



**BAIBAKOV  
ART PROJECTS**

presents:

## **PERPETUAL BATTLES**

May 27 – July 25, 2010

Curated by

Maria Baibakova, Kate Sutton and Jean-Max Colard

*We must hear the distant roar of battle...*  
- Michel Foucault, *Discipline and Punish*

**BAIBAKOV art projects**

Paveletskaya Naberezhnaya, 2/18  
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Ida Tursic & Wilfried Mille, *Le sacrifice (After Andrei Tarkovski)*, 2010. Courtesy of the artists and Almine Rech Gallery.

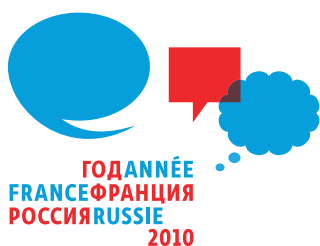
BAIBAKOV art projects will inaugurate its new exhibition space on the Paveletskaya Naberezhnaya with “Perpetual Battles,” a group exhibition that considers the creative potential of conflict, engaging artists who actively isolate, investigate, and aggravate the violence underlying the everyday experience of contemporary society. The exhibition features new works and site-specific commissions by Adel Abdessemed, Saadane Afif, Wilfrid Almendra, Latifa Echakhch, Claire Fontaine, Cyprien Gaillard, Joana Hadjithomas and Khalil Joreige, Thomas Hirschhorn, Oscar Tuazon, Ida Tursic and Wilfried Mille, and Raphael Zarka.

In *Discipline and Punish* (1975), French philosopher Michel Foucault posits that conflict is not something outside of society, which launches an attack; it is something that constitutes the very fabric of society, allowing for the development of new order. Drawing on Foucault’s seminal text, “Perpetual Battles” acts as an echo room, amplifying the not-so-distant roar of battle, as it resounds in contemporary art and theory. Violence emerges in manifold forms: from philosophical attempts to describe or incite political upheaval, to the “fight clubs” of disenfranchised populations, to war-games that recast conflict as mass-media entertainment.

“Perpetual Battles” will be complemented by a forthcoming bilingual reader, which surveys the complex philosophical arguments around the issues of violence, beginning with Georges Sorel’s 1908 *Reflexions sur la violence*, and carrying through to the contemporary debates of Alain Badiou, Etienne Balibar and the Invisible Committee, as selected by Guillaume Garreta, Program Director at the International College of Philosophy (Paris). As a special feature of the reader, philosopher Mathieu Potte-Bonneville, author of *After Foucault*, will contribute a commissioned article exploring the evolution of the “distant roar of battle” within Foucault’s writing and its resonance within the broader French philosophical landscape.

The May 27<sup>th</sup> opening event will feature a performance by Koudlam.

“Perpetual Battles” is a featured exhibition of the Year of France in Russia 2010.



## Artists Bios:

**Adel Abdessemed** (b.1971, Constantine, Algeria) lives and works in Paris. He studied at the Ecoles Nationales des Beaux-Arts in Batna, Algeria, and Lyon, France, before enrolling in the International Studio Program at P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center, New York. Abdessemed has presented solo exhibitions in venues including Walter and McBean Galleries, San Francisco Art Institute (2009), Le Magasin - Centre National d'Art Contemporain, Grenoble, France (2009), List Visual Arts Center, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge (2009), Liberia Borges Institute for Contemporary Art, Guangzhou (2007) and MAMCO, Geneva (2005). He has participated in multiple international biennales, most recently the 10th Havana Biennale (2009), the Lyon Biennale (2009), the 7th Gwangju Biennale (2008) and the 52<sup>nd</sup> Venice Biennale (2007). Abdessemed is represented by David Zwirner (New York) and Dvir Gallery (Tel Aviv).

**Saadane Afif** (b.1970, Vendôme, France) lives and works in Paris and Berlin. He studied at Ecoles Nationales des Beaux-Arts in Bourges and Nantes. Winner of the Prix Marcel Duchamp 2009, the artist was also named as the laureate of the 2006 International Contemporary Art Award by the Foundation Prince Pierre, Monaco. Afif has recently presented exhibitions in such venues as the Oficina para Proyectos de Arte A.C., Guadalajara, Mexico (2010), French Institute of Berlin (2010), Espai d'Art Contemporani de Castelló, Spain (2009) and the MICAMOCA, Berlin (2009), and was included in the inaugural Moscow Biennale in 2005. Afif is represented by Michel Rein Gallery (Paris), Mehdi Chouakri Gallery (Berlin) and Raeber von Stenglin Gallery (Zurich).

