

# GAZELLI ART HOUSE

## *Last Space Remaining*

Works by Sergio Calderon & Recycle Art Group

27<sup>th</sup> September – 24<sup>th</sup> November 2013

Between 27<sup>th</sup> September and 24<sup>th</sup> November 2013, Gazelli Art House will show *Last Space Remaining*. The exhibition of new works by Spanish designer and artist Sergio Calderon and Russian artist collective Recycle Group, will examine the notions of *fantasy* and *reality* through two alternative approaches.

Calderon's multi-disciplinary, interactive installations invite the viewer to actively engage with the artwork and surrounding space, calling them to draw on their personal memories and ideas. That Calderon's work seeks to be wholly subjective in this way represents his premise that reality is dictated only by our personal expectations of reality.

In contrast, Recycle Group (comprising of Andrey Blokhin and Georgy Kuznetsov) explore the realm of "virtual reality" utilising both recycled imagery and materials.

The common thread running through the exhibition is the human search for perfection and the gulf that exists between these ideals and reality.



L to R: © Recycle Art Group – *F, Tablets*, 2012

### **Recycle Group (Andrey Blokhin and Georgy Kuznetsov)**

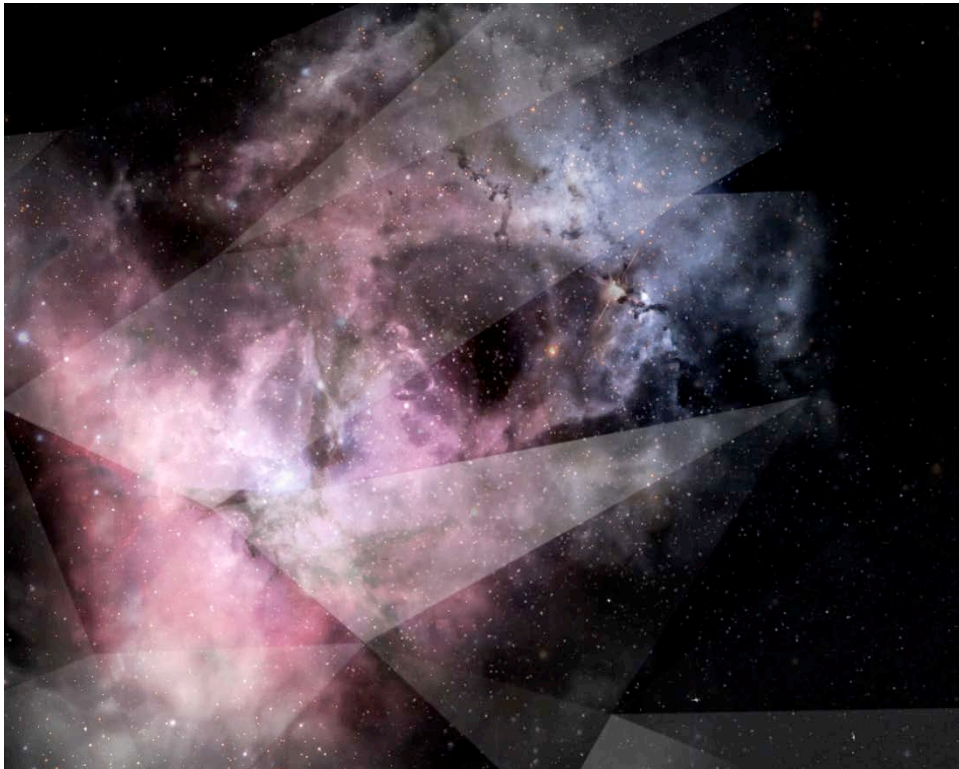
As implied from the name of this Russian art collective recycling is a central facet of their artwork, whether this be through the use of recycled materials or recycling of familiar imagery. Their participation in *Last Space Remaining* follows on from their successful solo exhibition, *Paradise Network*, shown at Moscow's Multi-Media Art Museum earlier this year and select works from this series will be shown by Gazelli Art House.

The body of work focuses on society's virtual world, with particular emphasis on Facebook. Each piece forms part of a theoretical, archaeological excavation of the present, in the future.

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Through a range of powerful mixed-media sculptures, Recycle Group depict Facebook as a new social system with its own laws, customs and rituals and subsequently ask 'What remnants of today's society will survive and become part of history?'. The humorously titled work *Tablets* (a phone tablet cast in stone detailing social media's Ten Commandments) suggests an answer; The commandments of the virtual age are not written in stone, but in a permeable digital medium.

Blokhin & Kuznetsov strive to highlight the absurdity of this generation specific phenomenon in which Facebook has adopted the function of religion. Their blatant use of religious imagery and clear references to the architecture of places of worship in works such as *F*, suggests that the world's spiritual-material dichotomy no longer exists, as we now live in two spaces – real and virtual.



Light Installation at Pompidou, Paris, © Sergio Calderon

## **Sergio Calderon**

Calderon has a background in graphic design and film which has heavily influenced his latest work as a visual artist. For *Last Space Remaining* Calderon will create new works including light boxes, films, interactive installations and other multi-disciplinary pieces that invite the viewer on a journey that connects them with personal memories or ideas along the way. His work openly questions the perception of reality suggesting that the human search for perfection, and the subsequent expectations we ourselves and those around us form, will never match it. Calderon emphasises the natural inclination to hold onto our own versions of reality in the midst of constant change.