

Press Release
Saint-Petersburg, August 13, 2013

Summer in New Holland 2013
With the support of *Paperworks* and *Triumph* galleries
presents the exhibition:

Polina Kanis
NEW FLAG

August 17–23
Video, Photography

On August 17, at 12:00 an exhibition of the young artist Polina Kanis will open at New Holland's art gallery. It will feature a video installation 'New Flag' – a diptych made of a video and photographs - in which a woman, while horseback riding, holds a flag in her hand and sits in the traditional victory pose. The video demonstrates the process of picture-making: the dressed-up young woman tries to ride the horse with the help of an assistant, but she is repeatedly falling off and starting again. This work examines the relationship between the consolidation of any ideological image and the mechanism of its creation: the video heroes are frankly indifferent to what is happening and only perform their specific function, which contrasts with the perfect result pictured in the photograph. Consequently, the video questions the validity of any power constructs, between superficial necessity and inherent charging, which incommensurably accentuate the difference between the worlds of the real and the ideal.

Polina Kanis (1985) grew up in St. Petersburg, where she received teacher training. After moving to Moscow, she entered Rodchenko School of Photography and Multimedia. Since 2009, the artist has been widely exhibited, including in group exhibitions in Russia and abroad (Warsaw, Vienna, Oslo, London, Kiev). In 2011 Polina Kanis became one of the most mentioned contemporary young Russian artists after receiving the Kandinsky Prize for her work 'Eggs', based on the popular Soviet electronic game 'Nu pogodi!'. Kanis is staging performances and making videos, which provocatively dramatize social situations connected with education, indoctrination, and the use of power. In 2010 she was nominated for the Innovation Award.

Selected exhibitions:

'Perfect Photography' (2012, *Paperworks Gallery*, Moscow)

'I Am Who I Am' (2012, Dusseldorf Kunsthalle)

'1, 2, 3, 4' (2012, *Triumph Gallery*, Moscow)

'Angry Birds' (2012, Museum of Contemporary Art, Warsaw)

'Russian Renaissance' (2012, Brot Kunsthalle, Viena)

'The Time of Rehearsals' (2013, *Triumph Gallery*, Moscow)

'In the Heart of the Country' (2013, Museum of Contemporary Art, Warsaw)

**The picture of the flag used by Polina Kanis for her video installation 'New flag' implicitly refers to the work of Andrei Khlobystin 'Pea Flag' (1991), but is not a semantic or actual replica of his work.*

Paperworks Gallery

Paperworks Gallery was founded in 2005 and began its activity by working with works on paper by contemporary Russian artists. Today the gallery exhibits all genres of contemporary art from conceptualism to street art and new figurativism. Among *Paperworks* artists are Ury Albert, Vinogradov and Dubosarsky, Polina Kanis, Taus Machacheva, Nikolay Oleynikov, Uliya Zastava and others. The directors of the gallery are Evgeny Mitta and Elena Bakanova.

Triumph Gallery

Triumph Gallery was founded in 2006 by Emelyan Zakharov and Dmitry Khankin. The gallery focuses on contemporary art and works with major Russian and international artists. Among well-known Russian artists with whom the gallery works are AES+F, Vladimir Dubossarsky and Alexander Vinogradov, Alexei Beliaev-Guintovt and Recycle. In 2006 *Triumph* showed the work of one of today's most famous artists, Damien Hirst, for the first time in Moscow. This was followed a year later by a solo show by Jake and Dinos Chapman. As well as exhibitions in its own space, *Triumph Gallery* organizes exhibitions in other venues in Russia and abroad and supports young artists through its Launchpad project. *Triumph Photo* shows work by photographers three times a year and the seasonal project *Method* brings together artists working in the same medium or with similar artistic approaches.

Summer in New Holland

Summer in New Holland is a temporary summer program on New Holland Island's territory which covers various areas of modern culture. The program is the first step in a large-scale renovation project of the New Holland Island, the purpose of which is the restoration of the architectural monuments, as well as a redefinition of its role in the life of the city. It is planned that by 2017 the island will be established as a multifunctional cultural, business and tourist center.

The art project is supported by Grolsch

Every day we must make decisions, a lot of decisions. Sometimes we make those decisions without thinking. But what if we stop for a moment and think about how that decision reflects our character, and so it is actually quite important, and, maybe, just maybe, life becomes a little more interesting? In 1615, *Grolsch* produced the Swingtop bottle. At that same moment, young brewer Peter Cooper decided to brew beer from two sorts of hops. This was the choice that led to the creation of a beer with a rich and intriguing flavor. This was the choice that left to the emergence of the world-famous *Grolsch*. *Grolsch*. Choose interesting.



Summer in New Holland
Admiralteisky Canal Embankment, 2
Monday – Thursday: 11:00 am – 10:00 pm
Friday – Sunday: 11:00 am – 11:00 pm
www.newhollandsp.com
info@newhollandsp.com

Contacts:

For more information on the summer program and photographs please contact the Iris New Holland PR department: Alyona Markovich, +7 964 333 36 41, pr@newhollandsp.com.

For questions about the investment project of New Holland Island, contact the PR department at Millhouse LLC: John Mann, +7 495 961 1307, john.mann@millhouse.ru.