



EXHIBITIONS

Evgeny Antufiev and "Miles of Creativity" at Mostyn, Llandudno

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Evgeny Antufiev "Organic resistance: body and knife – crossing the border"

MOSTYN, Wales UK is pleased to announce the first UK solo exhibition by Russian born artist, Evgeny Antufiev.

MILANO ART BULLETIN

(<http://www.milanoartbulletin.com/>)

Fb: milanoartbulletin

The exhibition '*Organic resistance: body and knife – crossing the border*' presents artefacts, ideas and stories collected from, or imagined by, local and mythological cultures from different parts of the world.

PAUL PFEIFFER

PERROTIN PARIS

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Inspired by the traces of shamanic practice in the Siberian region of Tuva, where he was raised, Antufiev slowly crafts his own mythologies through a semi-anthropological approach to exhibition making, mixed with a degree of kitsch aesthetic. Antufiev combines imagination with aspects of Russian and international cultures, personal stories, and a skilled appreciation for the effect on human culture of different materials such as stone, bone, wood, amber and bronze. The resulting worlds are suspended between nature and culture, legends and facts, found and fictional objects.

Antufiev introduces pieces of contemporary art that complement, question or subvert the ideas explored through the legend-driven anthropological exhibits. He skilfully weaves minimal anecdotes and private personal stories with the overall exhibition narrative, making them part of the legend-building process. His interest ranges from folk embroidery, made on vintage fabrics taken from his mother's chest, to natural history studies and specimens under glass; from drawings, seemingly childish and clumsy and made in response to familiar situations to elements of Russian culture, scattered around the exhibition space and combined with memories of the local context. Video, textiles, animal bones, photographs and objects form a picture of a semi-utopian world that is almost a synthesis of a new vision – "utopian in nature, but at the same time completely real". (MMOMA, 2015)

MOSTYN's location in North Wales, famous for its rural and mountain landscapes, functions as a fitting backdrop to the artefacts, myths and objects upon which Antufiev's work focuses. These elements of the exhibition could have originated in this geographical area which has been occupied, farmed and exploited for minerals since the Bronze Age.

The exhibition is organised in partnership with Collezione Maramotti in Reggio Emilia (Italy), where the artist had a major survey of his work in 2013 – the first one in Italy. The Maramotti Collection has continued to follow the research of the artist by acquiring new works over the last few years, and this exhibition will be the first time the works will be shown in Europe outside the Collection.

This exhibition has been curated by Alfredo Cramerotti, Director, MOSTYN, and will be presented alongside *Miles of Creativity*, an exhibition curated by Adam Carr, Visual Arts Programme Curator, MOSTYN.

With the additional support of z2o Sara Zanin, Rome / Emalin, London.

at Mostyn, Llandudno (<https://www.mostyn.org>)
until 18 February 2018

"Miles of Creativity"

Featuring creatives: Beacon Garage, Trish Bermingham, Lin Cummins, Wendy Dawson, Tim Dickinson, Glyn Ellis, Nick Elphick, Julia S. Greaves, Lizzie Hughes, Mark Hughes, Anna Jones, Richard Cynan Jones, Patrick Joseph, Judith Bond Cakes, Barry Morris, North Wales Vapour, Pea J. Restall, Miguel Roque, Mike Ryder, Alana Tyson, Alan Whitfield, Wild Horse Brewery, Emrys Williams, Gwyn Williams, Susan Williams, Sandra Wynne

Miles of Creativity is a group exhibition that explores the creative act and its relationship to the town of Llandudno, and offers a snapshot of work made by artists and by creative people working in trades not traditionally shown in an art gallery.

The result of a curatorial survey of the area immediately surrounding the gallery, the exhibition embraces a wider view of creativity and interdisciplinary thinking, less concerned with questioning what is and what is not 'art' than with celebrating creativity, differing notions of which can co-exist side by side in the most unexpected and unintended of places. The exhibition includes an eclectic mix of painting, brewing, photography, cake making, drawing, vaping, sculpture, tailoring and performance.

The restriction imposed – that the show would involve people living and working within a certain mile radius around MOSTYN – is partly inspired by the rule based practices of early conceptual artists. Restrictions were set in place in order to make comment on subjectivity and objectivity, on thinking and making, and this exhibition continues in that spirit.

The exhibition creates ties with the people who inhabit the local area while speaking of political, social and cultural issues of our time. In doing so, the exhibition continues the thinking behind a number of previous exhibitions at MOSTYN. *Return Journey* (2014) presented work by a number of UK born artists and, in various ways, examined both their sense of place and place of birth. The engagement of people local to the gallery is also an extension of the *History Series* (2014-17), a sequence of exhibitions that looked at the history of building and the town of Llandudno, involving artefacts, documents and images collected in dialogue with residents, and presented alongside works by contemporary artists.

This exhibition has been curated by Adam Carr, Visual Arts Programme Curator, MOSTYN, and will be presented alongside an exhibition by Evgeny Antufiev, curated by Alfredo Cramerotti, Director, MOSTYN.

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