

Father Frost against Putin 2020 - program

There might be changes. Longer descriptions of some of the sessions can be found below the full schedule.

Friday 3th of January

4:30 PM — 6:00 PM Curatorial activism as a form of resistance and meaningful existence.
Museum of Impossible Forms (Keinulaudankuja 4 E).
7 PM — 11 PM Concert: Ermen Anti (KZ), Paleface & Laulava Unioni (FI), Arkady Kots (RU).
Kuudes Linja (Hämeentie 13, entrance through yard).

Saturday 4th of January

11:30 AM Brunch at Oranssi (Kaasutehtaankatu 1, building 11):
During all day: Appetitive DIY printing session on your stuff (workshop).
12:00 AM — 1:30 PM A new rationality and the political imagination.
1:30 PM — 3 PM I am/We are Shies. Environmental protests in Russia 2018/2019.
2:00 PM — 3:30 PM Laboratory [distinguish number] (body) practice
3:30 PM — 5:00 PM The issue of the transformation of labor and post-labor society.
4:00 PM — 5:30 PM The Russian March-2019 in Lublino gathered merely 100 people, repeating the failure of last year. Does this mean that Russia no longer has Russian nationalism?
5:30 PM — 6:30 PM Cleanup in Oranssi, moving to Ulrika (Leppäsuonkatu 11).
6:30 PM — 7:30 PM Dinner at Ulrika
9:00 PM — 2 AM Gig at Ulrika: Tekhno-Poeziya (RUS), Hyggelig (FIN) + DJ.

Sunday 5th of January

At Oranssi, (Kaasutehtaankatu 1, rakennus 11):
During all day: Appetitive DIY printing session on your stuff (workshop).
12:00 AM — 1:30 PM Presentation of the Association for the Support of Russian Social Movements, Independent platform presentation - studio / studio 4.413 (workshop / free mapping), Small media and political activism (a lecture).
1:30 PM — 2:30 PM Lunch at Oranssi.
2:30 PM — 4:00 PM What is common between feminism and antiracism?
2:30 PM — 4:00 PM Cultural Resistance in Ukraine before and after EuroMaidan: Art, Knowledge, Politics.
4:00 PM — 5:30 PM Feminism (s) in search of a common language (lecture / discussion).
4:30 PM — 6:00 PM The persecution of anarchists and libertarian activists: old cases and new challenges
6:00 PM End of the event, cleanup

Detailed descriptions

Friday 3th of January

4:30 PM — 6:00 PM Curatorial activism as a form of resistance and meaningful existence.

In conversation with TOK curator, researcher and writer Marina Israilova connects curatorial practice and collective approaches to political activism. She proposes the use of the term 'curator-activist' in relation to TOK's practice and explains it as follows: «First of all, this is [manifested in TOK's] responsible approach to the choice of topics: migration, Soviet discourse in the post-Soviet, media control and freedom of speech, identity, nomadism, youth movements, daily life of collectivity, cultural memory and cultural and educational policy of the state. Secondly, it shows up in the attention to working methods. And more importantly, [their curatorial activism is in] their refusal to understand the sphere of cultural production as autonomous and in their focus on social change as a result of process of their work»

Global political and ecological transformations of the recent decades, the takeover by right-wing, patriarchy and digital vitalism led to a point of no return to a free, responsible and democratic society. Growing totalitarianism in Russia has had a significant influence on the art scene in the state and has provoked an immediate response from many artists and cultural workers. In their presentation, female curatorial duo The Creative Association of curators TOK (Anna Bitkina and Maria Veits) will outline aspects of activism in their practice and focus on their projects that respond and resonate with contemporary political processes in Russia and beyond.

