

'The Return' Exhibition

Mon 10th October - Thurs 20th October 2011

'Faith does not need the thought of being.'
Heidegger

Following on from the success of last year's 'The House of the Nobleman' exhibition, curator Victoria Golembiovskaya is pleased to announce this year's show, opening on 10th October 2011. 'The Return' will explore ideas of the sacred in art, design and contemporary thought, drawing pieces from the most prestigious international collections, to be curated alongside contemporary names and developing work in direct response to the show's curatorial brief.

Directly referencing the work of Jean-Luc Marion and Michel Henri, the exhibition attempts to analyse the act of idolatry, prioritising sensory perception in our understanding of a 'reality', whilst questioning the role of science in attempts to establish a universal 'truth'. 'The Return' asks what is left once the 'theological turn' is acknowledged, with the artwork and practice of creativity itself demonstrating our incessant attempts to escape the 'disease of life'. The juxtaposition of works, spanning different historical periods, will allow a re-reading or re-evaluation of our understanding of a definitive art history, whilst opening up areas of discussion relevant to contemporary theological debate.

In continuing The House of the Nobleman collaboration with Oakmayne Bespoke, 'The Return' will take place in the stunning Grade 1 listed Boswall House, overlooking The Regent's Park and within walking distance of Frieze Art Fair 2011. Already generating extensive interest due to the calibre of artists involved, this year's show includes pieces by Gerhard Richter, Jean-Michel Basquiat and Anish Kapoor, alongside Olafur Eliasson, Wim Delvoye and Zeng Fanzhi amongst others. Rare and unseen pieces will be publicly exhibited for the first time alongside work developed especially for the exhibition.

Notes to Editors

The House of the Nobleman 2010

'The House of the Nobleman' 2010 saw the participation of over 80 artists, with works drawn from outstanding international private collections including the David Roberts Foundation, the Ragdan El-Akabi and The Gunter Lorenz Collections, alongside up-and-coming artists who featured in Channel 4's 'New Sensations', in association with the Saatchi Gallery.

Inspired by Robert Musil's *The Man Without Qualities*, the exhibition mirrored the novel's fin de siècle mood by placing modern masters in a spatial and conceptual dialogue with today's most prominent contemporary artists. Referencing Ulrich, the character in Musil's 'story of ideas', the curators imagined the house's inhabitant as a hugely successful trader, with the artwork in each of the 21 principal spaces within the house, skilfully themed to reflect his varying moods - fierce, alienated, calm and distant. The end result proved a rich and vivid narrative of varying human experience, with renewed relationships enabled across art historical understanding.

Amongst a crowd of top collectors, gallery owners, artists and architects intermingled with the property and business elite. Over 50 journalists from the national and international press attended the 2010 exhibition, resulting in exceptionally wide-spread and enthusiastic media coverage. Receiving over 2,000 visitors, the exhibition was deemed an overwhelming success, resulting in the decision for the exhibition to become an ongoing annual addition to the Frieze week landscape.

'It was by far the best event during Frieze week, in terms of art viewing and considered presentation in masterful surroundings.' **Amro Sabounchi, collector.**

Statement

Our ambition at The House of the Nobleman is to inspire new ways of looking at residential spaces and to stimulate an increasingly hybrid viewing of art through the synthesis of classical, modern and contemporary practice. In addition to organising and producing events that revitalise and create new possibilities for architectural landmarks and living spaces that would otherwise be closed to the public, 'The House of the Nobleman' provides an established multidisciplinary platform with an international network and client base. We offer a diverse selection of services from consultation for private collections and large-scale curatorial projects to providing legal support for private sales, acquisitions and transportation of artworks. Our international resources allow us to source rare museum-quality works for both private and public collectors.

Curators

Victoria Golembiovskaya

After establishing the 'Gaz Group' of artists and academics in Russia, Victoria Golembiovskaya launched the RNA Foundation in 2008, providing an international platform for Russian contemporary artists. With an aesthetic sensibility informed by her experience as a film producer, Victoria has curated acclaimed international exhibitions including 'Miru Mir' (Peace for Peace) exhibition, 'Art Moscow' (2007), 'Vibe' at Louise Blouin Foundation, London (2007), Alexander Ponomarev's 'SubTiziano', a collateral project for the Venice Biennale (2009), co-curated 'SubZero' with Alexander Ponomarev during Frieze Week (2009) and 2010's land art festival 'Archstoyanie'. Born in Moscow in 1981, Victoria lives and works in London and Moscow.

Sponsoring Partners

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