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**V–A–C Live:
This Is Not (a) Cinema**

**Friday 27th, Saturday 28th
and Sunday 29th
September 2019**
Whitechapel Gallery
77-82 Whitechapel High
Street
London
E1 7QX

For all further information on
this and all V–A–C projects,
please contact:

Helen Weaver
helen.weaver@v-a-c.ru
t. +44 (0) 7772 159219

For Russian media:

Nonna Gazaeva
nonna.gazaeva@v-a-c.ru t.
+7 (903) 218 3000

Gosha Slugin
gosha.slugin@v-a-c.ru
t. +7 (926) 204 9062



Whitechapel Gallery

**V–A–C Live: This Is Not (a) Cinema
with Anniversary of a Revolution (Parsed) by Broomberg & Chanarin**

V-A-C Foundation and Whitechapel Gallery present *V-A-C Live: This is not (a) Cinema*, a three-day film programme with a newly commissioned live intervention by the artists Broomberg & Chanarin, at Whitechapel Gallery Zilkha Auditorium from 27th to 29th September.

Adam Broomberg (b. 1970, South Africa) and Oliver Chanarin (b. 1971, UK) are renowned for photographs which use imaging technologies and found photographs to reflect on conflict, trauma and the politics of surveillance.

This Is Not (a) Cinema premieres two late-Soviet artistic experiments: SovPoliKadr studio (SovPolyFrame) by Alexander Shein (1933–2015, Moscow) and the CentrNauchFilm (Centre of Scientific and Educational Film) by Vladimir Kobrin (1942–1999, Moscow).

It was at MosFilm, founded in 1924 and still Russia's most important film studio, that director Alexander Shein formed an innovative research lab. Established in the late 1960s, SovPoliKadr was dedicated to experimenting with visual narrative and multiple screen techniques. Short films were produced for official celebrations such as the Vladimir Lenin (1970) and Paris Commune centenaries (1971), or international events such as Expo '75. Seen outside their propagandistic role, they stand as exemplary works of highly innovative and politically engaged art. Khanzhonkov & Co. Scientific Department was established in the early 1900's to produce educational and documentary films. Renamed CentrNauchFilm in 1967, the studio pioneered widescreen, stereophonic films and new cinematic technologies. Working within the studio, visionary film-maker Vladimir Kobrin produced educational films that comment on history, science and Russian society in the 1980s and 90s. Despite being commissioned by scientific societies his films transcend the documentary, offering seamlessly crafted essays that testify to Kobrin's science-infused macabre.

The artists Broomberg & Chanarin will launch *V–A–C live: This Is Not (a) Cinema* on Friday 27th September with a new work in response to Dziga Vertov's legendary debut film *Anniversary of the Revolution* (1918). Considered lost for nearly a century, this film hypothesis was recently re-assembled by film historian Nikolai Izvolov.

For the work, entitled *Anniversary of a Revolution (Parsed)*, Broomberg & Chanarin have collaborated with multi-instrumentalist Peter Broderick, who will perform live, and with the London based creative technology studio The Workers. Here, the artists have employed powerful machine-vision technology to map the physical movement in the film on to a digital rendering, using the mechanisms of 21st century surveillance to re-frame the historic archive footage.

This Is Not (a) Cinema will be complemented by talks each day involving V–A–C artistic director Francesco Manacorda and film curator Kirill Adibekov, Senior Lecturer in Film at Roehampton University William Brown, art theorist and philosopher Keti Chukhrov and author and cultural editor of Tribune Owen Hatherley.

The programme will be introduced via a reading room containing original posters and imagery from the SovPoliKadr studio and literature connected to the themes explored in the project.

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V-A-C Foundation

V-A-C produces new culture together with artists and audiences alike. It is a platform for open discussion aimed at redefining the contemporary landscape. Working with local communities, V-A-C promotes its exhibition, publishing, performative and learning programmes beyond all disciplinary boundaries and thus constantly resets the coordinates for dialogue within a new global geography. This methodology is employed in all V-A-C initiatives, taking place in its Venetian space, through international, cross-institutional partnerships and in its future home for arts and culture in Moscow, GES-2.

Following the success of *Kabaret Kultura* in 2016, *Tunguska Event*, *History Marches on a Table* by Vadim Zakharov in 2017 and *VASYA RUN* in 2018, *This Is Not (a) Cinema* is Whitechapel Gallery's fourth collaboration with V-A-C Foundation. A series of four displays from the V-A-C collection were shown in a dedicated Collections Gallery in 2014/15 as part of the Whitechapel Gallery's ongoing programme of opening up rarely seen collections from around the world, which also travelled to V-A-C Zattere in 2018.

www.v-a-c.ru

Whitechapel Gallery

For over a century the Whitechapel Gallery has premiered world class artists from modern masters such as Pablo Picasso, Jackson Pollock, Mark Rothko and Frida Kahlo to contemporaries such as Sophie Calle, Lucian Freud, Gilbert & George and Wallinger. With beautiful galleries, exhibitions, artist commissions, collection displays, historic archives, education resources, inspiring art courses, dining room and bookshop, the Gallery is open all year round, so there is always something free to see. It is a touchstone for contemporary art internationally, plays a central role in London's cultural landscape and is pivotal to the continued growth of the world's most vibrant contemporary art.

whitechapelgallery.org

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