean Russel Herman, actor, writer, President of Dark Ash Films, Paul Gomez, Sr. Director Government Affairs, Telemundo, NBC, and Paul Marra, actor, President of Dark Ash Films

and art lovers that included Paul Gomez, Senior Director of Telemundo/ NBC, and filmmaker Abe Kasbo, CEO at Verasoni Worldwide. The gallery also hosted a private reception for the Winston Art Group and U.S. Trust, with a presentation on the contemporary Russian art market by Alexandre Gertsman. The event was co-hosted by Elizabeth von Hapsburg, who is the Winston Art Group's Managing Director, and a member of the advisory committee of the Museum of Art & Design. Deborah Larrison, Managing Director of U.S. Trust, also spoke about the long-standing collaboration between her company and the Winston Art Group.



Alexandre Gertsman and Kira Franzraich, Head of Eastern-European Acquisition Committee, Tate Modern Gallery, London



Alberto Ferreras, writer, filmmaker, and performance artist, and Alexandre Gertsman

It has become a tradition, that Alexandre Gertsman shows his appreciation for his clients, colleagues and close friends by hosting private dinners in the heart of the gallery. Sitting in the midst of works by some of the most celebrated world's artists takes wining and dining to another level, while the talent of a chef Gerry Kong dazzles the guests with the finest examples of American and European cuisine.



We wish you all a Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you at the gallery in 2017!

Chef Gerry Kong