



RUSSIAN VISIONARIES. INTO THE LIGHT.

«А МЫ С НАДЕЖДОЙ В БУДУЩЕЕ: СВЕТ!»

25CPW GALLERY
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On November 29, 2011, the Institute of Modern Russia will present a photographic portrait exhibition entitled “Russian Visionaries. Into the Light.” at the 25 CPW gallery in New York City.

The exhibition is conceived as a multimedia art project, which will display portraits of modern Russian thought leaders alongside their predictions for the future of Russia country after the 2012 presidential elections.

The central pieces of the project are the austere black and white photographs taken by Kirill Nikitenko, a famous Moscow photographer. They depict the faces of prominent Russian writers, actors, journalists, economists, politicians, and human rights activists who are known for their strong, independent views and opposition to the current political regime. Among them are Boris Akunin, Lyudmila Ulitskaya, Eldar Ryazanov, Yuri Shevchuk, Garry Kasparov, Mikhail Kasyanov, Vladimir Pozner, Yevgeny Yasin, Lyudmila Alekseeva, and many others.

Another part of the project is the interviews with these personalities, especially the answer to one question: “How do you see the future of Russia after March 2012 if Vladimir Putin remains in power?” Their replies, along with their portraits and short biographies, will be printed in the exhibition catalogue.

The original idea to bring together Russian intellectual opinion leaders came from Elena Khodorkovskaya, former wife of Russia’s number one political prisoner Mikhail Khodorkovsky, who noticed that there was no space, even in the media, where opposition leaders of various professions could unite. The goal of this project is to show members of the American public who are interested in Russian affairs that there are people beside the formal political opposition who see the country’s future in a completely different way than the official propaganda depicts it. This is how the title of the project – “Russian Visionaries. Into the Light.” – was born.

The exhibition will be open through December 12, 2011.



Garry Kasparov,
World Chess Champion



Lyudmila Ulitskaya,
Writer



Mikhail Efremov,
Actor



Victor Shenderovich,
Satirist



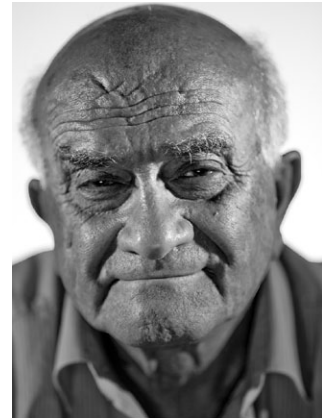
Vladimir Pozner,
TV-host



Lyudmila Alekseeva,
Human rights activist



Alexey Navalny,
Lawyer



Yevgeny Yasin,
Economist

INSTITUTE OF MODERN RUSSIA

The Institute of Modern Russia (IMR) was founded in 2010 by leading experts in U.S.-Russia relations and human rights. Its mission is to support democratic values and institutions in Russia by engaging with civil society, bolstering the rule of law, and strengthening political freedoms. The Institute's website can be found online at www.imrussia.org.

KIRILL NIKITENKO

Kirill Nikitenko began taking photographs at an early age, and soon made photography his profession and life purpose. Collaborating with Vogue, Harper's Bazaar, InStyle and L'Officiel magazines, Kirill Nikitenko has garnered fame as a portrait photographer with a broad scope and stylish execution. His subjects are world famous celebrities like Jude Law, Paris Hilton, Michael Madsen, Giorgio Armani, Ora-İto, Fanny Ardant, Isabelle Jupper, Mila Jovovich, Dennis Hopper, and Yoko Ono. His works have been published in The Times, Whitewall Magazine, and Conde Nast Traveller. His first personal exhibition "New York. Triptych. Reflections," curated by Elena Khodorkovskaya, took place June 2011 in Moscow and ran for five weeks to a wide acclaim. The artist's portfolio can be viewed online at kirillnikitenko.com.



Kirill Nikitenko,
Photographer



Elena Khodorkovskaya,
Curator

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