**14.06.24**

**Press release**

**The 1703 Art Fair concluded its work in Saint Petersburg**

*The third 1703 Saint Petersburg Art Fair concludes in the Central Exhibition Hall Manege. Its participants included 41 galleries from Saint Petersburg, Moscow, Kaluga, Nizhny Novgorod, Samara, Istanbul and Dubai, as well as four collections in the non-profit section. The venue of the fair saw a staggering 20 thousand plus guests. The project was initiated by Gazprom PJSC and supported by the Saint Petersburg Committee for Culture.*

**Facts, figures and records**

The third edition of the fair boasts the biggest attendance: the debut season in 2022 drew 10 thousand visitors, the second season over 15 thousand, and more than 20 thousand citizens and guests of the city have already visited the third 1703 Fair. The grand opening alone on June 4 had over 2.2 thousand guests. On the final day, June 9th, more than 5.5 thousand people came to browse the booths of the participating galleries.

According to the gallery owners, the commercial sections sold over 400 works with a total value of 78 million rubles. Here is the list of the largest transactions:

- digital series by Aristarchus Chernyshev "Current Transformation" from the SUBSTATION gallery, 4.55 million rubles;

- "Zygote" by Evgeny Mikhnov-Voitenko, "FROM THE PROFESSOR'S APARTMENT" by KGallery, went off for 3 million rubles;

- "Futures contracts" by Vitaly Pushnitsky, pop/off/art booth, 2.5 million rubles;

- "Swamp" by Peter Shvetsov, Marina Gisich Gallery booth, 2 million rubles.

Leonid Kostin's artwork from the Spas project, at the FUTURO Gallery booth ranging in price from 25 to 400 thousand rubles, have been almost completely sold out. Six conceptual paintings by Egor Fedorichev, shown at the MYTH Gallery solo booth, in the 620 to 950 thousand rubles price bracket, were also sold out. An almost complete sold out was announced by the MAISON25 gallery. The inflatable sculpture by Ivan Gorshkov "Hanging Lake", which greeted guests at the entrance, also found a new home.

**Participants**

By the third season, the geography of the participants of the 1703 Fair had grown. Dubai's Inloco open storage debuted among foreign galleries. Ambidexter Gallery from Istanbul participated in the fair for the second year in a row. The regions of Russia had a bigger representation this year also — participants from Samara, Kaluga and Nizhny Novgorod joined the galleries from Moscow and Saint Petersburg.

Among the first-timers this year are DiDi Gallery, pop/off/art, the сцена/szena gallery, PiranesiLAB, Space Four Concept Store, MART gallery, Gallery 9B, Gallery Victoria, SUBSTATION, Rosa Azora, Gallery Jessica, architectural photo gallery Tochka, galleries of photography ART OF FOTO and ZERNOGALLERY.

The following names have already graced the Fair with their presence before: Marina Gisich Gallery, Pogodina Gallery, KultProekt, KROKIN GALLERY, MAISON25, Lumiere Gallery, MYTH Gallery, Pro Art's Gallery, Triumph gallery, a—s—t—r—a gallery, E.K.ArtBuro, FINEART GALLERY, 11.12 GALLERY, PENNLAB Gallery, 3L Gallery, Palaty, ITMO University Art & Science Center, masters digital gallery, VS Gallery, FUTURO Gallery, Béton Visual Culture Center, NAMEGALLERY, ARTZIP, PALTO.

The participants were given a choice to decide which of the four sections of the fair their booth would belong to. "The core" brought together galleries with their own spaces, "the algorithm" was a section for participants who relied on new technologies in art, "the project" showcases online galleries without a specific location, "the material" catered for galleries specializing in object design and functional art.

The fifth section, “collections”, featured special non-commercial projects. In the third season of the 1703 Fair, there were four of them: curated works from Gazprombank's corporate collection, a special non-profit project "1024" by multidisciplinary artist Evgenia Tut from the Limonov Art Foundation, art designed by graduates of the Ilya Repin St. Petersburg Academy of Arts and Dmitry Margolin's installation "Seemingly an ordinary garden..." from Pop-Up Gallery and curator Ksenia Goschitskaya.

