



## PRESS-RELEASE

**In April 20-21, 2019**, the festival Days of Contemporary Art (DOCA) will be held for the 7<sup>th</sup> time. It began as a small local festival and has grown into the major event, which annually becomes an attraction for lovers of modern art from all areas of Moscow.

### **DOCA 2019 is working with the theme of emotions.**

There have always existed in culture an interest to emotions as a specific psychic activity. However, investigation started focusing on emotions only in 1970-80s. The research interest to this theme immediately spread from anthropology and cultural studies, where it had immersed, to psychology, neurophysiology, sociology and linguistics. It is due to artificial intelligence development of the 21<sup>st</sup> century that we now revise this theme. AI researchers are facing now a problem, which lies totally in the sphere of emotions. In order to decode audiovisual information neural network has to perceive and understand emotions. The necessity to program emotions into the network force us to rethink their origin and functioning. What do we think about emotions in the 21<sup>st</sup> century? How do our emotions differ when in virtual space? How do we express emotions with or without words?

DOCA festival is an independent non-commercial project, annually presenting art-works in various media: painting, graphics, installation, photography, video-art, performance. The festival program includes musical sets by bands and DJs, lectures, master classes and workshops. Thus, we create an integral intermedia communicative space.

The project is aimed at decentralization of contemporary art and its developing in the local context of Izmailovo district, where the festival is based. Comfortable environment and availability to various groups of visitors remain our priorities. This year we are going to increase the amount of parallel spaces in order to place more exhibition and street-art projects. Collaboration with galleries, libraries, parks is our new target. This will allow not only to extend boundaries of the festival, but also to create new possibilities for presentation of contemporary art.

***Date: April, 20-21, 2019***

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