

ABC.ETC

ABC (ART BUSINESS CONSULTING GROUP) / OLYA BOZHKO / PETR FILIPPOV / VLADIMIR IVANCHUK / IRINA KORINA / MIKHAIL KOSOLAPOV / OLIA LIALINA / STAS SHURIPA
Curated by Elena Selina, XL Gallery, Moscow.

OPENING ON 4 MAY 2007 AT 7 PM
DURATION: 4 MAY – 23 JUNE 2007

Art Business Consulting (Maxim Iliukhin, Mikhail Kosolapov, Natasha Struchkova) has been working as a group since 2000. All of them graduated from the first and most interesting class of The New Art Strategies school. At that time Russia's economy was going through a radical change, so many of the students had to combine art practice with regular jobs, mostly of office type. Many students have worked in the office, but only these three found the optimal balance between art and reality. The office became their issue which they were working on. Each group member transforms, masters or repels the office thing with all the body of ideas and forms. Basically the previous sentence should be in the past continuous. For each of them the metaphysics of the office is a theme so meticulously studied, that I find myself following it as if it was a detective thriller. They have opened the gallery-office ABC - to show projects by young artists, many of whom are quite far from the main office theme. Kosolapov-Iliukhin-Struchkova and the artists they work with are much more sophisticated than the declared theme. So while they didn't fully recognize it themselves, it's so interesting to show some of the best projects made and shown by ABC group. It's one of the most interesting things in the Moscow contemporary scene. And I'm happy that curators will definitely have a lot of work in the future.

- Elena Selina, XL gallery Moscow, curator of the exhibition

Art Business Consulting group (ABC), Moscow

Maxim Iliukhin, Natasha Struchkova, Michael Kosolapov

Photos, objects, installations, performances.

The artists' statement is office life and it's surrounding, the middle class, the new economic and social conditions in Russia since the year 2000 and the artists life in it, the new management style in art communities and so on. 2004 ABC opened their own artist-run gallery. It works as gallery, laboratory, office and show room. In the last two years the ABC-gallery took part in the Moscow Art Fair and opens new exhibitions every month. All members of ABC also work as individual artists.

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Selected exhibitions:

2007 - «ABC.etc», Krinzinger project gallery, Vienna / «ABC.etc», XL gallery, 2nd Moscow Biennale special program **2006** - «Annual Report», State Hermitage New Art dept., St.Peterburg / «Shades», BBDO advertising agency, Moscow / «Shades», «Praktika» theater, Moscow **2005** - «Peripheral vision», Hotel Antelope gallery, Chapter, Cardiff (Wales, UK) / «Photo object on legs», Reflex gallery, Moscow / «Collaborators», Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow, 1st Moscow Biennale / «Presentuar ltd», 'Presentuar company' office, Moscow **2004** - «Work in Team», photos. Reflex gallery, Moscow **2003** - «451° F», «Digital Russia XXI century», Centre Moscow Art House **2002, 2003, 2004, Winter-2005** – Art Klyazma open-air festival, Moscow **2001** – «Deadline», OGI Street gallery, Moscow