

Andrei Pokrovskii**Monasticon Universum**

May 12th - May 23rd 2021

In terms of the **Off-site** programme Osnova gallery is presenting the solo exhibition of the artist Andrei Pokrovskii . In his works Andrei creates a series of closed , isolated space systems . These are panoramic views of courtyards , side streets and passages , whose prototype is the 18th century graphic album Monasticon Universum which contains topographic sketches of French abbeys . In the album the abbey architecture is presented cut-off and exists exclusively in a separate, or its own, dimension. In the same way, Andrei's cloisters are the example of a perfectly isolated system which is "taken out" of the outside world and the familiar contexts.

As if in the old video game setting, we know nothing about the location - the space only possesses a hint of the backstory, the vague present and future. The monastic world-level accommodates-loads so few character-inhabitants that a guest, in the same way as a viewer, only lonely wanders through the half-empty and narrow interiors-dead ends, along the locked doors and passages - the islands of new medieval ensembles, - and in this at first sight low-interactive space a guest is given the role of an observer.

Andrei Pokrovskii was born in 1996 in Moscow . In 2016 he graduated from Moscow State University of Printing Arts, the Department of Graphic Design. In 2019 he graduated from British Higher School of Art and Design, the Illustration Course. His works are devoted to the problem of relations with various places, the issue of attachment to spaces (real, mythical or virtual) through the experience gained in their context: sensual and behavioral , meditative and emotional . In his works there is always a "stage" with the characters who inhabit or come from this place. On this "stage" the scenery controls the characters-actors through the created atmosphere and conditions of stay. In this way, through the body manipulations both actors and viewers gain the exceptional experience of staying in a particular location.

Osnova Off-site is a programme of external exhibition projects that go beyond the gallery space. With the focus on young authors and personal projects presented at new experimental sites, it aims at a dialogue with the external context and research of the modern state of culture in a new, changing world.

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