

24 October - 22 November, 2014

## Andrei Roiter

*Thank You*



*God's Doodles, 2014, Oil on canvas, 40 x 50 cm*

AKINCI is proud to announce Andrei Roiter's new exhibition with the title 'Thank you'. Roiter chose this title as an expression of gratitude towards the Netherlands and the people who have been a support over the last 20 years. At the same time this show expresses a mutual appreciation for our 10 years of a wonderful and successful collaboration.

Andrei Roiter's work has always shown a self-reflective tendency to deal with his own particular realities as a foreigner, a wanderer and an artist, endlessly collecting snapshot images and miscellaneous artefacts. These reflections take shape in paintings, installations, objects and drawings and recently in film animations.

Roiter's practice of making works has always been based on exploring issues of the ephemeral, through working with his own collection of discovered images, observations and thoughts. Often the subjects in Roiter's paintings are ghostlike and floating, hovering in a vacuum-like space. Roiter removes the subjects of his paintings from their context to spotlight their psychological character.

For this exhibition, Roiter was compelled to find a way to work metaphorically with current political events in the international arena, and particularly in Russia, the country of his origin. Through a multidisciplinary approach, using a variety of methods to create the images, his new works are a personal translation of his reflections on the expanding shadow of totalitarianism, with its predictable tendency to control, censor and isolate. Equally present in this show, on the other hand, is the theme of escape - not only a physical fleeing, but also a liberation through the mind - that resonates with Roiter's own biography and throughout his works for more than two decades. This new body of paintings are as much about decay as they are about a blank, white page for future possibilities.

*Roiter studied at the Institute of Architecture in Moscow (1978-1980). During this time he began to show his works in unofficial exhibition spaces in Moscow. Since the mid-80's Roiter took part in several international exhibitions of Russian art in Europe and the U.S. Then in the early 1990's, Roiter relocated to the West, exhibiting in Germany, Switzerland, the U.S., Sweden and Japan.*

*Currently, Roiter lives in New York and Amsterdam. He exhibited at MMOMA Moscow (2013), Jack Hanley Gallery, New York (2012), Regina Gallery, Moscow (2011), Kunstmuseum Solothurn, CH (2011), The Stedelijk Museum Schiedam (2010), Stedelijk Museum Den Bosch (2010), Laura Bullian, Milan (2010 and 2014), Laura Bartlett Gallery, London (2008), Kunsthalle Recklinghausen, Germany (2004) and several times at AKINCI, Amsterdam. He participated in group exhibitions at the Moscow Museum of Modern Art (2009), Stedelijk Museum Schiedam (2008), The Moscow Biennale (2007), Centraal Museum, Utrecht (2006), Pratt Institute, New York (2002).*