

Alexandra de Viveiros gallery at

PHOTO LONDON

11 - 15 May 2022

Somerset House, London
Booth E02



Viktor & Sergiy Kochetov, *Geometrical Clouds*, 1997

Artists:

**Viktor & Sergiy Kochetov, Vladyslav Krasnoshchok, Sergiy Lebedynskyy,
Evgeniy Pavlov, Roman Pyatkovka, Sergiy Solonsky**

Alexandra de Viveiros gallery, Paris, France

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In the continuity of a long-standing commitment, Alexandra de Viveiros gallery is privileged to present at Photo London Art Fair seven artists belonging to the Kharkiv School of Photography, Ukraine.

Some of these artists continue doing photography in the city of Kharkiv heavily bombarded by the Russian army. Others managed to leave Ukraine taking few works that the gallery shows at its booth.

Since the mid-70s, artists of the Kharkiv School treat the photography in an unconventional way, developing a personal aesthetic by defying the social taboos of the representation. Their experiments created an iconography that went against the codes of social realism glorifying the repressive state. They show the reality of everyday life as well as the fragility of bodies often depicted naked, disobeying the official prohibitions.

Viktor and Sergiy Kochetov, referring to the popular imagery, manually colour photographs capturing "non-decisive" moments, invisible in a propaganda centered culture.

Vladyslav Krasnoshchok and Sergiy Lebedynskyy (Shilo group) make ingenious use of photographic material that combines questioning the School' heritage with the treatment of current subjects relating to their own experiences.

Evgeniy Pavlov is shown with his two major series : "Archival", based on documentary images taken for 20 years and "Montages" where the artist experiments the photo collage.

Roman Pyatkovka's erotic scenes hidden in the interiors of community apartments refer to a thirst of escape and freedom.

Sergiy Solonsky stages a disturbing spectacle of the fragmentation and dissolution of his own body.

The artists' works are part of numerous public collections, including the **Center Pompidou** where an exhibition dedicated to the Kharkiv School of Photography is currently taking place.