Bios:

TOK is a curatorial collective co-founded in 2010 by Anna Bitkina and Maria Veits as a platform for interdisciplinary research-based projects in the field of contemporary art. Throughout their practice TOK curators challenge the borders of the art territory and seek ways of how it can foster social change. Most projects of the collective are multilayered and long-term initiatives aimed at generating new knowledge about the causes and consequences of changing political and social realities and often lie between historical analysis and the political imaginary. TOK's projects deal with current issues that are widely discussed both in Russia and internationally such as migration, public space and citizens, development of education, deprivation of social resources, forming collective memory, human rights, feminism, the growing role of the media in the global society, changing political climate and many others. Curators of TOK curate exhibitions, organize educational events, international conferences and summer schools, programs that aim at the international exchange between artists, curators, designers and educators from Russia and other countries. TOK has a strong publication component and publishes books, brochures, exhibitions catalogues that are available in print and online.

Saturday 4th of January

During all day: Appetitive DIY printing session on your stuff (workshop).

Anya Kurbatova, artist, St. Petersburg

Offers to substitute the standard workshop format with a practice mostly similar to communication in a bar, where instead of drinks the table is filled with stamps-pictograms, paints, rollers and textile.

Is there such a condition, in which the ordinary DIY-practice can become radical? Decorative elements of the punk-culture, crystallised in leather jackets from H&M, are hanging on the coat racks in the offices, agitation textile flows from flea markets into the flats of metropolitan hipsters. We hold clichés in our hands (the French term cliché stands both for a phrase or opinion that is overused and betrays a lack of original thought and for a pad for printing). Independent of the involvement of those present into theory or into reproducing practices, everyone will find a set of prints for her and [perhaps] himself.

12:00 AM — 1:30 PM A new rationality and the political imagination.

Alla Mitrofanova

A political perspective on the practices of care and its formation; the reinvention of the social institutions of “emancipatory democracy”: from basic income to (post)anthropological expansion.

During the presentation, we will consider the approaches of new materialism and neorationalism.

1:30 PM — 3 PM I am/We are Shies. Environmental protests in Russia 2018/2019.

In recent years, environmental protests have sparked up all over Russia. Moscow bureaucrats decided to solve the trash and landfill crisis in the capital by taking the garbage to the regions. Forest fires in Siberia have given rise to a wave of unrest and disagreement with the decisions of the government. Instead of introducing rubbish separation and recycling, the state supports new landfills, dumps and incinerators. The railway station Shies in the middle of the forest in the Arkhangelsk region has become a symbol of the Russian environmental protests. A protest tent camp has set up there for more than a year after a decision to build a giant landfill on that spot was made public. In her presentation, Lölja Nordic, eco-activist and intersectional feminist, will describe how environmental protest has brought together very different regions of Russia and forced people who never expressed oppositionary political views to go into direct conflict with the state and municipal authorities.

2:00 PM — 3:30 PM Laboratory [distinguish number] (body) practice

It's suddenly silence. Everyone is free.

Each policeman was numbered. No harm done for civils.

Artificial “community” that confronts us. This summer, rallies in Moscow became more and more technical. Cruelty built choreography of power. Clear movements, throws, point selection of the victim. They take everyone, we were all gathered as millet, inexorable pedantic chaos.

Acrobatics "removal" of a person in a paddle wagon. To take us with arms and legs.

How is this choreography built? Is it possible to fragment it if you are inside it? How can it go into decentralized distributed matter?

Let's open it together

3:30 PM — 5:00 PM The issue of the transformation of labor and post-labor society.

Nadezhda Ishkinaeva:

artist, teacher, volunteer.

Lecture, screening of a video.

The era of post-employment is changing our idea of labor, rest and leisure. We live in a time when “work” is replaced by “employment” and is characterized by precariousness, irregular working hours, powerlessness and insecurity in the workplace, as well as the development of volunteering, the involvement of people with different abilities in various processes.

We will discuss the (un) opportunity and (un)desire to work on the example of the residents of psychoneurological "boarding schools" and young artists who advocate a world without labor, and also talk about the intersection of feminism and disability.

4:00 PM — 5:30 PM The Russian March-2019 in Lublino gathered merely 100 people, repeating the failure of last year. Does this mean that Russia no longer has Russian nationalism?