**Wilfrid Almendra** (b.1972, Cholet, France) lives and works between Paris and Cholet. Winner of the Audi Talent Award for Contemporary Art in 2008, Almendra has participated in exhibitions in venues including FRAC des Pays de la Loire (2010), Le Plateau, Paris (2008), Tucson Museum of Contemporary Art, Arizona (2008) and Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2004). A nominee for the Ricard Foundation Prize in 2007, he was featured in the Lyon Biennale in 2007. Almendra is represented by Bugada & Cargnel (Paris).

**Claire Fontaine** is a Paris-based collective, founded in 2004. In addition to the upcoming solo exhibition at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Miami (2010), Claire Fontaine has presented solo exhibitions at the El Museo Tamayo Arte Contemporaneo, Mexico City (2010), Aspen Art Museum, Colorado (2009), the CCA Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts, San Francisco (2009) and Witte de With, Center for Contemporary Art, Rotterdam (2008). Their work has been included in exhibitions at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York (2010), De Appel Arts Center, Amsterdam (2009), the Museu de Moderna Arte de Sao Paulo, Brazil (2009), Fundacion Jumex, Mexico City (2008), the New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York (2007) and the Tate Modern, London (2007). Claire Fontaine is represented by Air de Paris (Paris), Chantal Crousel (Paris), Dvir Gallery (Tel Aviv), Regina (Moscow) and Reena Spaulings Fine Art (New York).

**Latifa Echakhch** (b.1974, El Khnansa, Morocco) lives and works between Paris and Martigny, Switzerland. She studied art at the Ecole Supérieure d'Art in Grenoble, then at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Arts in Cergy-Paris and Lyon. Echakhch has been featured in solo exhibitions in the Kunsthalle Kassel Fridericianum, Kassel (2009), the Swiss Institute, New York (2009), the MACBA, Barcelona (2010) and the Tate Modern, London (2008). She was included in Manifesta 7 (2007) and biennales in Tirana (2005) and Thessaloniki (2007). Echakhch is represented by Kamel Mennour (Paris), Francesca Kaufmann (Milan), and Dvir Gallery (Tel-Aviv).

**Cyprien Gaillard** (b.1980, Paris) lives and works in Paris and Berlin. He graduated from the Ecole Cantonale d'Art de Lausanne in 2005. Winner of the Audi Talent Award for Contemporary Art in 2007, Gaillard is a nominee for the 2010 Prix Marcel Duchamp. The artist has had recent solo exhibitions at the Wexner Center, Columbus (2010), Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt am Main (2010) and Museo de Arte Contemporaneo de Castilla y Leon, Leon (2009). Gaillard has participated in exhibitions in such venues as the Museum of Modern Art, New York (2010), the Moscow Biennial of Contemporary Art (2009), the New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York (2009) and the Berlin Biennale (2008). Gaillard is represented by Bugada & Cargnel (Paris), Sprueth Magers (Berlin), and Laura Bartlett Gallery (London).

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**Thomas Hirschhorn** (b.1957, Berne, Switzerland) lives and works in Paris. Hirschhorn graduated from the Schule für Gestaltung de Zurich before relocating to France. The inaugural winner of the Prix Marcel Duchamp in 2000, Hirschhorn has recently had solo exhibitions at Dundee Contemporary Arts, United Kingdom (2009), Museo de Arte Contemporaneo de Castilla y Leon, Leon (2006) and Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2006). His extensive exhibition history includes leading international venues: the Centre Pompidou (2007); Museum of Modern Art, New York (2005); Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (2004); and Tate Modern, London (2003). The artist has participated in biennales in Tirana (2009), Seville (2006), Sao Paulo (2006), Venice (2004), and Johannesburg (1995), as well as in the Carnegie International (2008), Documenta 11 (2002) and Skulptur Projekte, Munster (1997). Hirschhorn is represented by Chantal Crousel (Paris), Stephen Friedman Gallery (London) and Gladstone Gallery (New York).

**Joana Hadjithomas** (b.1969, Beirut) and **Khalil Joreige** (b.1969, Beirut) live and work between Paris and Beirut. Their feature film "Je Veux Voir" was included in the official selection of Cannes Film Festival 2008 and screened at the Museum of Modern Art, New York (2008). They have exhibited in venues including De Appel Arts Center, Amsterdam (2007), Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt (2007), and ZKM, Karlsruhe (2002), and participated in the 9<sup>th</sup> Sharjah Biennale (2009). Joreige and Hadjithomas are represented by In Situ Fabienne Leclerc (Paris) and CRG Gallery (New York).

**Oscar Tuazon** (b.1975, Seattle) lives and works between Paris and Tacoma (Washington). He participated in the Independent Study Program at the Whitney Museum of American Art, before studying architecture at the Cooper Union School of Architecture, New York. In addition to the upcoming solo show at the ICA London (2010), the artist has presented recent solo shows at the Kunsthalle, Bern (2010), the Künstlerhaus, Stuttgart (2009) and the David Roberts Foundation, London (2009). A nominee for the Ricard Foundation Prize in 2009, he has exhibited in venues including the LMCC Sculpture Park, New York (2009), Kunsthalle Fridericianum, Kassel (2004), P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center, New York (2001) and the Whitney Museum of American Art as part of the Whitney Biennial (2006). Tuazon is represented by Balice Hertling (Paris) and Maccarone Inc. (New York).

