



ALEXANDRE GERTSMAN CONTEMPORARY ART



Private viewing at the gallery - collector Richard Buonomo and guest

2013 proved to be an exciting year at the Alexandre Gertsman Contemporary Art Gallery, as many new exhibitions, lecturers, art talks, fundraisers and private events kept New York's art enthusiasts entertained, enlightened and looking forward to an art-filled 2014.

Not going unnoticed by the art community was the fact that this was one of the most successful years for contemporary art sales at both Christie's and Sotheby's. A new auction record was set for Contemporary sales with recent and modern works garnering more attention than Modern and Impressionist sales in what is sure to be considered a banner year for both galleries and artists. We are, no doubt, proud to say that several of these contemporary art sales were by artists whose works had been featured in our gallery and in our galleries exhibits.

Internationally renowned artists, Ilya and Emilia Kabakov's \$1.6 Million sale of *Holidays N 6* at Sotheby's in London was not to be outdone by another 7-digit sale at the Abu Dhabi Biennale in November. The film *Ilya and Emilia Kabakov: ENTER HERE* by acclaimed director Amei Wallach, a double portrait of the lives and work of Russia's most celebrated

international artists, premiered at the Forum Film Cinema in New York and is now being shown internationally after its success at the Toronto Film Festival. Vitaly Komar & Alexander Melamid's *Girl in Front of a Mirror* sold for \$1 Million at Phillips in London, falling just short of the artist's all-time record. Natalya Nesterova's *Noah's Arch* sold for \$200,000 at the Moscow Biennale, creating a new sale's record for the artist, and Tatiana Nazarenko's new exhibition traveled throughout Russia, culminating the tour at the palace of St. Petersburg's former Tsar, to the critics' fanfare.

The year continued to be great for Russian contemporary art as Leonid Sokov's *Retrospective* at The Tretyakov Gallery became one of the most talked-about museum exhibitions in Russia, with *The New York Times* applauding Sokov's consequent exhibition at the Zimmerli Museum of Rutgers University. The Kandinsky Prize finalist, Dmitry Gretskey was also a finalist of the prestigious Le Prix Kingston in Canada, and Aleksander Kosolapov who participated at the Venice Biennale, had his work appear on the covers of comprehensive books about XX Century art in both the United States and in Europe. Although some of Kosolapov's artworks were originally found scandalous and unwelcome in Russia, this including the *Icon-Caviar*, most have become the most popular artwork at our gallery's year-end exhibition *Transformations*.



Alexander Kosolapov ICON -CAVIAR



Artist Vitaly Komar

worked with artist Alex Melamid as the artistic duo Komar and Melamid. Together, they founded the Sots Art (Soviet Pop and Conceptual Art) movement in Russia, which co-opted the visual language of official Soviet state-sponsored art and propaganda.

After moving to the United States, Komar and Melamid became one of the world's most famous post-modern artists. They are included in the *100 Best Artists of the XX Century* (Editions Hazan, 1998) and participated in such major world art events as the Venice

Exhibitions and shows were not the only thing that had people excited to come to the gallery in 2013. A lecture and artist talk, by the painter and performance artist Vitaly Komar titled "My Experience as an Artist in Russia and in the West" was a great offering in which Komar described himself as a man of duality.

Born in the USSR in 1943 and living in the U.S. since 1978, Komar identifies as half Russian and half American. In fact, most of his artistic career has been as half of a duo, for from the 1960s through 2003, Vitaly Komar

Biennial (several times), Documenta (Kassel), and Moscow and Sydney Biennials. Their paintings are in the permanent collections of such museums as The Metropolitan Museum of Art, MOMA - Museum of Modern Art, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, The Whitney Museum of American Art, and The Jewish Museum, New York, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C., Victoria and Albert Museum, London, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, The Australian National Gallery, Canberra, The Canadian National Gallery, Museum Ludwig of Modern Art, Vienna, The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, The National Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow, and The Russian Museum, St. Petersburg.



Natella Voiskunski, Publisher and co-founder of the Tretyakov Gallery magazine at the Russian Embassy, Washington, D.C.



Andrei Tolstoy, Director of the Institute of Theory and History of Fine Arts at the Russian Academy of Arts, Natalia Sipovskaya, Director of Moscow Institute of Art Studies at the Russian Embassy, Washington, D.C.

A reception honoring Natella Voiskunski, publisher and co-founder of the Tretyakov Gallery magazine, and Alexander Rozhin, editor-in-chief of the Tretyakov Gallery magazine, was organized in conjunction with the 10th Anniversary of the magazine's founding. Ms. Voiskunski and Mr. Rozhin had visited New York after the American-Russian Cultural Cooperation Foundation (ARCCF) in partnership with The Moscow State Tretyakov Gallery and the Tretyakov Gallery Foundation "GRANY" had hosted an anniversary reception at the Russian Embassy in Washington, D.C., under the gracious patronage of His Excellency Sergey I. Kislyak, Ambassador of the Russian Federation to USA.

