

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VASILY KLYUKIN



**9 – 30 SEPTEMBER 2020
SIMON LEE GALLERY, LONDON**

Simon Lee Gallery presents a special project in collaboration with Vasily Klyukin. Throughout his practice, which spans architecture, design, literature and sculpture, Klyukin has sought to eternalise the intangible. The Russian-born, Monaco-based artist is concerned with humanity and the natural world: patterns and systems found within nature, as well as human emotion and memory.

Inspired by the four elements: water, air, earth and fire, as well as complex mathematical formulas and geographic coordinates, Klyukin utilises his three-dimensional practice to decipher the abstract. *Crypto*, a series of engulfing wall-mounted discs, takes as its starting point numerical data.

In creating these multi-layered, terrain-like forms, the artist manipulates figures and numbers; each disk's diameter, structure and ridged surface born from his calculations. Once the disks have been modelled, their grooves and ridges set, Klyukin begins to add paint in a process that can best be described as impulsive and revelatory. As the viewer observes, interacts with (and thus, activates) the work, it is the artist's hope that the emotion behind his cathartic application of paint is shared and experienced.

What unites Klyukin's multi-faceted practice is his deep fascination in the human experience, and the world which we inhabit.

NOTES TO EDITORS

About Vasily Klyukin

Vasily Klyukin was born in 1976 in Moscow, Russia and lives and works in Monaco. From architecture and design to abstract and kinetic sculpture, Vasily Klyukin's oeuvre possesses a character that is curious and deeply philosophical. Klyukin has always been attracted to the human form in art and considers his 'Live sculptures' technique to be one of his main achievements. The series 'In Dante Veritas', inspired by Dante's 'Inferno', was created in this technique and began its world tour at the State Russian Museum, St. Petersburg. Afterwards, the collection was presented in Moscow and at the Venice Biennale. In 2020, the exhibition re-opened in a new format 'Art Panorama Inferno' in Lucerne's Swiss park 'La Collection' Air. His Relief series are equally fascinating, enamored with the natural elements and underpinned with mathematical formulas. While embarking on architecture and design, Klyukin has published several books which have allowed him to explore his creative potential. 'Designing Legends' (2013) is an album of architectural concepts that includes fifty projects of futuristic buildings: skyscrapers, office buildings, museums and opera houses. In 2019, the artist wrote 'Live Sculptures', dedicated to his new technique and series of art works. In 2017, he designed the award for The Design Prize, which, together with Designboom, is presented to the best designer of the year. In 2017, Marc Newson, Olafur Eliasson and others received the award. Klyukin's works can be found at charity auctions held by amfAR, the Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation and the Prince of Monaco Albert II Foundation.

About Simon Lee Gallery

Founded in London in 2002, Simon Lee Gallery represents artists of diverse generations whose practices explore a wide range of media, from sculpture and painting to video and photography, and who share a broad interest in an exploration of the conceptual. Aiming to provide a significant international audience for its artists, the gallery also regularly punctuates its programme with historical exhibitions and curated group shows, which present shifts in contemporary art practice and thought, whilst broadening the dialogue with artists outside of the gallery's core programme. In addition to its UK activity, in 2012 the gallery opened a space in Hong Kong, which introduced its artists to a wider public in Asia, with a fully independent programme. In 2014, Simon Lee Gallery opened an office and private viewing space in New York. In 2017, this space was re-launched with a year-round programme of exhibitions and events, showcasing the work of emerging and established artists in dynamic group and solo exhibitions.

Facebook, Instagram, Twitter: @SimonLeeGallery

www.simonleegallery.com

Image: Vasily Klyukin, *00.99.00 (Mask Of Indifference)*, 2016. Mixed media, Ø150 cm. Courtesy of the artist and Simon Lee Gallery.

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