



ФОНД РУССКИЙ МИР



CINE FANTOM: SPECIAL SCREENING

2nd Russian Film Festival in London

2 pm, 25 Sept 2008, Apollo West End

The 2nd Russian Film Festival is proud to announce that the legendary **Moscow film club CINE FANTOM** has agreed to take part in the Festival and present their special collection of short films, created by the daringly innovative Aleinikov brothers and their fellow video art activists – Boris Yuhananov's Theatre, the Theatre Collective, and others. The curators of CINE FANTOM's international programme are in London from 20 to 28 of September. They will be introducing the screening and conducting a Q&A with the audience.

ABOUT CINE FANTOM

The name CINE FANTOM came into existence in 1985 when it was first conceived as a 'samizdat' film journal, edited by Igor' Aleinikov. From its very conception CINE FANTOM was closely linked with the Soviet underground movement 'parallel cinema', within which Gleb and Igor' Aleinikov were also great contributors, activists and promoters. From the mid-90's CINE FANTOM was transformed into a film club which soon became a legendary phenomenon and continues to be well respected to this day. The mission of the club is not only to exhibit audiovisual creations but also to discuss each work in the presence of established film critics, scholars, artists, and directors.

Thus CINE FANTOM has achieved the status of uniting cinematic organisation, bringing together independent thinkers, filmmakers, artists and writers.

ABOUT THE ALEINIKOV BROTHERS

In the 1980's **Igor Aleinikov** and **Gleb Aleinikov** belonged to the school of Moscow conceptualists and took an active part in underground art activities. They worked in such genres as mailart, bookart, socart and homeart. The Aleinikov brothers can claim their place in cinema history as the founders of "parallel cinema", a movement of experimental underground film-making on narrow film, including such works as "Tractors" (1987), "I'm Frigid, But it Doesn't Matter" (1987), "The Severe Illness of Men" (1987) and "Postpolitical Cinema" (1988). Theirs was an aesthetic and ideology absolutely incompatible with the values propounded by the Soviet cinematic canon.

The Aleinikov brothers started working in the milieu of official cinema in the late 80's by shooting the short film "Someone Has Been Here" (1989) and a full-length film "Tractor Drivers 2" (1992). In March 1994 Igor Aleinikov was killed in a plane crash. A year later Gleb Aleinikov founded the CINE FANTOM film club.

SHORT FILMS BY ALEJNIKOV BROTHERS, COMBINED PROGRAMME

Directors: Igor Aleinikov, Gleb Aleinikov (Aleinikov Brothers)

Total running time: 65 min

TRACTORS

Genre: Fiction; **Running time:** 12 min; USSR, 1987

Synopsis:

'Tractors' is one of the most prominent symbols of a happy soviet life, of peaceful labour and a rich harvest. Being mystified to the highest degree, 'tractor' acquires traits of a supernatural animal or of a human being and ceases to be merely a machine. This work by the Aleinikov Brothers was influenced by the theories about the death of cinema. The structure of the film gradually dissolves into "empty" or absent film representation, which is symbolised in the final negative shot of a tractor digging up the soil.



METASTASES

Director: Igor Aleinikov; **Genre:** experimental video; **Running time:** 16 min; USSR, 1984

Synopsis:

If your eye seduces you, pull it out like TV-set plug from the socket! Thus their torturing and killing with a whip, sabre, and rubber bludgeon will not be projected on the retina of the TV screen. And if they are not killing, this means only one thing – they are already dead. There is no difference between the living before and after the apocalypses. In the twilight of another world you would still have to take classes in civil defence. Who would be the first to pull the plug on a respirator, to place one's neck under a knife, who would be brave enough to feed one's eye to gadflies for dinner?



I'M FRIGID / BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER

Running time: 16 min; USSR, 1987

Synopsis:

This is the 8 1/2 of Parallel Cinema. It depicts the usual filmmaking process: the actor doses in lethargic sleep, the director is in creative frustration, while the paparazzi anticipate a sensation: "Are you content with the technical conditions of the shooting?"

Director: "As far as films and cameras are concerned, I can say that we don't need better quality for our cinema – that is just a formality. What is really bad here is the synchronization. For example, I'm talking about one thing now, but the audience sees me speak about quite other things or doesn't see me at all. But anyway I don't lose hope: you can do without synchronization, sound and even without a film... "

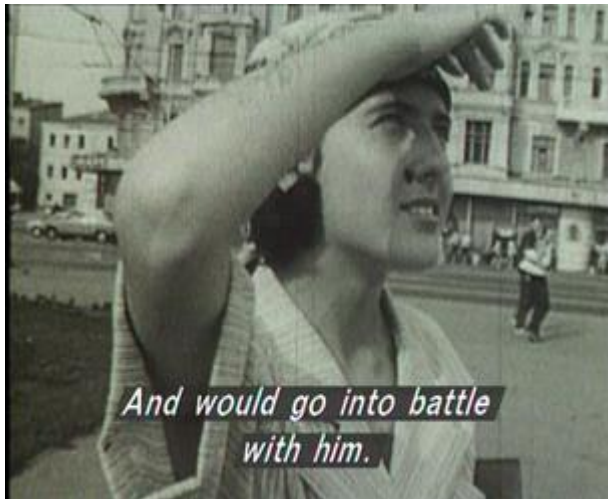


REVOLUTIONARY SKETCH

Running time: 7 min; USSR, 1987

Synopsis:

A collage of soviet news chronicles, conventional sketches and animations on the subject of constant revolution.

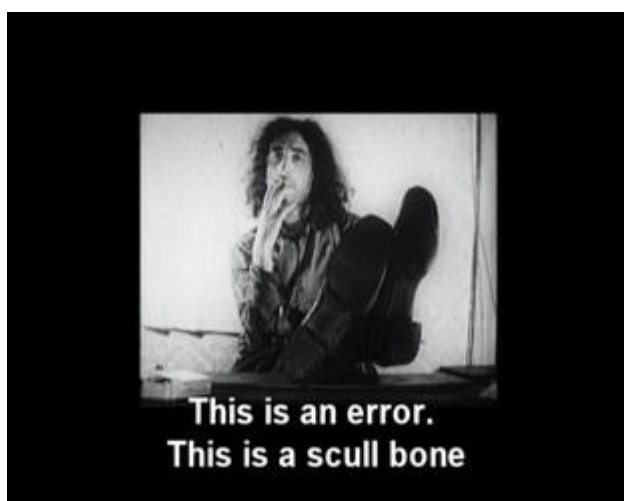


BORIS AND GLEB

Running time: 10 minutes; USSR, 1988

Synopsis:

In a world of destruction where words no longer belong to one's voice, where letters express not what the lips have whispered and the lips read something different from what is written in the subtitles... In a world where a film only pretends to be a film, but, in fact, is a prayer for innocently killed Saint Boris and Saint Gleb. In a world without colour and synchronized sound, the protagonists of this work, Boris Yukhananov and Gleb Aleinikov, are not looking for but have found the salvation.



For further information on speakers and programme please visit <http://www.academia-rossica.org/>

Organisers:

ACADEMIA ROSSICA

Alissa Timoshkina, 2nd RFF coordinator, films@academia-rossica.org

About ACADEMIA ROSSICA

ACADEMIA ROSSICA is an independent London-based organisation established in 2000 with the aim to present the best of Russian culture to the international audience in order to strengthen cultural and intellectual links between Russia and other countries. Academia Rossica realises a diverse programme of projects and publishes ROSSICA, international review of Russian heritage and culture. For more information please visit www.academia-rossica.org