

FOK “OLKHOVKA”
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OST GALLERY
PRESENT
The Photo Exhibition
«BEFORE AND AFTER»



What are those strange and worn-out words like *New Year* and *Christmas* for us? What is the point our heart clings to while falling through the thick slumber of fir branches, cotton wool and glass? Perhaps we have stolen the Creator's idea and caught his surprised look at the wonder of Occurrence, Disappearance and Transformation.

But perhaps this is exactly the photography that could make this look available for all and sundry. All of a sudden we became the creators, and now with the digital appliances in our hands we are searching for the Wonder, selling it with e-mails and proving the freedom of views so literally for the first time. Whatever fantastic a shot could be, we want to believe it after all. May be that's why our eyes get hurt when a look becomes too screwed and the creative work becomes a technique of building or denying the fashionable trend. The wall-eye of banality on the lens of the obvious.

The skeptics argue that when there is no freedom there is no photography. In Russia there are still no institutes where every genre has its own diploma, there are no authoritative exhibit areas and portfolio reviews, there are no professional managers and dealers — all that is called now the infrastructure... The capital city receives the foreigners pompously, but it only “meets demand of the customer” and lures them with the cheap rate of authenticity, availability and appearance.

Nevertheless you can't say we have no real serious, profound and professional photography; it's like to judge the New Years according the number of the balls on the

tree. You only need to close your eyes and here it is, the Day of Creation, the turn of the way, the train of thoughts, the lump in the throat. Who knows, may be all these years we celebrated absolutely different holyday and synchronized watches with our own pulse?

The exhibition “Before and After” in the “Ost” Gallery opens the cycle of non-glamorous group and personal projects: the photos where the world is not wrapped into the foil of trendy fashions. The trinity of acknowledged masters of Russian photography will meet thirty young Moscow artists in the chamber area near Three Stations; almost all of a sudden, as it happens when the lights flash in the neighbouring houses. Each one will celebrate the New Year in his or her unique and peculiar way.

Before or After – it depends from the Author. And the Spectator.

Besides the Moscow photographers the exhibition will hold the works of young artists and famous masters from 26 countries: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Cambodia, Canada, China, Cuba, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, USA presented by Lichtblick Gallery of Tina Schelhorn, Cologne.

The curators of the exhibition:

Oleg Arnautov, Evgeny Berezner, Alla Dolgaleva, Tina Schelhorn.

The opening of the exhibition:

January 13, 2009, at 7 pm

“Ost” Gallery

Masha Poryvayeva Street 38

Moscow

Information: www.4che.ru

The exhibition will be open up to January 31, every day except Sunday, 1 pm – 8 pm.