**Lecture program**

During the 1703 Fair, the organizers jointly with the masters school set up a lecture program. It included more than 30 art mediations, 21 lectures and discussions on the future of contemporary art, on fairs as an important platform for the development of art industry, the promotion of artists, trends in collecting, and ties between science, technology and creativity.

The speakers of the lecture program during 1703 were 80 leading experts in the field of art, including Milena Orlova (The Art Newspaper Russia), Marina Gisich (Marina Gisich Gallery), Revaz Zhvania (DiDi Gallery), Polina Bondareva (masters), Yulia Vyatkina (MYTH Gallery), Anna Zavediy (Port Art Fair), Alexander Karlyavin (VS Gallery), Anastasia Panova (FUTURO Gallery), Anna Yalova (Manege Central Exhibition Hall), Evgenia Popova (Popov Foundation), Alina Kryukova (a—s—t—r—a gallery), and lecturers from 1703 Fair team — Angelina Karpukhina, and Alena Platonova, etc.

The events were broadcast at the 1703 community web-page on VKontakte, the main social network of the project and the streaming service of the event. Over 1.2 million people in total watched the lectures online.

**Partners**

The partner program of the third season prioritized creative collaborations of artists and participants of 1703 with brands, projects and spaces. One of the important innovations of this season were the special projects at the Manege site. Among them is the exhibition "First to light the way" by AURUS, the first luxury car in Russia, in collaboration with G-Drive. The central piece of the booth, a palace chandelier, assembled from the AURUS Senat car components and elements of the G—Drive brand harbors a metaphor of light that illuminates progress. Art project "Thunder Stone" featured at the developer RBI’s booth. Specially for the "Struna" house on Shostakovich Street, Splaces studio has created an interactive system that brings to life the voice of a huge boulder from Karelia. ALROSA Diamonds jewelry company, together with FRESH.GLASS, a team exploring the nature of glass, presented their “Flow of Light". This immersive installation resembles a source of groundwater, filled with soft dashes of light.

Other partners of the Fair were: Roscongress club, the masters school, The Art Newspaper Russia, Sobaka.ru and Artgid, Kultura candy factory, Joia fine wines and spirits, Cosmotheca beauty shops, Tauride Garden Orangerie, italy&co. restaurant community, restaurants - Futurist, Mr.Bo, Cabaret Noise bar, Four Seasons Lion Palace St. hotels Petersburg, Astoria, Grand Hotel Moika 22.

Together with the partners of the 1703 Fair in Saint Petersburg, a series of creative collaborations was organized — from temporary exhibitions of contemporary artists in hotels to themed gastronomic sets and limited offers inspired by art.

***Reference***

The St. Petersburg 1703 Art Fair is carried out since 2022. The project has been initiated by Gazprom and is aimed at promoting contemporary arts, developing collecting practices and bringing together members of the artistic community. In 2023, the second 1703 Fair was attended by over 15 thousand guests. The number of views of live webcasts of the 1703 Fair lecture hall events exceeded 2.5 million. The project is implemented with the support of the Committee for Culture of Saint Petersburg and the Manege Central Exhibition Hall. The event is part of the SPIEF cultural festival “Saint Petersburg Seasons”. The Fair initiator, Gazprom PAO, is making a great effort in Saint Petersburg to uphold and develop culture and arts. Among the company’s projects are the reconstruction of the Lyon Hall, the Church of the Resurrection of Christ and the Zubov Wing of the Catherine Palace of the Tsarskoe Selo State Museum, restoration of the Chinese Palace of the Peterhof State Museum in Oranienbaum, maintenance of exhibition and restoration projects at the State Hermitage, the State Russian Museum, the Fabergé Museum, the actualization of multifunctional social project ["Friends of St. Petersburg".](https://spbfriends.ru/media)