



## PRESS-RELEASE

**DOCA 2019**

**~~NOT TO BE READ~~**

**Days of Contemporary Art (DOCA)** annual festival took place in Moscow on **21-22 April 2019**. For the 7<sup>th</sup> time, DOCA festival in Izmaylovo became the centre of attraction for famous artists, beginning authors, and Moscow citizens who love contemporary art.

**This year, upwards of 2500 people visited the festival. The festival's topic in 2019 was emotions. The title of the festival was Not to Be Read.**

In their projects, the participants of the festival explored the emotional perception of art understandable without words and expression of the author's identity, not philosophic concepts, in art. The exhibition programme of the festival included upwards of **80 projects**.

**This year's participants included such famous authors as Ulrike Bolenz (Belgium), Rudolf Sikora (Slovakia), Protey Temen, Slava Ptrk, Valeriy Cherkashin and Natalia Cherkashina, Valeriy Chtak, and many others.**

The international exhibition project titled 'Deeper Black Than Square' commemorating the 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Kazimir Malevich became the key event at **DOCA 2019**. The project brought together 11 artists from Russia and Europe and hosted a roundtable dedicated to the influence of Kazimir Malevich on contemporary art. One of the main features of the festival was its democratic format for both viewers and participants.

The projects by beginning artists were exhibited in a single space with works by world-class authors. It must be noted that joint collective workshops of professional artists and students were valuable experience for both of them. **This year, Daria Neretina, Slava Ptrk, Andrey Syailev, and Valeriy Chtak supervised the workshops.** In addition to exhibition programme with its annually increasing professional level, the festival also hosts lectures, meetings, and workshops. Open education is one of DOCA's priorities: during those two days, anyone wishing could visit lectures by artists, directors, and psychologists. There even was a lecture by **Andrey Sebrant**, Director of Yandex Marketing services.

**The educational programme of the festival was also participated by Anna Panfilets (the VAC Foundation), Marina Spirande, Vika Privalova, and others.** In addition, exclusively for the guests the following events were organised: excursions with artists and workshop supervisors, three performances ('Scotoma', 'Mutatext' music and choreographic performance, and 'Shtrabovnitza' embarrassment laboratory), fab lab on printing, and 'Lilac' fab lab. The festival also hosted three concerts of young singers and music bands: **IMYA, VERA, and Sozvezdie Otrezok.**

This year, **DOCA festival** has once again proved its status of a large-scale, independent, and non-profit project that completely changed the map of Moscow's cultural events. Decentralisation, democratization of contemporary art, attraction of new audience, and comfortable format remain the main priorities of the festival. The number of visitors, responses of viewers, and coverage of the event by media prove their relevance.

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