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Press Release

BEYOND THE CENTER

Artistic views of life and culture outside the city center

Exhibition organizers:

City of Vienna

SHIFT / Basis.Kultur.Wien

ZIL Cultural Center

Austrian Cultural Forum Moscow

Participants:

Vienna:

Franzi Kreis

Stefan Oláh

Moscow:

Daria Aksenova

Alla Mirovskaya

Mayana Nasybullova

Valeri Nistratov

Margo Ovcharenko

After six months of preparation the exhibition “Beyond the Center” opens, continuing our main project “Na rajone: cultural dynamics and artistic energy between center districts and periphery Moscow – Vienna” which has already staged seven art events in different areas of Moscow in 2019. Two Austrian and five Russian artists created artworks for this latest exhibition.

The ZIL Cultural Center (KC ZIL) is the Moscow project partner, exhibition venue and was presented in the artworks of the Austrian artists. Built in the 1930s for workers of the Likhachev plant near Moscow’s center, KC ZIL was the largest multifunctional Palace of Culture of its time. KC ZIL is one of the most important constructivist buildings in Moscow and was completely renovated and transformed after the plant closed.

Austrian artist **Franzi Kreis** presents continuing work in her Moscow project “Finding Motherland”, a series of interviews with daughters about the lives of their mothers. At the end of each interview, Kreis made a portrait of the participant and in the exhibition headphones hang next to the photo portrait so visitors can listen to the mothers’ life stories. The project offers a glimpse inside the relationships and life stories of people in the Moscow district near ZIL.

Artist **Stefan Oláh** shows his renowned photographs for the first time in Moscow. His project “Brilliant. Social. Brutal” is dedicated to 1970s (concrete) architecture and presents eight ZIL KC interiors and exteriors, together with images of eight comparable 1970s Austrian buildings.

Young Russian photographer **Daria Aksenova** shows a series of photographs of young Muscovites moving between the outskirts and city center of Moscow.

Margo Ovcharenko shot images of the Chertanovo district women's football team over several months and her photo project offers a portrait of these athletes’ lives.

Moscow native **Alla Mirovskaya** has been researching her home district Konkovo for many years and shows some of her photographs, drawings and art albums from this long-standing project. It’s a poignant, personal view of the place Mirovskaya grew up and with which her art is inextricably linked.

A further two projects are dedicated to MKAT the Moscow Ring Road. One of Russia’s best-known photographers **Valeri Nistratov**, working in collaboration with the Austrian Cultural Forum and partner organizations, made a video and series of photographs on the MKAT.

Also taking MKAT as her theme, artist **Mayana Nasybullova’s** “Surface of the Edge” shows sculpture created from plaster casts of real surfaces she found along the Moscow Ring Road. She has preserved these characteristic surfaces as sculptural snapshots, made along the highway.

Opening: March 6, 2020, 1900

Exhibition dates: March 7 - 22, 2020

Venue: ZIL Cultural Center, Vostochnaya Ulitsa 4, Moscow, 115280

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