

Aslan Gaisumov
LOOP BARCELONA FAIR,
→ 3rd floor Hotel Almanac
Gran Via de les Corts
Catalanes, 619
08007 Barcelona, Spain
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Aslan Gaisumov, *Keicheyuhea*, 2017, Single-channel, HD video projection, colour, sound, in Chechen with English subtitles, Edition of 5 plus 1 AP

Produced with support from the Han Nefkens Foundation.

From 23 February to 9 March 1944, the entire Chechen and Ingush nations / wrongly accused of having collaborated with Nazi Germany / were deported by the Soviet authorities and resettled in Central Asia.

Keicheyuhea (2017) follows the artist's grandmother, Zayanu Khasueva, as she revisits the site of her home village for the first time since the deportation 73 years earlier. Keicheyuhea, a remote titular settlement in the Caucasus mountains of the Galain-Chazh region of Chechnya, remained a closed territory under Soviet rule and has only recently become accessible to its former residents.

“The film is driven by Gaisumov’s quest for a hard-edged, crystalline beauty capable of refracting the sinuous curves of the road he and his grandmother traveled—roughly cut into the staggering slopes as if by one single excavator eating its way through no-go territory— and, more importantly, the tectonics of Khasueva’s face as she narrates, comments, laments. Her face is neither soft nor hard, neither contorted with the pain of her individual remembrance nor submissive to any imposition of collective “truth and reconciliation”—a methodology for pacifying the victims of historical injustice that is still a long way away from being tried in the central Caucasus.

Khasueva is neither forgetfulness nor forgiveness she is both victim and witness, but most of all she is the present tense in a world that thought of it as abolished forever. She has stayed alive, which in itself is an act of defiance, and she has agreed to speak, to address us.”

– Anders Kreuger¹

ASLAN GAISUMOV

Biography

Aslan Gaisumov (b. 1991 in Grozny, Chechnya) lives and works in Grozny and Amsterdam, NL. He is currently enrolled at Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunsten, Amsterdam. Recent exhibitions include: *Crystals and Shards*, Kohta Kunsthal, (Helsinki, FI, 2018); *Beautiful world, where are you?*, Liverpool Biennial (Liverpool, UK, 2018); *Everything Was Forever Until It Was No More*, 1st Riga Biennale (Riga, LV, 2018); *All That You See Here, Forget*, Emalin (London, UK, 2018); *I Am a Native Foreigner*, Stedelijk Museum (Amsterdam, NL, 2017); *How To Live Together*, Kunsthal Wien (Vienna, AT, 2017); and *People of No Consequence*, Museum of Contemporary Art M HKA (Antwerp, BE, 2016).

Aslan Gaisumov’s work is in the following public collections amongst others:

M HKA Museum of Contemporary Art, Antwerp, BE; Collection of the National Bank of Belgium, BE; Collection Fondation Louis Vuitton, Paris, FR; Kadist Art Foundation, Paris, FR & San Francisco, CA, USA; Garage Museum of Contemporary Art, Moscow, RU; State Hermitage Museum, Saint-Petersburg, RU; National Centre for Contemporary Arts NCCA, Moscow, RU; Han Nefkens Foundation, Barcelona, ES

ABOUT EMALIN

Emalin is a London-based contemporary art gallery run by Angelina Volk and Leopold Thun. Prior to opening the permanent gallery space in Shoreditch in September 2016, Emalin operated as an itinerant exhibition programme and project space for two years. The gallery now represents eight international emerging artists from five countries: Evgeny Antufiev (b. 1968, Kyzyl, RU), Alvaro Barrington (b. 1983, Caracas, VE), Nicholas Cheveldave (b. 1984, Victoria, CA), Aslan Gaisumov (b. 1991, Grozny, CHE), Athena Papadopoulos (b. 1988, Toronto, CA), Kembra Pfahler (b. 1961, Hermosa Beach, CA, USA), Megan Plunkett (b. 1985, Pasadena, CA, USA) and Augustas Serapinas (b. 1990, Vilnius, LT). Additionally, Emalin places emphasis on both upkeeping a public events programme at the gallery and the production of artist publications.

¹ Kreuger, Anders. “Aslan Gaisumov’s Dark Art: Five Recent Works.” Aslan Gaisumov: Keicheyuhea. Berlin: Sternberg Press, 2018.