



**THE UNICREDIT COLLECTION IN MOSCOW
PRESENTS “PEOPLE AND THE CITY”:
AN ARTISTIC JOURNEY THROUGH MODERN METROPOLITAN LIFE**

October 2011 – His Excellency Antonio Zanardi Landi, Italian Ambassador to Moscow, Dieter Rampl, Chairman of the Group UniCredit and Mikhail Alekseev, CEO of UniCredit Bank Russia will open the exhibition ***People and the City*** at the WINZAVOD Centre for Contemporary Art in Moscow. The exhibition, on display to the public from October 21 to December 4, 2011 in the Red Hall of the WINZAVOD Centre is made possible also thanks to the support of the Embassy of Italy and of the Italian Institute of Culture in Moscow as part of the celebration of the Year of Italian Culture and Language in Russia and Russian Culture and Language in Italy.

UniCredit, one of the leading European banking and financial services Group, now operative in 50 countries throughout the world, pays homage to Russian culture with ***“People and the City”***, featuring the artworks of the following **Russian artists**: Alexander Brodsky (winner of the 2011 Kandisky Prize), Stas Shuripa, Alexander Rodchenko, Leonid Zusman and Danil Yakovlevich Cherkes. UniCredit is present in Russia as the UniCredit Bank, founded in 1989 under the name of the ‘International Moscow Bank’, of which we are currently celebrating the 22nd anniversary. The bank focuses on services for both corporate and private clients, and was the first of its kind to move onto the international financial markets, with a major network of bank branches (over 100) and more than 900,000 retail clients.

The exhibition features more than 70 artworks from UniCredit’s noteworthy art collection, which as an international group with solid roots in Italy and a strong presence throughout Central and Eastern Europe, proudly participates in the valorisation of this year’s Italian culture event in the Russian capital with a fine selection from its artistic heritage.

However, Moscow is not the first city to host an exhibition of works from the UniCredit collection: during 2009 and 2010 the Group organised the travelling exhibition entitled *PastPresentFuture* that toured from Vienna, via Verona to Istanbul, while in the spring of 2011, 80 works were presented at the MARTa Herford gallery as part of the “Things are Queer” exhibition.

“People and the City” is a journey through the works of artists such as **Gursky, Tillmans, Marclay, Atget Klemm, Colomer, Blake, Zusman** and **Yakovlevich Cherkes**. The exhibition itinerary highlights the relationship between individuals and the urban fabric since the start of the

20th century, with an analysis of urban space as a reflection of modern living. The journey starts off from an aerial view in which the city is captured in its entirety, before coming down to street level, where the buildings and the multicultural human flows become the protagonists, right down to the point of exploring people's intimate domestic lives and dreaming up imaginary cities in which to live on a more human scale.

The exhibition features paintings, photographs and installations reflecting the personal view of the city held by some of the most prominent artists of the 20th century and right up to the present day: from the architecture in a non-realist perspective by **Giorgio de Chirico** in *Piazza D'Italia* (1970) to the photography of the industrial archaeology of outlying areas as captured by **Gabriele Basilico** in *Milano* (1981); from the surreal architectural landscapes of **Giorgio Morandi** in *Paesaggio* (1925), to **Christo's** Land Art, which modifies the architecture of cities, warping buildings and monuments like in the *Ohne Titel* project in New York; from the visionary urban films by **Francesco Jodice**, *City Tellers* in São Paulo and Dubai, to the shots of street life in *Hamburg* (1952) by **Henri Cartier-Bresson**, the father of photojournalism.

The exhibition itinerary is divided into five sections. The first is **"From Above"**, in which the city is shown from a bird's eye view, like that seen from a plane before landing, or when looking at a map. The section features the works of Voigt, Reimondo and Jodice, the scale models of Shuripa, and the photos of Braas, Tillmans and Barbieri.

We then come to **"Views"**, in which the representation of urban space shifts from the general to the specific, through the photographs of Maier Aichen, Castella, Lutter, Basilico and Zanta, and the pictorial works of Kokoschka, Zusman, Corinth, Liebermann, Morandi and Fetting. The **"Street Life"** section then turns the urban fabric into an animated space, one inhabited by people. Here we find the city in black and white as shot by Cartier-Bresson, Berengo Gardin, Weegee, Klemm and Mikhailov, and the city which serves as the stage on which its inhabitants move around both day and night, as in the photographic sequence by Barbara Probst.

"Home Sweet Home" then shifts the focus from the public to the private arena: the home is the protagonist in the works of Alexander Brodsky, as well as in Nan Goldin's photography and Christian Marclay's video. Lastly, **"The Imaginary City"** brings the exhibition to a close with the theme of the ideal city: a dream according to Peter Blake, a metaphysical representation according to Giorgio de Chirico, and a symbol of power according to Christo.



The project has been designed and curated by Walter Guadagnini, Chairman of the UniCredit for Art Scientific Committee, which also includes Luca Massimo Barbero, Lorand Hegyi and Angelika Nollert.

The works that make up the exhibition are all part of the UniCredit Art Collection, and originate from Russia, Turkey, Italy, Germany, Austria and the United States: an international artistic study of the city as the stage of contemporary living. The UniCredit Art Collection is made up of over 60,000 works – paintings, sculptures, installations, videos and photographs – which reflect the Group's identity, as well as symbolising the Bank's international commitment to art.

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