

PRESS RELEASE

Stas Volyazlovsky
KIOSK BETWEEN TWO TOWERS

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Private view: 24 November, Thursday, 6 – 9 pm

Regina Moscow is pleased to announce 'Kiosk Between Two Towers', a new solo exhibition by Stas Volyazlovsky. In the past years, the artist has been successfully developing a new style of 'Chanson Art'. His works are made using ball-point marker pens and tea stains, applied to anything at hand. They are a reflection of the multifaceted nature of modern life. They contain everything from politics, pornography and pop culture to criminal extremes and timeless values.

The artist's name has already spread like a loud echo all over the world after Volyazlovsky himself began to conquer new horizons. He visited America and saw the Statue of Liberty. It is said that "today, the American dream is in vogue". Volyazlovsky explores this idea through a fearless measure of 'Chanson Art'. That is how the idea of 'Kiosk Between Two Towers' came about. Here are its ingredients: New York, painted textiles, video cameras, offbeat artistic views and the friendly-creative companionship of fellow-artist Sergey Bratkov. Within the walls of his imagination Volyazlovsky has mixed together the lights of Brighton, trickster chanson, the American and Russian spirit, covering it in a thick layer of banter. Putin, ballet-dancer Maya Plisetskaya, Mikhail Khodorkovsky and politician Yulia Tymoshenko form just a partial list of the participants who appear on his tawdry, tattooed bed sheets. These characters find themselves at the 'epicenter of the world's vice'. Furthermore, the portals of Moscow's Kursky railway station appear to visitors at the entrance to the exhibition in the shape of Manhattan's Twin Towers.

What position does this "Art-East" of the exhibition arrive at? To the freedom of thoughts, actions, points of view, ways of self-expression. Freedom is in the art, to be enjoyed! For the realization of his idea the 'chansonnier', Volyazlovsky, has conceived an accompanying performance that will take place for the duration of the show. His slogan is 'Everything for Art!' Here, he offers female viewers the chance to leave an item of their underwear in exchange for one of his masterpieces in a kiosk "à la Moscow of the 90s" situated between the two Twin Towers. For the visitor's convenience there is also a changing room nearby. This itself became an art-object after Bratkov's creative eye and hand passed over it. Having given away an item of their wardrobe lucky women will earn a much more valuable and useful piece of art.

The exhibition vividly demonstrates that Pop Art, which came from America in 1960s, was transformed in the USSR, made a wave back to the piers of Coney Island and returns to modern Russia – as kitsch.

Stas Volyazlovsky was born in Kherson, Ukraine in 1971, where he currently lives and works. In 2010 he was the recipient of one of Russia's most prestigious contemporary art awards - the Kazimir Malevich prize. He has participated in numerous group exhibitions including 'The 3rd Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art' at the Garage Center for Contemporary Culture, Moscow (2009), 'Generations USA' at the Pinchuk Art Center, Kiev (2007) and 'The 5th International Triennial of Small Graphic Forms' in Vilnius (2004).

For further information and press enquiries please telephone +7 (495) 228 1330 or via e-mail: moscow@reginagallery.com