



Calvert 22 Foundation presents

The Future Remains: Revisiting Revolution

*A season of events marking the centenary
of the Russian Revolution*

February – December 2017

In partnership with the **State Hermitage Museum**,
the **European University at St Petersburg** and **UCL SSEES**
Supported by the **Vladimir Potanin Foundation**

To mark the centenary of the “ten days that shook the world”, Calvert 22 Foundation will reflect on the nature of revolution and of writing history itself. Both an undisputable turning point and one of the most contested events in modern history, with some questioning its very position as a revolution, the events in Russia in 1917, from February to October and beyond, have been endlessly mythologised. Taking an interdisciplinary approach, Calvert 22 Foundation will be hosting a year-long season of events, exhibitions and discussions to uncover new perspectives on the events of 1917 and their consequences.

The State Hermitage Museum in St Petersburg, in particular its project dedicated to contemporary art, *Hermitage 20/21*, is the major partner of the season. Throughout the entire year marking the 100th anniversary of the Russian Revolution, *Hermitage 20/21* and Calvert 22 Foundation will bring a vibrant programme to London, drawing links between this historical milestone and the modern world.

Calvert 22, 22 Calvert Avenue, London, UK, E2 7JP.

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calvert22.org

I. Monthly Talks and Events

The seasonal programme at Calvert 22 Space will kick off with a series of informal monthly debates on the impact of the Revolution on different aspects of life. The first of these events will take place in February and will explore the social histories of the Revolution. Throughout the year, *The Future Remains: Revisiting Revolution* will look at how the events of 1917 have changed economic balance, gender relations, attitudes to alcohol consumption, fashion and more, by bringing together political scientists, social and cultural historians, economists and journalists for a rich and varied discussion.

Organised in partnership with the European University at St Petersburg and with a particular emphasis on presenting contemporary Russian scholarship, the debates will seek to question the relevance of 1917 to present-day concerns, from health care and housing to equality and the role of culture in society.

- 13 February: *Social histories of the Russian Revolution*
- 1 March: *Peace, bread, land – how did new economic policy change the world?*
- 5 April: *1917 and the new dawn of sexual liberation*

A series of events looking at the broader impact of the Revolution on the development of arts and culture in 20th century Russia will also take place throughout the year.

As part of the programme, in collaboration with the Vladimir Potanin Foundation Calvert 22 will host the UK launch of the English-language edition of *Russia. XX Century* in March 2017 and a joint educational project with Arzamas Academy devoted to the history of national contemporary art.

Russia. XX Century presents an illustrated history of 20th century Russian art through a variety of visual symbols, including iconic designs, household items, posters and postcards.

Both projects are part of the Vladimir Potanin Foundation's initiative to promote the best examples of contemporary Russian culture globally. The initiative kicked off in 2016 with *KOLLEKTSIA! Contemporary Art in the USSR and Russia 1950-2000*, the exhibition of a major donation at the Centre Pompidou, Paris.

The full programme will be announced at the beginning of 2017. Please visit calvert22.org for more information.

II. The Conference

Taking place in April 2017, "The Museum after the Revolution" conference will address the impact of 1917 on museums across the former Soviet Union, providing an opportunity to reflect critically on the legacies of Soviet influence on museum collections. How do today's museums display, interpret and convey the caesura caused by 1917 and its aftermath? In what ways do museums across the former Eastern Bloc deal with varied and complex histories, and the impact of subsequent revolutions in their own countries?

The two-day event will be hosted at Calvert 22 Foundation on 28 – 29 April, in collaboration with UCL SSEES and the Vladimir Potanin Foundation. Taking the State Hermitage Museum as a starting point, the conference will address the impact of the Revolution on museum collections and focus in particular on its effect on modern and contemporary holdings.

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Led by Prof. Mikhail Piotrovsky, Director of the State Hermitage Museum, the conference will include four panel discussions spread across two days.

Speakers include Catriona Kelly, Professor of Russian, University of Oxford; Dimitri Ozerkov, Head of *Hermitage 20/21* Collection; Nicolas Liucci-Goutnikov, curator of *Kolleksia!*, Centre Georges Pompidou.