The reception also brought to the gallery Andrei Tolstoy, Director of the Institute of Theory and History of Fine Arts at the Russian Academy of Arts as well as Natalia Sipovskaya, Director of Moscow Institute of Art Studies, Alla Rosenfeld, a former Director of Russian Sotheby's in New York, and Julia Tulovsky, Associate Curator of Russian and Soviet Nonconformist Art at the Zimmerli Art Museum of Rutgers University. Before opening his gallery, Alexandre Gertsman was a founder and president of the American Friends of the Tretyakov Gallery foundation, and had collaborated with Natella Voiskunski and Alexandre Rozhin on their efforts.

Alexandre Gertsman's talk "Art as an Asset Class", was organized, as a celebration of



Boris Gluzberg, VP of City National Bank, Derrick Chambers, President of DCMG LLC, John Oler, CEO of JSBO Realty & Capital, Nanette Nelson and Alexandre Gertsman

entertainers through his company DCMG LLC.

Boris Gluzberg specializes in entertainment, sports, and real estate finance and wealth management, and is involved in cultural and theatrical productions and supporting humanitarian endeavors via the City National Bank.

John Oler launched JSBO Realty & Capital in 1995 and is currently their CEO. A highly respected leader of the business community, John is also well-known philanthropist and investor in theatrical and musical productions.



Lorraine Simonton-Oler and Neila Fortuna, members of the Martha Graham Board of Trustees

continued fiscal success, by John Oler, President of JSBO Realty & Capital Inc., Derrick Chambers, Founder of DCMG LLC, and Boris Gluzberg, Vice President, Entertainment Division at City National Bank, who invited their clients to the Alexandre Gertsman Contemporary Art Gallery for a clients appreciation cocktail event.

Derrick Chambers, a former professional athlete in the National Football League (NFL), keeps football as a part of his life today as a member of the National Football League Players Association (NFLPA). Derrick's focus now, however, is on financial literacy and advisory services for professional athletes and

Alexandre Gertsman, an avid and continued supporter of the arts, hosted a Cocktail reception and fundraiser for Martha Graham Dance Company's national Board of Directors. Mr. Gertsman, who counts himself as a devotee of Martha Graham's talent and legacy, opened his doors for the group of art and ballet lovers. The Martha Graham Dance Company has been a leader in contemporary dance since 1926 and today, the company is embracing a new programming vision that showcases masterpieces by Graham, her peers, and their successors, as well as newly commissioned works by contemporary artists. With programs that unite the work of choreographers across time within a rich historical and thematic narrative,

the Company is actively working to create new platforms for contemporary dance, and multiple avenues for audiences to experience and understand these compelling works. The company's major benefactors LaRue and Archibald Allen, Mary Blumenthal of The Blumenthal Foundation, Lorraine Simonton-Oler, and Judith and Herbert Schlosser were in attendance, along with supporters and friends of the company and dancers.

The York Theatre Company had a special fundraising gala featuring several numbers from the Richard Rodgers Award-winning new musical in development, *Buddy's Tavern*. With a book by Raymond DeFelitta, writer-director of many films, including *Two Family House* and *City Island* (winner of the Tribeca Audience Award.) Lyrics to the songs were written by Alison Louise Hubbard, winner of the Kleban Award for Lyrics, and the music was by Kim Oler, winner of two Daytime Emmy Awards. Alison and Kim also won the Richard Rogers Award for *Little Women* and the Jerry Bock Award for *The Enchanted Cottage*. Directed by Peter Flynn, with music direction by Ray Fellman, the evening's entertainment portion featured Andrea Burns, the Joseph Jefferson Award and Touring Broadway Award Nominee, Daniele Ferland, Theatre World Award recipient, and actors Jordan Gelber, Mark Lotito, Alan Green Walter A. Dunn Jr., Philip Hoffman, and Lindsie Van Winkle-Guthrie.



Performance of the Richard Rodgers' Buddy's Tavern by the York Theatre company



Pianist Julia Dusman

Alexandre Gertsman continues his tradition of showing his appreciation for his clients and close friends by hosting private dinners at the gallery. Sitting in the midst of works by some of Russia's most promising and celebrated artists takes wining and dining to another level. Mr. Gertsman enjoys presenting the most highly regarded talents at his gallery and this time, it was celebrated pianist Julia Dusman. A graduate of the Moscow College of Music and the Mannes College of Music in New York, Julia was a featured soloist and staff harpsichordist with "Sophia" chamber

orchestra and appeared in Russia's major concert halls, including the Rachmaninoff Concert Hall and the Concert Hall of Moscow Conservatory. In the states she has had solo appearances at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, the Harvard Club of New York, Steinway Hall, and the Goethe Institute in New York. She has also been frequently featured as a soloist and chamber musician on 96.3 FM WQXR.



Actor Veniamin Smekhov, Natalya Viardo and Artist Natalya Nesterova

The year 2014 looks to be a very exciting one at the Alexandre Gertsman Contemporary Art Gallery with a series of new exhibitions in the works, as well as two exhibition catalogues in the making. Look for new artists and newly acquired artworks to be featured as we begin another year of great art with new and old friends.

We hope to see you soon!

The gallery is located at 652 Broadway, Floor 2 and by appointment only.

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



Artist Dmitry Gretskey

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