**Ida Tursic** (b.1974, Belgrade, Yugoslavia) and **Wilfried Mille** (b.1974, Boulogne-sur-Mer, France) live and work in Dijon. The recipients of the Ricard Foundation Prize in 2009, they have exhibited in the Museu de Moderna Arte de Sao Paulo, Brazil (2009), the Museu Berardo, Lisbon (2008), Musee d'Art contemporain, Grenoble (2007), and Le Grand Palais, Paris (2006), among other venues. Tursic & Mille are represented by Almine Rech (Paris) and Charlotte Moser (Geneva).

**Raphael Zarka** (b.1977, Montpellier, France) lives and works in Paris. He received a BFA from Winchester School of Art, United Kingdom in 1999 and a DNSEP from the National Art School of Paris, France in 2002. The 2008 recipient of the Ricard Foundation Prize, Zarka has since been featured in such venues as the Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2010), Palazzo delle Stelline, Galerie du Centre Cultural Francais, Milan (2010), the Museum of Modern Art, Paris (2010), the Museum of Modern Art, Oxford (2009), the Motive Gallery, Amsterdam (2009) and the Centre Pompidou, Paris (2009). Zarka is represented by Galerie Michel Rein (Paris) and Art Contemporain Vasistas (Montpellier).

## Curator Bios:

Director and founder of BAIBAKOV art projects, **Maria Baibakova** was born in Moscow before moving to New York. She studied art history at Barnard College, Columbia University, New York, and later at The Courtauld Institute of Art, London, where she obtained a distinction in her MA. Before founding BAIBAKOV art projects, she gained invaluable experience working within multiple facets of the contemporary art world, from museums and galleries, to auction houses and advising. In 2009, Baibakova was included in *Art + Auction's* Power List.

**Kate Sutton** was born in Nashville, Tennessee, and studied art history at Stanford University, and at the San Francisco Art Institute, where she collaborated with Okwui Enwezor and Hou Hanru as part of the inaugural Museum and Exhibition Studies Masters' Program. Building on previous experience at cultural institutions in the United States, Finland, and Russia, as associate curator of BAIBAKOV art projects, Sutton has worked with Maria Baibakova to produce a comprehensive exhibition and publishing program in Moscow. Additionally, Sutton is a regular contributor to *Artforum.com*.

Curator and critic, **Jean-Max Colard** has been one of the driving forces of the French scene in recent years. As curator of the Prix Ricard in 2005, he organized the landmark exhibition "Offshore." He has since served as the Associate Commissioner of the contemporary art festival *Le Printemps de Septembre* in Toulouse (2008-2009). Colard is an active contributor to *Les Inrockuptibles*, *Artforum*, *O2*, and many other publications.

## About BAIBAKOV art projects:

Founded by Maria Baibakova in 2008, BAIBAKOV art projects is a non-profit platform for cultural production, dedicated to the support and sustained development of emerging and experimental art practice in Moscow. BAIBAKOV art projects has become a premier contemporary art destination in Russia, while simultaneously operating abroad with its international program.

In its former location at the Red October Chocolate Factory, BAIBAKOV art projects was host to some of Moscow's most progressive and provocative exhibitions, including: the inaugural "invasion : evasion," which featured 22 site-specific commissions by Russian artists; "Natural Wonders: New Art from London," which included works by Idris Khan, Doug White, Conrad Shawcross and Toby Ziegler, among others; "FIVE," which showcased Walead Beshty, Matthew Brannon, Wade Guyton, Sterling Ruby and Kelley Walker; and solo exhibitions by Luc Tuymans, Olga Chernysheva and Paul Pfeiffer.

With "Perpetual Battles," BAIBAKOV art projects will launch its new exhibition space. Located on the Paveletskaya riverbank, across from the famous ZIL Factory, the site features over 13,000 square feet of exhibition space, a lecture hall for public programs, a rooftop with 360° views of Moscow, as well as exterior exhibition space for public sculpture.

BAIBAKOV art projects will occupy two floors devoted to rotating exhibitions and public programming. The main exhibition hall features twenty-six foot ceilings enabling large-scale installations. A lecture hall and reading lounge provide spaces for public programs as well as cocktail receptions.

With this move, BAIBAKOV art projects will expand its platform of exhibitions, public programs and public art projects both within and outside of Moscow while continuing to cultivate a global dialogue with the Russian art community.

BAIBAKOV art projects is planning an international series of public programs in New York, Moscow and Paris for late 2010.

### Press inquiries:

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