

VICTOR ALIMPIEV MAGIC RUSTLE

07/09/2011 - 20/09/2011

Private view: Tuesday, September 6, 2011, 6 - 9 p.m.

Regina Gallery is pleased to present the Magic Rustle, a new solo show of Victor Alimpiev. Shown within the framework of the parallel program of the Fourth Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art, the exhibition is a presentation of the artist's latest video work. Similar to his previous works, the atmosphere of a particular community of people united by a common cause is being created by the artist. However in the present work the "community" is reduced to a quantitative minimum.

Victor Alimpiev:

Strolling along the stage, the actress is performing a monologue, inciting the fist to rejoice, the imperfect word to riot, the bow to bloom... Words are equal to actions: the verbal statements appear as part of directive gestures - as if a conductor has suddenly begun assisting the action with words, while the monologue as a whole becomes performative (a statement-action such as "I promise...") The actress' words and actions come across as if they reflect her own words and actions on a screen facing her, as if they comment on them and challenge them, creating a sport-like environment, a concert environment (remember that historians derive the origin of the word "concerto" from two different roots: the Latin "competition" and the Italian "concord".) "As if" - because on the opposite-facing screen the same story is played out but with a slight delay which creates the impression - but just the impression - of a dialogue. That's probably why the sound of statements here seems to contain a trace of a question and repeat with the insistence of a question. This is a reflection without ironic undertones. However nothing is returned as farce, yet is "asked" again and again as a performative statement. A perfect moral world where words are equal to actions.

Massimiliano Gioni, New Museum (New-York) curator:

Alimpiev's acrobatic flights of fantasy are meant to free our bodies, our movements and sounds from any immediate need and obvious meaning, turning our lives into an otherworldly mating dance or some inscrutable collective ritual.

Victor Alimpiev was born in Moscow in 1973. He graduated from the Art School of Memory of 1905, and the New Art Strategies at the Institute of Contemporary Art in Moscow. Today Victor Alimpiev is one of the most interesting and distinguished figures in contemporary Russian art. His works are included in the collections of such important Russian and Western museums and foundations as the National Center for Contemporary Arts, the Moscow Museum of Modern Art, Tate Modern, Centre Pompidou, MuHKA, MART-Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art Rovereto, Cultural Foundation EKATERINA, Contemporary City Foundation, the Nicola Trussardi Foundation, Sandretto Re Rebaudengo Foundation.

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

Actresses: Evgenia Kornitskaya, Alexandra Burgeeva

Camera operator: Vladimir Kuzakov

Sound man: Aleksey Krasnov

Patters: Oleg Kosukhin

VICTOR ALIMPIEV
MAGIC RUSTLE, 2011

HD video, colour, sound
14'22", two channel video
edition of 5 plus 1 AP

I
declare
concord
I'm
evoking
here and here
this very concord
here and here – the magic rustle

rejoice, the unclenched fist
rejoice, the imperfect word
rejoice, next-year-at-the-same-place
here and here, at the same place
rebel – at the same place
here and here – at the same place
rebel
somewhere here...

somewhere here: this bow – blooms in response – at the same place
rebel - here, in response – at the same place,
rejoice, the unclenched fist,
rebel, the imperfect word, likewise, like this, somewhere here, the imperfect word

somewhere here - almost
almost yes
yes
this is – the concord
right here this very concord
here and here – this magic rustle