

SERGEY GORDEYEV TO SHOW RUSSIA POOR IN PERM

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The largest of art exhibitions there for all time will be held in the Kama region

On September 19, 2008 in the River Terminal building in Perm the Russia Poor Exhibition will be open. This is the biggest show of the contemporary Russian art in the region in the recent decades. The Kama region capital will see the works of 36 Russian artists known the world over. Among them are Nikolai Polissky, Olga and Alexander Florensky, Valery Koshlyakov, Dmitry Gutov, Anatoly Osmolovsky, Alexander Brodsky, Petr Bely, Vladimir Arkhipov, and others.

The idea of holding the exhibition originated with Sergey Gordeyev, the Federation Council Member for the Perm Territory, well-known for his cultural and architectural projects. The initiative was supported by Oleg Chirkunov, the Perm Territory Governor. Marat Gelman, a popular Moscow art gallery owner, was invited as the curator.

The exposition is based on the works of art utilizing the most simple, “poor” materials. Such an approach identifies and vividly demonstrates all qualities of the contemporary Russian art – the genuine art, the deep one, shedding superficial beauty in favor of honest miracles. Such quests embody form, a dialogue with the history of art and social accountability as well as an endeavor to find the beautiful in simplest things.

“This trend in the arts is formed by artists who try to shut themselves off the market with the so-called ‘poor’ materials,” Marat Gelman said.

He added that at the Russia Poor Exhibition a discussion will start concerning the River Terminal turning into a museum site. “I do not know how the art-minded public has survived here, but we could never find a single decent exhibition site in Perm. And at the same time I was greatly impressed with the River Terminal building. A striking location, panoramic views – this is a unique site in the city to house an exhibition center,” Mr. Gelman maintained.

The Perm River Terminal building is an architectural monument restored for the event by Russian Avantgarde Foundation established by Sergey Gordeyev. Now the building, one of the city highlights, meets all the standards for an exhibition space. Sergey Gordeyev plans to open on the River Terminal premises the State Contemporary Art Museum with a cultural center and artistic workshops in addition to exhibition halls.

Marat Gelman noted with appreciation the support of the territorial and city officials in organizing the exhibition. “Oleg Chirkunov came to Moscow. We visited a lot of galleries. He got imbued with the idea



of having the exhibition. The city authorities also provided strong support. For instance, the square near the River Terminal was cleared," he said.

"For all my experience in organizing exhibitions, and it spans over at least twenty years, the Russia Poor is the most beautiful exhibition I have ever done," Mr. Gelman emphasized.

Alexander Florensky, a participant in the exhibition, present at the meeting with reporters noted that "that Russia which will be presented in the Exhibition is not that poor, with the money spent for transporting the exhibits, insuring them and so on."

It should be noted that among the exhibition pieces are unique works made with cardboard, old boards, rubber, iron, coal, wall tiles, polyethylene and even soap.

After Perm the Russia Poor Exhibition will be shown in the State Russian Museum (St.Petersburg) as well as in Moscow, Milan and New York. 🇷🇺

