

WHITE BOX presents
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



NEW UKRAINIAN PAINTING



Curated by Marat Guelman
Organized by Juan Puentes

Exhibition on View:
April 11 - May 24, 2008
Opening Reception:
April 11, 2008 6-8pm
Extended through May 31, 2008

ARTISTS: JURI SOLOMKO / ALEXANDER ROITBURD /
NIKITA KADAN / ILYA CHICHKAN / ANDREI SAGAIDAKOVSKY/ MAXIM MAMSIKOV / NIKOLAY
MATSENKO / LESYA KHOMENKO/ KONSTANTIN REUNOV / VLADA RALKO / ARSEN SAVADOV /
SERGEI ZARVA / KATYA SOLOVIEVA VASILY TSAGOLOV/ ALEXANDER GNYLITSKY/ PAVEL MAKOV

(VIDEOBOX) YASHA KAZHDAN

Last in a White Box series exploring different methods of art production in Post-Soviet territories and Greater Russia begun in 2005 with *Russia 2: Bad News from Russia*, *New Ukrainian Painting* premieres a disparate group of artists- springing from the land of the great modernist painters Malevich, Rodchenko and Kandinsky- who after working in different media, resolved to return to painting as their instrument of artistic exploration and expression.

The latest rehabilitation of Ukrainian painting has taken place in the media age, inevitably reflecting on its mutated features. Dealing with post-colonial issues like transculturalism while maintaining the belief that cultural systems of exchange evolve, New Ukrainian painters are no longer constrained by outdated boundaries and regulations. While they remain faithful to the figurative and the narrative, postmodern appropriations of art history direct a trans-media flow of mixed screen and glossy-magazine manipulation.

The correlation seen in new Ukrainian painting of the modern context to the return to the "real" and the documentary is not a simple abbreviation of the pre-media ages. The need to regain a grip on some "real reality" is more than just an alternative to the growing sensations of artificiality in today's world and the virtualization of everyday life.

These Ukrainian painters express a sense of both liberation and anxiety. As the former institutions that once defined their identity have been challenged, they now explore what is it to be Ukrainian today.

WHITE BOX | 525 W. 26th St. | New York, NY 10001 | tel: 212.714.2347 | whiteboxny.org

White Box is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit organization. Your donation is tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. Annual exhibitions are supported in part by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs and the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, with additional annual funds from the Rockefeller Brothers Fund and the Lily Auchincloss Foundation.

