



Boris Mikhailov

A SIMPLE QUESTION

A SIMPLE ANSWER

From the bleakness of the Communist era to the brutal economic hardships of the post-Soviet decline and beyond, Boris Mikhailov has adopted a diverse range of styles to record life in the Ukraine in all its depressing glory. For his best-known and most shocking work, *Case History*, he used a snapshot style that shows the bomzhes (homeless) of his hometown Kharkov, a by product of the socio-economic implosion of post-Soviet Ukraine. The bomzhes expose their breasts, show their decaying teeth, grin and pose with belongings in their hands so they look like "...people going to gas chambers."

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