A photo exhibition will accompany the conference, displaying works from the historical archives of the State Hermitage Museum. As the former residence of the Tsar and subsequently the headquarters of the Provisional Government, the Winter Palace found itself at the centre of events in 1917. The historical images will show some of the Palace's interiors and surroundings.



© The State Hermitage Museum. Photo: Yuri Molodkovets

III. The Exhibition

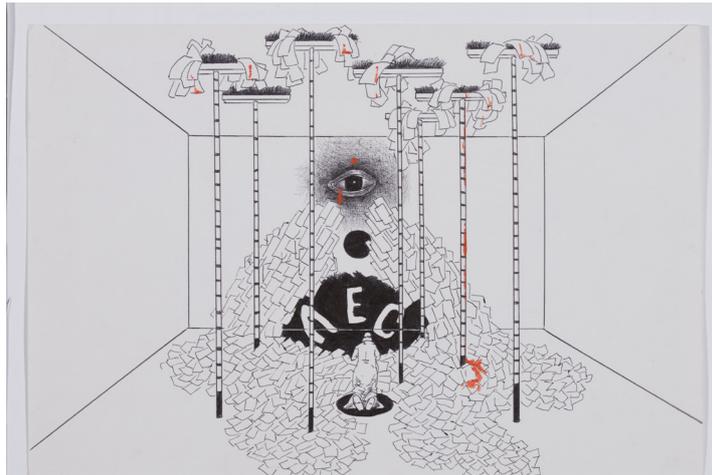
The season will culminate with the first UK solo show of work by prominent Moscow Conceptualist Dmitri Prigov (1940-2007) – *Dmitri Prigov. Theatre of Revolutionary Action*. Taking place from 12 October – 17 December 2017, the exhibition approaches Prigov's prolific, genre-defying oeuvre through the lens of the theatre, featuring one of his installations, numerous video works, his concrete poems and drawings.

Alongside the exhibition, Russian director Yuri Muravitsky will direct a new version of Prigov's *Revolt*. Between a play, performance and interactive artwork, *Revolt* both speaks of the late-Soviet malaise of the 1980s, when the fervour of 1917 had long lost any meaning, and the inherent terror of any revolution. Events alongside the exhibition will explore the idea of revolutionary theatre.

Further details to be released in 2017.

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SKETCHES OF THE INSTALLATIONS "SERIES WITH THE MOPS". 2000s @ Prigov Estate

IV. Curated Digital Content on *The Calvert Journal*

As part of *The Future Remains: Revisiting Revolution* season, *The Calvert Journal* will present a curated online series of features, essays and photo stories throughout 2017 which will further explore the topic of the Revolution and its consequences.

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Notes to Editors

The season takes its name from Mikhail Bulgakov's essay *Future Prospects*, whose primary theme was the responsibility of the present generation towards generations to come. On 26 November 1919, in the midst of witnessing violent conflict on the Caucasian battlefields during the Civil War, Bulgakov published his piece in the newspaper *Grozny*:

The present is before our eyes. Its prospects are such that one would like to close those eyes.

Not to see!

The future remains. An enigmatic, unknown future.

But really, what will become of us?

About Calvert 22 Foundation

Calvert 22 Foundation celebrates the culture and creativity of the New East – Eastern Europe, the Balkans, Russia and Central Asia – enriching perceptions of the region and furthering international understanding.

Calvert 22 is a not-for-profit organisation committed to dialogue and discovery, to the development of international creative networks, and to the role of learning and education as the basis for knowledge sharing and institutional exchange.

The Foundation's activities include:

Calvert 22 Space – the London headquarters of the foundation that hosts seasonal programmes, events, talks and screenings for a first-hand experience of the contemporary culture and creativity of the New East

The Calvert Journal – an online magazine of New East contemporary culture, including art, film, architecture, design and avant-garde culture

The Calvert Forum – a think tank for the New East, focused on research and policy for the creative industries of the region. The Forum also operates as a digital and physical platform for discussion and learning.