Masha Muradova will explain why partly yes, but not entirely.

She will also discuss what happened to Russian nationalism since the outbreak of the war in Ukraine, the annexation of Crimea, the imprisonment (and release) of Demushkin, the case of the “Set”, the end of “Sputnik and Pogrom” and the decriminalization of the first part of article 282 of the Criminal Code.

This story will be based primarily on the work of the “Sova” Information and Analytical Center, which has been monitoring political Russian nationalism, xenophobic violence, and the prosecution based on “anti-extremist” laws for more than ten years.

Sunday 5th of January

12:00 AM — 1:30 PM Presentation of the Association for the Support of Russian Social Movements

The Association for the Support of Russian Social Movements is a new registered NGO (Non-Governmental Organization) created to continue the activities of the festival "Santa Claus Against" and performing other kinds of support for Russian initiatives. The Association has just begun its activities, and is interested in further development.

Independent platform presentation - studio / studio 4.413 (workshop / free mapping)

Studio 4.413 is a laboratory for alternative discourses and interspecies kinship, created for re-commutation of artistic and activist communities. We program an open field of mutational practices and utopian theories without a single code or a dominant discursive form. Our goal is to invent a new language and strategies for multidisciplinary associations that are adequate to the current political situation, as well as to translate modern critical thought into the field of everyday practice to change the habitual ways of thinking. We offer complicity in hybrid forms of interaction. Platform participants will talk about the forms of organization of internal and external interfaces, plans and proposed algorithms of interaction.

Small media and political activism (a lecture).

Pavel Nikulin

Pavel Nikulin - reporter, researcher of small media, founder of almanac moloko plus and chairman of the journalists' union will give a lecture on activism and small media, discuss successful examples of online propaganda and agitation and look at convenient tools anyone can use to start involving oneself into media activism.

2:30 PM — 4:00 PM What is common between feminism and antiracism?

Blogger and feminist activist Masha speaks on the intersections between feminism and antiracism. What are the alternatives to solve current problems in Russian conditions? What can already be done now?

2:30 PM— 4:00 PM Cultural Resistance in Ukraine before and after EuroMaidan: Art, Knowledge, Politics.

Since 2013, when EuroMaidan uprising escalated for the first time, bringing hundreds of international journalists to Kyiv and creating a moral panic in Russian media upon 'fascist coup', Ukraine is signified as a country dominated with far-right ideology. The lecture will de-mystify the far-right dominance in real politics, parallel with the growth of hooray-patriotism and national-populism in cultural discourse, based on cases of critical art resistance.

4:00 PM— 5:30 PM Feminism (s) in search of a common language (lecture / discussion).

Victoria Kravtsova

Numerous strands of theory and practice that exist and evolve today, though having different vantage points, look in one direction, searching for ways out - away from the context of self-reproducing systems - neoliberal, patriarchal, colonial. The currents of feminist critical thought are considered a potential platform for (re)thinking the material and uniting various critical social movements. Intersectional optics are becoming more and more popular; decolonial turn is being actively discussed - together with postcolonial, transnational, cyber- and xenofeminism engaging with the topics of commoning. How do different strands of feminism see the possibility of finding a common language? Can this fantasy of unity itself become the ground for coming together?

4:30 PM — 6:00 PM The persecution of anarchists and libertarian activists: old cases and new challenges

The Network case, Azat Miftakhov, Eugene Karakashev, Ilya Romanov, "The Moscow Case" and its defendants - Vlad Barabanov, who could not be prosecuted for participating in the riots, and Yegor Lesny, who received a severe sentence. 13 days for Alexei Polikhovich for speaking at a rally. The attack in Arkhangelsk and the subsequent cases against Kirill Kuzminkin, Vyacheslav Lukichev, Ekaterina Muranova.

Our comrades are tried, imprisoned, forced to emigrate.

Has systematic repression against the anarchists begun, or is it part of the work of a faceless police machine that doesn't give a damn about the political views of those who get in its way?