

Curated by Mark Fell

Dates:
20 – 27 February 2017

Venue:
GES-2, Bolotnaya embankment, 15,
Moscow

Ticket and booking information,
please visit:
geometryofnow.v-a-c.ru

For further information/ images/ contact:
Helen Weaver
helen.weaver@v-a-c.ru
+44 (0)7772159219

Daisy Mallabar
daisy.mallabar@v-a-c.ru
+44 (0)7966031418

Olga Chuchadeeva (For Russian media)
olga.chuchadeeva@v-a-c.ru
+7 (910) 4422628

V-A-C Live is proud to launch its future Moscow home GES-2, with GEOMETRY OF NOW, an investigation of sound through site-specific interventions in the space of the former GES-2 power station.

GEOMETRY OF NOW reflects Russia's strong tradition in electronic music and rich history of experimentation with sound. The focus of the project will be a series of newly commissioned installations reclaiming the raw structures within GES-2, an interdisciplinary lecture and workshop programme developed around topics in sound art studies, and performances that reconfigure the architectural space. It brings together both internationally renowned and emerging artists and musicians working across a diverse range of genres, from RP Boo, Mumdance, Lee Scratch Perry and Terre Thaemlitz to Florian Hecker, James Richards, Sergey Sapozhnikov, Richard Sides and Jana Winderen.

The performance programme begins on Wednesday 22 February when American composer/guitarist Stephen O'Malley (from Sunn O)))) collaborates with Moscow-based musician Alexey Tegin, known for his interpretation of ritual music of the Bon tradition from Tibet. They will perform from the basement level, which was originally the power station's boiler room, set below the vast interior of GES-2.

The project is curated by Mark Fell, a multi-disciplinary artist based in Sheffield, UK. He has been producing music and sound art since the 1990s and is widely known for exploring the relationships between popular music styles, such as electronica and club music, and approaches to computer-based composition with a particular emphasis on algorithmic and mathematical systems.

Fell said: "For me the most interesting aspect of the space, an imposingly beautiful pre-Soviet power station, is its temporal physiognomy: a site of discontinuity between deconstruction and reconstruction. It is a place where possible histories and possible futures interrogate one another in a play of reciprocal disturbance."

GEOMETRY OF NOW takes place at a pivotal moment in the history of the GES-2 power station which is soon to be transformed into an exciting cultural destination. Offering new opportunities for artists and audiences on a local, national and international level, it will become the first major venue in the city of Moscow for V-A-C, due to officially open in 2019.

Among the line-up of artists and musicians in GEOMETRY OF NOW are: Ryoko Akama, Oren Ambarchi, RP Boo, Alexey Borisov, Georgina Born, Theo Burt, Ivan Bushuev, Christophe Charles, COH, Crys Cole, Inga Copeland, Charles Curtis, Equiknoxx, Errorsmith, Luke Fowler, Gleb Glonti, Jacqueline Kiyomi Gordon, Will Guthrie, Russell Haswell, Carl Michael von Hausswolff, Florian Hecker, Kozo Inada, Philipp Ilinskiy, Jlin, Sergey Kasich, Karina Kazaryan, Alexander Kislov, KTL, Kurvenschreiber, Okkyung Lee, Bruno Martinez, Dmitry Mazurov, Richard McMasters, Mumdance, Stephen O'Malley, Lee Scratch Perry, Pita, Eliane Radigue, James Richards, Ripatti, Carol Robinson, Sergey Sapozhnikov, Hannah Sawtell, Alexander Selivanov, Anthony Shakir, Boris Shershenkov, Adrian Sherwood, Richard Sides, Laurie Spiegel, DJ Sprinkles, Vasily Stepanov, Alexey Tegin, Terre Thaemlitz, Conor Thomas, Rian Treanor, Keith Fullerton Whitman and Jana Winderen.

A book and record will be released after the event documenting the spaces, exhibitions and commissions.

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Mark Fell is a multidisciplinary artist based in Sheffield (UK). After studying experimental film and video art at Sheffield City Polytechnic he reverted to earlier interests in computational technology, music and synthetic sound. In 1998 he began a series of critically acclaimed record releases on labels including Mille Plateaux, Line, Editions Mego and Raster Noton. Since his early electronic music pieces Fell's practice has expanded to include moving image works, sound and light installation, choreography, critical texts, curatorial projects and educational activities. He has worked with a number of artists including Oren Ambarchi, John Chowning, Ernest Edmonds, Luke Fowler, Peter Gidal, Carl Michael Von Hausswolff, Okkyung Lee, Peter Rehberg, Yasunao Tone and Keith Fullerton Whitman. International institutions that have presented his work include - Australian Centre For The Moving Image, Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art (Gateshead), La Casa Encendida (Madrid), HangarBicocca (Milan), Hong Kong National Film archive, Institute of Contemporary Arts (London), Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona, Royal Festival Hall (London), Serpentine Galleries (London), Artists Space (NYC), Whitechapel Gallery (London), Zentrum für Kunst und Medientechnologie (Karlsruhe) and others. Fell's work is in the collection of the Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Contemporary (Vienna) and he has been recognised by ARS Electronica (Linz).

V-A-C Foundation is dedicated to the international presentation, production and development of Russian contemporary Art — across a multitude of forms and within the framework of an invigorated and informed exhibition, education and publishing programme. Particularly important to the new generation of artists in Russia, V-A-C's focus is on practically supporting and expanding the platform for home-grown talent, giving artists the opportunity to experience, engage with and interrogate international cultural practices whilst developing an authentic and autonomous artistic language. It is deservedly considered as one of the key proponents in opening out contemporary Russian culture to the wider world, and practically supporting and developing emergent artists through finding new international platforms for exhibition and opportunities for commissions as well as ways of encouraging cross-cultural exchange — especially important in the current climate.

V-A-C Foundation is currently restoring a historic palazzo in Venice, which will become a permanent exhibition and education space for the foundation from Spring 2017 and work is underway in Moscow to build V-A-C's new headquarters, GES-2. A major new site for contemporary art and culture in the city, Renzo Piano Building Workshop have been commissioned to revive and redesign the main building — the GES-2 power station built in 1907 — and the surrounding area on the banks of the Moskva River.

V-A-C Live is a new performance led strand of the V-A-C Foundation, first launched with Cabaret Kultura, three evenings of experimental performance at the Whitechapel Gallery in London in September 2016.