

JONATHAN MEESE
TROPICAL ALASKA KID DER MOLOKOBEFEHL

22/02/2013 - 31/03/2013

Opening: February 21, Thursday, 18.00 - 21.00

Art lovers this season will have the opportunity to acquaint themselves with the work of the German contemporary artist Jonathan Meese. The artist will not only completely transform the space of the Red October Gallery and also present a new installation, but will open a solo exhibition in the Regina Gallery a day later, showcasing new paintings and sculptures. He is named one of the European art world's most eccentric figures. The artist has frequently turned gallery spaces upside down with his unique performances, which he presents during exhibition openings.

Regina has excelled at being at the forefront of the artists work. Meese exhibited at the gallery in 2005, 2008 and 2009. 15 of his paintings, 5 assemblages and 3 bronze and copper sculptures from 2011-2013 will be presented this time.

The title of the exhibition deals with the theme of The Child. According to him, childhood represents a total force, as the child has no knowledge of democracy, religion, esoterics or cynicism. Children to him are Suprematists, which the artist sees as the absolute law of nature. Meese admits that as a child himself he was convinced that reality is too weak to become the future, and felt the universal energy of art. The artist has created a unique terminology for the cult of art and childhood: lolitism, babyism, babyharmony. Meese carefully synthesizes images from mythology, history, depictions of legendary heroes and historical figures such as Hitler, Stalin, Marquis de Sade, as well as film stars such as Marlen Dietrich and Scarlett Johansson. In his practice he is concerned with destroying the cults of political regimes and dictatorships as well as refusing to believe in religion. Art is the only possible dictatorship according to Meese, and his work is the ultimate propaganda, no matter the medium it is presented in. The artist has to step aside and wait for art to engulf everything.

Jonathan Meese lives and works in Germany. He is presently active in all of the artistic mediums: painting, sculpture, installations and performance. He has also worked as a theatre designer on such plays as «Noel Coward is back», presented at Tate Modern. For the Salzburg festival in 2010 Meese developed the set decorations for Wolfgang Rihm's «Dionysos» opera, and Wagner's «Parsifal» opera is due in 2016, a key part of the artists career. The set decorations and costumes will be designed by the artist. His work is in the private collections of Pompidou Centre, Saatchi Gallery, as well as various contemporary art museums in Belgium, Denmark, France, Japan and the United States.

For further information please contact: +7 (495) 228-13-30, e-mail: moscow@reginagallery.com