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PRESS RELEASE

While The Vertebrae of Time Continue to Spin
Group Show
Gillian Brett, Taisia Korotkova, Arseny Zhilyaev
Curated by Alessandra Franetovich

Opening Reception **October, 5th, 6 PM**
C+N Gallery CANEPANERI
Via Caffaro 22R – 16124 Genova
On the occasion of START Genova 2023

While the Vertebrae of Time Continue to Spin presents recent works by **Gillian Brett, Taisia Korotkova,** and **Arseny Zhilyaev**, which examine the ever-intensifying relationship between current technologies and the future of humanity. Curated by **Alessandra Franetovich** in Genoa's venue of the gallery, the group show is structured around diverse utopian narratives, revealing paradoxes and contrasts inherent in human interactions with technology. These utopian visions provide a semiotic framework for critical insights, cultivating a retrofuturist aesthetic that traverses the realms of inter-species dynamics and post-human possibilities.

Telescopes in orbit, screens, and artificial intelligence emerge as iconic sources, simultaneously serving as catalysts for initiating critical reflection on an era marked by the emergence of new modes of space exploration, accelerationism, accumulation, pollution, and social disparity.

Exploring the non-linearity of time and corrugating chronological distances, *While the Vertebrae of Time Continue to Spin* draws its inspiration from Osip Mandelstam's depiction of the interconnected vertebrae of two centuries in his 1923 poem Vek (The Century). Echoing the visionary sentiments of the poet's words, this exhibition revisits the perennial question concerning the difficulties of reconciling the past and the future—a task shared by both the artist and poet.

Alessandra Franetovich is a critic and curator, she has a PhD in contemporary art history. Franetovich is currently a member of the curatorial board of Cripta747, and is co-lecturer at Naba, Milan. Her research has been presented in universities and institutions in Italy and Europe, and she has been awarded scholarships from the Regione Toscana, Garage Museum of Contemporary Art, Moscow, and V-A-C foundation, Moscow. In 2019 she won Premio Mosca for young italian curators promoted by the italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Cultural Heritage. She has curated exhibitions and artistic residencies, and collaborated with galleries, non-profit spaces, festivals and museums. Her texts have been published in catalogs and magazines for e-flux journal, Middle Plane, Castello di Rivoli, Centro Pecci, and Cosmic Bulletin.

Gillian Brett (b. 1990, Paris, FR) is a French artist, winner of the Xiaomi HyperCharge Prize at Artissima 2021, "whose research best transmits the charge that innovation and culture are able to give to contemporary society and how art can be the starting point to relaunch a transformation process." She chooses to use technological waste as material for her sculptures and installations, created from electrical components, resin, Plexiglas, steel, aluminium, engines, and damaged or broken screens, which are recycled to give them a new identity. She has thus drawn the material for her art. The "plastiglomerate" is her medium.

Taisia Korotkova (b.1980, Moscow, USSR), is an artist based in Milan. In 2003 she graduated from the Institute of Contemporary Art (Moscow). In 2004 she graduated from V. I. Surikov Moscow State Academic Art Institute. In 2010 she won the Kandinsky Prize in the category "Young Artist of the Year. Project of the Year". Taisia Korotkova's works are in the collections of State Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow Museum of Modern Art, Institute of Russian Realistic Art, Uppsala Art Museum, collection of the President of the Austrian Republic, the Moscow City Hall, as well as in private collections in Russia and abroad. Her works have been displayed in several shows, among which Glittering Landscapes, Cripta747, Torino (2023); Cosmopolita, Cittadella degli Archivi di Milano (2023); Novacene, Utopia Lille 3000, Lille (2022); Dark Forest, State Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow (2021); New Habitat, Kottinspektionen, Uppsala (2018); 4th Ural Industrial Biennial of Contemporary Art, Ekaterinburg (2017); 4th Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art, main project,Moscow (2011).

Arseny Zhilyaev (b.1984, Voronezh, USSR) Arseny Zhilyaev (b.1984, Voronezh, USSR) is an artist based in Venice. He investigates the possible future histories of art, using the museum as a medium. Zhilyaev's projects have been shown at the Manifesta 13 in Marseille, the biennales in Gwangju, Liverpool, Lyon, Riga, Thessaloniki, Shanghai (forthcoming in November 2023) and Ljubljana Triennale as well as at the exhibitions at Centre Pompidou, Palais de Tokyo (Paris); de Appel (Amsterdam); HKW (Berlin); Kadist Art Foundation (Paris and San Francisco); GAM (Turin), MAMbo (Bologna). Zhilyaev graduated from Voronezh State University (2006); Moscow Institute of Contemporary Art (2008); and MA International Program, Valand School of Fine Arts, Gothenburg, Sweden (2010). The artist is a guest professor at NABA (Nuova Accademia di Belle Arti) in Milan, he gave lectures and master classes at MoMA, Brooklyn Museum, Bard Graduate Center, CUNY (New York); Tate Modern, Whitechapel (London); Princeton University (New Jersey).
Arseny Zhilyaev's works are in the collections of Tate Modern (London); M HKA, Museum (Antwerp); Kadist Art Foundation (Paris, San Francisco); MSU Zagreb Museum of Contemporary Art and others.