



**WHITE BOX PRESENTS**  
***RUSSIA 2***  
**BAD NEWS FROM RUSSIA**

Curated by Marat Guelman and Juan Puentes

Organized by Marat Guelman Art Foundation (Moscow) and WHITE BOX (New York)

@ *WHITE BOX*

December 8, 2005 – January 11, 2006

Opening Thursday, December 8, 2005 6 – 8 p.m. / Performances Thursday, December 15, 2005 6 – 8p.m.

@ *THE ANNEX*

December 15, 2005– January 11, 2006

Opening Thursday, December 15, 2005 6 – 8p.m.

The Marat Guelman Art Foundation and White Box are pleased to present *RUSSIA 2: Bad News from Russia* at White Box and The Annex with additional venues including Magnan Project's Annex Space and Ethan Cohen Fine Arts. *RUSSIA 2* will highlight the most cutting edge avant-garde Russian Art, the majority of which has not yet been seen by US audiences.

*RUSSIA 2* first made its debut at the Moscow Biennial in January of this year when it exposed international audiences to previously underrepresented Contemporary Russian Art. *RUSSIA 2* features renowned contemporary artists from the region exploring the subject of the "other Russia", which lies beyond the scope of the pro-governmental, overbearing culture. This condition has become more and more dominant in present-day Russia and tends to impose certain restrictive taboos – such as Chechnya, religion and the figure of the President. These "sacred cows" remain valid for the art sphere as well, which leads to clashes between curators/artists/writers on the one hand and the authorities on the other (and came to an apogee in the form of the recent law-suits against exhibitions of contemporary art and contemporary Russian writers).

In this situation of strengthening the pressure on art there is only one positive decision that is to create a parallel cultural system, a platform that supports a wide variety of free artistic positions. The exhibition is an attempt to build such a platform by gathering creative people in a free artistic working environment.

*RUSSIA 2* exists in the geographical borders of the Russian Federation, and is more democratic, multicultural, bent on exploring some dangerous topics rather than being part of a framework of official do's and don'ts. While *RUSSIA 2* distances itself from Putin's Russia, it is not part of an oppositional party or dissident activity - it is a symmetrical response to the hermetically closed culture of *RUSSIA 1* or Putin's Russia.

**Artists:**

AES group / BLUE NOSES group (Mizin, Shaburov) / Gor CHAHAL / Dmitry GUTOV / Alexey KALLIMA / Valery KOSHLIYAKOV / Alexander KOSOLAPOV / Oleg KULIK / Maxim MAMSIKOV / Gosha OSTRETISOV / Yury SHABELNIKOV / Alexey SHULGIN / Avdey TER-OGANYAN / Vasily TSAGOLOV / Alexander VINOGRADOV & Vladimir DUBOSSARSKY

**[WWW.GUELMAN.RU](http://WWW.GUELMAN.RU)**

Also on view through January 11, 2006 at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum is the *RUSSIA!* exhibition

White Box is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and all donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. For more information about the exhibition, please contact Yasha Wallin at 212-714-2347 or [yasha@whiteboxny.org](mailto:yasha@whiteboxny.org).

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