About Hermitage 20/21

The State Hermitage Museum in St Petersburg is one of the largest museums in the world. The collection of the State Hermitage includes over 3 million works of art and world culture artefacts. It contains paintings, graphic works, sculptures, works of applied art, archaeological artefacts and numismatic objects. The Hermitage is considered to have been founded in 1764, when Empress Catherine the Great acquired an impressive collection of works from the Berlin merchant Johann Ernst Gotzkowsky.

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The project *Hermitage 20/21* was launched in 2007 by the State Hermitage Museum. Since then over 40 exhibitions have been organised and several research and educational projects aimed at illuminating major contemporary art trends have been carried out. The project's exhibitions fall into five main categories: solo exhibitions of renowned classics of contemporary art, group exhibitions of young artists from different countries, architecture exhibitions, photography exhibitions, and the project "Sculpture in the Great Courtyard of the Winter Palace".

The project's goal is to collect, exhibit and study contemporary art, as well as to build the museum's contemporary art collection. Among the works in the Hermitage collection are sculptures by Louise Bourgeois and Antony Gormley, the archive of drawings by Dmitri Prigov, and installations and graphic works by Ilya and Emilia Kabakov.

Educational programmes play an important role in the Hermitage's work in the field of contemporary art, and are focused on revealing the inner workings of the present-day art world. They include meetings with artists and curators, roundtables and workshops, as well as art contests.

About the European University at St Petersburg

The European University at St Petersburg is a private graduate school in the humanities and social sciences, established in 1994. EUSP is now recognised internationally as one of the top research centres on the social, political, and economic issues of modern Russia. Here you will find a vibrant community of learners and scholars, people whose energy, ambition and desire to make things happen are contagious. Each year the University enrolls nearly 250 postgraduate students to study in one of five academic departments. At least a quarter of these students came from all over the world to study at EUSP International Programmes. EUSP was the first Russian university to offer International Master's degree programmes in Russian Studies for international students with English as the language of instruction.

About SSEES

The UCL School of Slavonic and East European Studies (SSEES) is the world's leading institution for research and teaching on Russia, the Baltics, and Central, Eastern and South-East Europe. The School's mission is to foster cross-disciplinary approaches to area studies, using expertise in our primary geographical region to generate knowledge and understanding of the broader world. Their work is organised into four interrelated programmes: Economics and Business; History; Languages and Culture; Politics and Sociology. With their spectacular library and award-winning building in the heart of London, at the centre of a vibrant network of national and international connections, SSEES provides a unique and dynamic environment where students acquire the expertise and skills that employers want, including an unparalleled range of languages.

About The Vladimir Potanin Foundation

Founded and financed by Vladimir Potanin, the Foundation is among the biggest private grantmaking organisations in Russia. It aims to foster the development of philanthropy in the country, to create a community based on the principles of creative activity, professionalism and volunteering. Vladimir Potanin, President and Chairman of the Board of Nor Nickel, Founder and President of Interros, has been engaged in philanthropy throughout his whole career. He is the first Russian to join the Giving Pledge initiative announced by Bill Gates and Warren Buffett.

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Arts and Culture

Since its creation in 1999, the Foundation has supported hundreds of museums across Russia to introduce innovations, advance their impact on local communities and boost professional networks, and built partnerships with the State Hermitage, the State Tretyakov Gallery, the Kunstkamera and the Polytechnic Museum. The Foundation's programme 'Cultural Symphony' is designed to advance Russian culture to foreign audiences ('When Russia Spoke French: Paris - St. Petersburg 1800-1830', St Louis des Invalides, Paris and 'Russia!', Guggenheim Museum, New York City, the Russian Lounge project at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts).

Education

The Foundation awards scholarships and mission opportunities to thousands of talented students and, professors of leading Russian universities.

Philanthropy Development

The Foundation aims to promote a common vision for strategic philanthropy being among the founders of the Russian Donors' Forum and a member of the European Foundation Center. Its programmes encourage a wider development of endowments in Russia as an efficient social technology. More at fondpotanin.ru.

in partnership with:



EUROPEAN
UNIVERSITY AT
SAINT-PETERSBURG



VLADIMIR POTANIN
FOUNDATION



The Future Remains: Revisiting Revolution

Calvert 22 Foundation

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Free admission (events may be ticketed)

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UK

For more information about the season, events and talks, please visit: calvert22.org

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