### **SMENA** CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY CULTURE

AN INDEPENDENT INSTITUTION OF GLOBAL SIGNIFICANCE. WHICH HAS BECOME ONE OF THE MAIN REGIONAL CULTURAL PROJECT OF RUSSIA





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#### **WHAT IS SMENA:**

6 YEARS

OF ACTIVE WORK AND THOUSANDS OF EVENTS



MORE THAN TWENTY
INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL FOR
BOOKS, ARTS, CINEMA AND MUSIC

ABOUT 5 THOUSANDS

MONTHLY ATTENDEES

300 EVENTS PER

ВЫСТАВКИ, ЛЕКЦИИ, КИНОПОКАЗЫ, ВОРКШОПЫ, ДЕТСКИЕ МАСТЕР-КЛАССЫ



GARAGE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART GRANT FELLOWS (2018)



WINNERS OF THE COSMOSCOW INTERNATIONAL FAIR — BEST INSTITUTION OF THE YEAR (2018)



ARTICULUS ET BAHILA
EXHIBITION WAS SHORTLISTED
BY INNOVATION AWARDS



#### **ABOUT SMENA**

The Center for Contemporary Culture "Smena" is an independent project that started in Kazan in 2013.

Smena includes a contemporary art gallery, a lecture hall and a bookstore. Smena publishes books and organizes major city events, including twelve book festivals and three international debut documentary film festivals — Rudnik.

Smena regularly hosts exhibitions of contemporary art, lectures by renowned figures of science and art, screenings of international film festivals, concerts, art residences, research projects and much more.

Today, Smena building also hosts "Divan" coffee shop, "Siyanie" vinyl records shop, "Qullar" design showroom, "Priroda" concept store and "Inde" online edition.





## EXHIBITIONS OF CONTEMPORARY ART

For six years, the Smena center for contemporary culture has hosted exhibitions of contemporary Russian and international artists:

«Untitled» by Sergey Sapozhnikov, « shopping center. Time of color sheds « by Pavel Otdelnov,» on the arrangement of the sixth five-year plan «by Alexandra Paperno,» Severnoye Chertanovo « and «VDNH» by Yuri Palmin, « Mari. Research «by Ikuru Kuvajima,»Life of the future century» by Arseny Zhilyaev and Dmitry Hvorostov, «Inside the chest» by Kirill Garshin, «Suspicious vigilant» by the art Duo «Elikuka», «Alina» by Nikolai Onishchenko, «Female», «Male» and « Red «by Ilgizar Khasanov,» Encounters / Collisions « by Alexey Vasiliev, artgroup «toy», group «ZIP», «Articulus et Bahila» by Irina Korina and Sveta Shuvaeva,

as well as collective projects:

«Cinema of the second film» (curators: Natalia Nusinova, Ekaterina Inozemtseva, Alexandra Paperno; participants: Dmitry Gutov, svetalana Shuvaeva, Irina Korina, Eugene Yufit, Taisia Korotkova, Natalia vitsina, Yuri Palmin, Alexandra Paperno),» New space « (curator: Vladimir Logutov; participants: Leonid Tskhe, Victoria Kosheleva, Misha Most, Kirill Makarov, Vladimir Logutov).









## ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE

In 2015 Smena launched a program of artistic residencies, which is already attended by Kirill Kto, Brad Downey, Alexander Kurmaz, Irina Korina, Svetlana Shuvaeva, Maria Kalinina, Pavel Otdelnov, Nikolai Onishchenko, Sergey Novikov and Alexey Vasiliev. Each of the artists spent time in Kazan for about

1-2 weeks, communicating with local residents and experts, exploring the Kazan city environment and culture. The residencies resulted in the exhibitions «TSEH street art workshop» (September 2015) «observer» (September 2017) and «Articulus et Bahila» (December 2018; shortlist for the «Innovation» award).

In 2019, Smena's artistic and research residencies became international. Our first guests are Swiss media artists-duo F&D Cartier and Alan bogana. In September and November, Smena opened the exhibitions related to the history of the pioneers of media art in the USSR, Bulat Galeev and the Prometheus research Institute, who worked in Kazan, and the famous Kazan factory TASMA, which produced photographic film and light-sensitive materials in Soviet times.



#### **RESEARCH PROJECTS:**

#### ARCHIVE OF KAZAN CONTEMPORARY ART

In 2019, Smena launched a project to create an Archive of Kazan contemporary art. Its goal is to restore, reconstruct and preserve the historical and cultural memory of the Kazan art scene of the last 50 years.

The goal of the project is to create a corpus of biographies of artists who worked in Kazan, as well as to collect an archive of memories, documents, and artifacts related to the artistic environment and events and heroes of the time.





## BOOKSTORE AND PUBLISHING HOUSE

Since the first days of Smena's existence, a bookstore of intellectual literature has been functioning. The store offers books from independent Russian publishers that are not seen on the shelves of mass-market stores. Here you can find publications about modern culture, rare albums on art, domestic and world prose, interesting books for children and non-fiction. This is

a unique bookstore not only for Kazan, but also for Russia.

