

HEAVEN CARRIER

APRIL 3 - MAY 3, 2015

Recycle Group

OPENING RECEPTION
APRIL 3, 6-9PM



Recycle Group, *Dome*, 2015.

Richard Taittinger Gallery is pleased to present *Heaven Carrier*, an exhibition of new work by Russian artist collective, **Recycle Group**. Comprised of **Andrey Blokhin** and **Georgy Kuznetsov**, Recycle Group works with repurposed electrical equipment and industrial material to express concern for humanity's increasing dependence on digital technologies such as social media. The presentation marks their first solo exhibition in the United States.

The exhibition title, *Heaven Carrier*, invites multi-faceted comparison between religion and the wireless networks of today. If "heaven" is a transcendent utopia promised by many faiths, and "carrier" is a corporation that provides essential data services, it asks what differences remain between them. If both powers hold an omnipotent presence and dictate from above, which holds greater control over the daily life of the individual in the current age?

Simultaneously somber and satirical, their works comment on the existential crisis of our overreliance on virtual worlds and online interconnectivity as a means of survival. In using methods of depiction historically reserved

for Western religious icons and monarchs, Recycle Group portrays how social media has replaced these older orders of power in affirming existence, identity, and cultural belonging for the masses. Whether this observation should be perceived as an ailment or advantage is ultimately left for the viewer to decide.

ABOUT RECYCLE GROUP

Andrey Blokhin (b. 1987) and Georgy Kuznetsov (b. 1985) met through their artist parents and became friends while coming of age in Russia. Working primarily with mediums such as acrylic, plastic mesh, and polyurethane rubber, their works examine contemporary culture through a quasi-archaeological lens in order to question if aspects of today's throwaway, technology-obsessed society will be worth immortalizing in history later. Awards include the coveted 2010 Kandinsky Prize for the "Young Artist: Project of the Year" category. Forthcoming exhibitions include: *Conversion* at the Sant'Antonin Church for the 56th Venice Biennale (May 2015) and the Manezh Central Exhibition Hall in Moscow (Fall 2015). Their work is currently held in several major collections: Albright Knox Gallery, Buffalo, NY; PERMM Contemporary Art Museum, Perm, Russia; and the Royal Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh, Scotland.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Support provided by Pioneer Works and Residency Unlimited.

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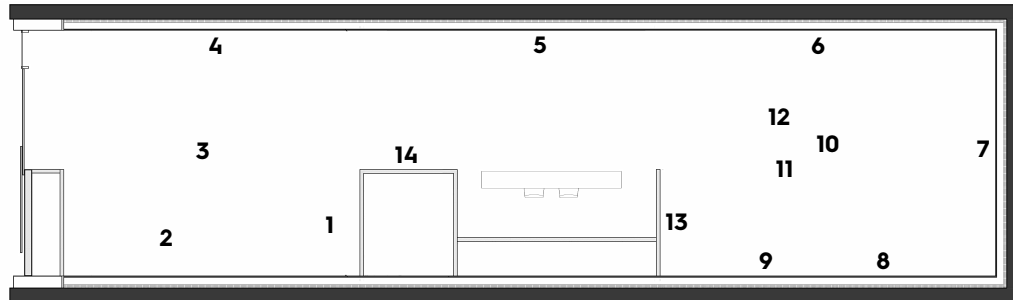
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ABOUT RICHARD TAITTINGER GALLERY

An international forum for new ideas in contemporary art, Richard Taittinger Gallery presents an ambitious program dedicated to cultivating a critical dialogue between artists, viewers and institutions. Embracing its prime location in the Lower East Side, the gallery provides a foundation that supports the presentation of work by mid-career artists with significant global recognition.



1
Tower, 2015
Metal, corrugated cables

2
Wayfarer, 2015
Plastic mesh, iRobot

3
Dome, 2015
Metal, plastic mesh

4
Wayfarers, 2015
Plastic mesh

5
Laocoön, 2015
Polyurethane rubber, metal

6
Network searchers, 2015
Plastic mesh

7
F-cross, 2015
Styrofoam, plastic

8
Adam, 2015
Acrylic, plastic, LED light

9
Eve, 2015
Acrylic, plastic, LED light

10
Slave, 2015
Polyurethane rubber

11
Ray 1, 2015
Polyurethane rubber

12
Ray 2, 2015
Polyurethane rubber

13
Virtual noise, 2015
Acrylic cast

14
Clear stream, 2015
Acrylic, plastic cast

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