

An Alternate History of Art, Moscow, September 2008

Ilya and Emilia Kabakov

While preparing its projects with young curators and emerging artists, the Contemporary City Foundation has come to see the need for contemporary Russian art to restore the connection between its different generations, without which the work of younger artists would lose much of its power. Such a connection is felt in the works of Ilya and Emilia Kabakov: their art draws a straight line from the 1920s through the 1940's and the 1980's, right up to today. They amplify the idea of contemporary Russian art as a direct descendant of formalism, constructivism, and avant-garde.

The Contemporary City Foundation is convinced that the creation of the future demands a proper relation to the past. In becoming one of the originators of such an important project, the Contemporary City Foundation is confident that the return of the Kabakovs to Russia proves the fact that culture is fundamental to the development of society at large and the creation of the future.