In 2015, Smena opened its own publishing house specializing in texts by contemporary authors and little-known cultural and historical subjects related to Kazan, Tatarstan and the Volga region. The idea of the series is to connect local text with illustrations by contemporary artists who create works specifically for the selected book.





## **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES**

Since the first months of its operation, Smena has been organizing educational and cultural events on a weekly basis. Over the past four years, Smena has hosted more than 400 lectures on natural, exact, humanitarian and social Sciences, as well as more than 150 film screenings and concerts of contemporary music. Not only well-known Russian and international figures of culture and science, but also Kazan scientists, researchers and authors, with whom the employees of «Smena» develop courses and lectures, become participants in the events of «Smena».

Every year, Smena organizes international educational and art schoolsprojects aimed at increasing the level of professional competence of young people engaged in design, illustration and book publishing, as well as exchange of experience of colleagues from different Russian cities

both the country. The goals of these projects are to discover and implement new themes, stories and events that are innovative for Kazan and Russia. The Tutors of the Smena school are the largest Russian and international specialists.



#### **PUBLISHING SCHOOL**

The first and only international publishing school in Russia for young and novice publishers. The idea is to provide publishers with a brief guide to the modern book industry and its history.

The school consists of lectures and master classes, during the week, leading experts from Russia and other countries give lectures and master classes. Participants: publishers from Russia, selected using the open call method. The project received support from the Presidential grants fund and the German Center for books, representative offices of the Frankfurt book fair in Russia.



## POSTER DESIGN SCHOOL

Since 2016, Smena has hosted poster design Schools with the participation of designers from Switzerland, Poland and Russia (Kazan, Moscow, Chelyabinsk, Izhevsk, Saint Petersburg, Naberezhnye Chelny). The result of the project was an exhibition of the best works of residents, which at the same time introduced the audience to the trends in the field of poster art and have become an information space that informs about upcoming city events.





## RESIDENCE FOR COMICS ARTISTS

Authors took part in the residence of comics artists from Finland, Switzerland, Sweden and Russia. For two weeks, 11 artists lived in Kazan and based on the results drew graphic reports about the city, which will be published as a single book. Their works problematize the current state of the Tatar language, the architecture of Kazan, urban and national mythology.







## MAJOR CITY EVENTS ORGANIZED BY SMENA

SUMMER AND WINTER BOOK FESTIVALS

ISKRA FESTIVAL OF ARTS AND LOCAL HISTORY

RUDNIK INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL



#### **SMENA BOOK FESTIVALS**

Every year Smena organizes one of the main cultural events of the year — Summer Book Festival in the park «Black lake». It is one of the largest independent literature festivals in the country, where everyone can get acquainted with new books, listen to many interesting lectures. and also spend time with family and friends.

In 2019, the festival was attended by 16 thousand people. The festival's campaign covered about 340,000 people from Kazan, Moscow, and other Russian cities

In December, on its birthday, Smena traditionally organizes the Winter Book Festival

Over the past 6 years, we have organized 12 book festivals, which have become significant events in the cultural life of the region.

Since 2018, the «Smena» festivals have become off-site-we organized a Book Weekend in mega, and in 2019, festivals are planned in Almetvevsk and Naberezhnve Chelnv.



















## ARTS AND LOCAL HISTORY

The purpose of the festival of art and local history «Iskra» is dialogue between artists and the local expert community in order to popularize the Kazan local history knowledge and its representation by means of contemporary art. The festival included a themed event in the framework of the international campaign «night of museums», a residence of poster design, a laboratory of street theater, a residence for contemporary artists, documentary filmmakers.



# RUDNIK INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF DEBUT DOCUMENTARY FILM

Since 2017, Smena has been organizing the international documentary film festival Rudnik. The festival takes place on the island of Sviyazhsk. Art Director of the festival: director Marina Razbezhkina. The competition program of the festival includes debut documentaries presented by directors from all over the world.

In addition to screenings, discussions and master classes, the festival hosts a laboratory of documentary film and theater by Marina Razbezhkina and Mikhail Ugarov, where novice directors can make their first films, as well as a school of documentary animation.

Tutors of the school are director Olga Privalova, program director of Big Cartoon festival Dina Goder and screenwriter Alexander Rodionov. As a result of the schools students' works are shown during the closing of the festival. Annually during the «Rudnik» period, Sviyazhsk becomes a Russian center for young documentary filmmakers for a week.







#### **PARTNERS**

Smena has been successfully cooperating with Russian and international partners — Museum of contemporary art «Garage», Vladimir Smirnov and Konstantin Sorokin Foundation, Triumph gallery, award in the field of popular science literature «Prosvetitel», European University in Saint Petersburg, the Marina Razbezhkina and Mikhail Ugarov school of documentary film and theater, the Rodchenko Moscow school of photography and multimedia, and publishing houses Ad Marginem, Alpina Non-fiction, New literary review, «Boomkniga», embassies of USA, Finland, Sweden, Switzerland, and the Swiss cultural Council «Pro Helvetia», Polish cultural center, Goethe Institute and Center for German books.



### \* THANK YOU! \*