Table of Contents

Part I

Introduction Russian Alternative Art after WWII: A Brief History	2
Andrei Monastyrsky and the Collective Actions Group	13
The Conceptual Artist: A Sectarian or a Dissembler? An Epistolary Conversation with Andrei Monastyrsky	14
A Conversation with Andrei Monastyrsky	18
The Silver Palace: A Conversation with Ilya Kabakov about Andrei Monastyrsky and the Collective Actions Group (CA)	22
Ilya Kabakov	35
From the Communal Kitchen: A Conversation with Ilya Kabakov	36
About Installations: A Conversation with Ilya Kabakov and Margarita Tupitsyn	46
Explosive Works: A Conversation with Ilya Kabakov and Margarita Tupitsyn	58
Tomatoes in Berdiansk: A Conversation with Ilya Kabakov	72
Theater of the Mind: A Conversation with Ilya Kabakov and Margarita Tupitsyn	80
Vitaly Komar and Alexander Melamid and Sots Art	101



A First Conversation with Vitaly Komar and Alexander Melamid	102
A Second Conversation with Vitaly Komar and Alexander Melamid	106
Boris Mikhailov	117
The Piper of Disaster or Boris Mikhailov and His "Calm" Photographs: A Conversation with Ilya Kabakov	118
Who's Afraid of a "Bad Photograph"? A Conversation with Boris Mikhailov	124
A Conversation with Ilya Kabakov about Boris Mikhailov	136
Erik Bulatov	149
A Conversation with Erik Bulatov	150
Medical Hermeneutics	163
The Inspection of Inspectors: A Conversation with Sergei Anufriev, Iury Leiderman, and Pavel Peppershtein	164
A Conversation with Ilya Kabakov about Medical Hermeneutics	170
A Conversation with Pavel Peppershtein	178
Leonid Sokov	198
A Conversation with Leonid Sokov	200
Andrei Molodkin: Petro-Discourse or the Terms of Turm-Oil	207
A Conversation with Andrei Molodkin and Margarita Tupitsyn	208

Table of Contents Part II

Oleg Vasiliev	219
A Conversation with Oleg Vasiliev	220
Saint Petersburg Artists	225
The Disadvantages of Going West: A Conversation with Timur Novikov, Afrika (Sergei Bugaev), Margarita Tupitsyn, Elizabeth Sussman and David Ross	226
The Studios on Furmanny Lane in Moscow: A Conversation à la Chekhov	236
Utopia as <i>Utoplennik</i>	249
A Conversation with Igor Makarevich and Elena Elagina	250
A Conversation with Andrei Roiter	252
A Conversation with The Peppers (Ludmila Skripkina and Oleg Petrenko)	254
Four Russian New Yorkers	267
A Conversation with Rimma and Valery Gerlovin	268
A Conversation with Vagrich Bakhchanian	272
A Conversation with Genrikh Khudiakov	276
A Conversation with Yuri Albert	288
Irina Nakhova	295

An Epistolary Conversation with	006
Irina Nakhova	296
Regardless of Brand:	
An Epistolary Conversation with	200
Nikita Alekseev	306
Appendix:	000
Correspondence with John Cage	309
	045
Magarita Tupitsyn	315
On Utopian Aspirations, Social	
Allegories, and Fordism:	040
A Conversation with Margarita Tupitsyn	316
Endustra	326
Endnotes	020