



Art at MIT

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MIT BRINGS SOVIET ARTIST FOR FIRST US APPEARANCE

The MIT List Visual Arts Center is bringing to the US the first one-person survey of Soviet painter Erik Bulatov, considered one of the most important and influential figures in contemporary Soviet art.

The artist, visiting the US for the first time, will be here for the public preview Friday, May 5, 5-7pm. Exhibition dates for Erik Bulatov: Paintings 1971-1988 : May 6-July 2,

More than 20 major paintings spanning two decades are featured. . A 96-page illustrated catalogue, in English, will be available.

Who is Bulatov? Born in 1933, he lives and works in Moscow, operating within the official art structures as an illustrator while simultaneously pursuing private and, until recently, unacceptable artistic and ideological ends. He showed his work openly in the Soviet Union for the first time in February, 1987. His large, colorful canvases record scenes of contemporary Soviet life, rendered ambiguous and unsettling, often by immense typography emblazoned across the foreground.

List Center Curator and Acting Director Katy Kline has commented: "This is a particularly significant moment in visual expression in the Soviet Union with the apparent relaxation of earlier rigid restrictions on artistic modes, exposure, and ideological content."

Organized for the Kunsthalle of Zurich, this exhibition was received with great excitement during its European tour to Zurich, Frankfurt, Bonn, Berlin, Paris, and London. After its MIT presentation the exhibit will go to the Newport Harbor Art Museum, California (July 27-Oct. 1) and to the Renaissance Society, University of Chicago (Oct 8-Nov. 25).

The US presentation of Erik Bulatov: Paintings 1971-1988 is made possible through the support of the Arts Exchange Program of the Massachusetts Council on the Arts and Humanities.

RELATED EVENTS

Sunday, May 7, 3pm: "Paris in the 20s/New York in the 50s/Moscow in the 90s?" An informal gallery talk by Richard Lourie, novelist, translator, and frequent visitor to the Soviet Union.

Tuesday, May 9, 7:30pm: Gallery Talk, Dana Friis-Hansen, List Center Assistant Curator

Sunday, June 11, 3pm: Gallery Talk, Katy Kline, List Center Curator and Acting Director.

HOURS: Weekdays 12-6, weekends 1-5. INFORMATION: 253-4680

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