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**GROUP EXHIBITION "3 POINTS DEFINE A SURFACE" OPENS AT BAC GALLERY:
MARCH 3
EXHIBITION FEATURES THE WORK OF 3 SOVIET ARTISTS NOW LIVING IN NYC**

BROOKLYN, NY - (January 25, 2011) On Thursday, March 3, 2011 BAC Gallery presents **3 Points Define a Surface (March 3, 2011 - July 29, 2011)** a group exhibition of works by draughtsman Andrey Borodulya, painter Vladimir Davidenko and photographer Anton Trofymov. All three artists were born and raised in the former Soviet Union, immigrated to the U.S. and now reside in Brighton Beach, Brooklyn where they have found greater artistic freedom. The artists' experiences of assimilating into a new society are evident in their work. It embraces pluralism as it investigates shifting cultural identities.

OPENING RECEPTION

**Thursday, March 3, 2011, 6 – 8pm
BAC Gallery, 111 Front Street, #218
DUMBO, Brooklyn**

The exhibition leads with Vladimir Davidenko's paintings, which challenge common perceptions by recasting quotidian scenes of New York City life with a visual language previously employed in 19th Century French painting, imbuing them with new significance. Davidenko's technique of painting with oil on a chemically treated aluminum surface, invokes mystery in contrast to his subject matter. In *Threesome*, a cloudy image of three streetlights drifting into view creates an appearance of an organism, with each streetlight serving a different purpose, as described in Davidenko's manifesto, "3 points define a surface." The differing streetlamps support a narrative that investigates the plastic and theoretical structures of the city.

Borodulya's drawings question the "self" in relation to his newly adopted city. The artist seeks to define a personal language that transcends the limitations of common vernacular, which generally operates with semantic patterns, stereotypes and symbols. In *Self 2009*, Borodulya's self-image is an abstract figure laid back as if reclining on a chair. It's the opposite of his previous self-portrait, *Self 1995*, where he is standing tall with a pipe, in a three-quarter stance gleaming with dignity at the viewer.

Trofymov's hypothetical acceptance of New York City as his new hometown is mirrored in his large scale photographs, some developed from glass negatives and others from C-prints. The exposure time can reach up to 7 minutes for each balanced composition. The lighting and linear flow of each photograph momentarily disguises the dilapidation he depicts.

In *South Brooklyn*, Trofymov captures a lone streetlight illuminating the tunnel of an overpass as the lush trees engulf a helpless fence. An almost ominous path is laid as

the otherworldly light shines on the lightly littered path. Although beautiful, it is likely that this secret spot of Brooklyn has been neglected if not forgotten.

If Trofymov's romantic depiction of these forgotten streets is an acceptance of the city, is it also a criticism of today's society? Do we take this city for granted given the many opportunities available to us as residents, and are we still capable of being amazed by its beauty?

The artists and curator were all born in the Ukraine and immigrated to the United States to settle in Brooklyn, NY in the 1990s.

Andrey Borodulya, currently a draughtsman and textile designer, was born in Kherson, Ukraine where he worked as a nautical electrician at the Kherson Shipyard after graduating from the Kherson Maritime Academy (formerly the Lt. Schmidt Nautical College). His fascination with the patterns of wires led him to switch careers in the early 1980s. He graduated with a degree in Book Illustration from the Kiev Polygraph Institute. Before immigrating to the United States in 1992, he worked for various Ukrainian publishing houses illustrating Children's books. He has participated in several group exhibitions under the Soviet regime such as *Young Artists of the Ukrainian Republic* at the Central House of Artists (Kiev, Ukraine, 1987) and *Eruption* at the House of Architects (Kiev, Ukraine, 1990). Currently, Borodulya travels frequently between New York and his hometown.

Vladimir Davidenko is an academically trained artist, born in Kiev, Ukraine. He received his B.F.A. in 1983 in Industrial Design from the National Institute of Design and Crafts (formerly the Kiev College of Industrial Arts). In 1987, after working for various performing arts outlets in Kiev, Davidenko began a career as an independent fine artist, children's book illustrator and decorative painter. In 1991, Davidenko arrived in New York City to begin a new life. Immediately he began to produce hundreds of paintings, murals and portrait commissions. He also participated in a myriad of group and solo exhibitions including the *Russian Art Festival* at the Williamsburg Art and Historical Center (Brooklyn, NY, 2000), *All You Can Eat* at the OMYA Gallery (New York, NY, 1994), and *Point of View* at the Pleiades Gallery (New York, NY, 1992). In addition, Davidenko designed the book cover for *America* by Franz Kafka (Kyiv: Krytyka, 2009), a poster for La Mama Theatre production *God's Comic* (2003) and a book cover and illustrations for *38 Poems about New York and Something Else* by Vasyl Makhno (Kyiv: Krytyka, 2004). A present-day renaissance man, Davidenko's poetry has been published in the international literary journal *Kreschatik*.

Anton Trofymov was born in Kiev, Ukraine where he worked as a music video director and as an assistant director at The National Cinematheque. He produced numerous short documentary films. After immigrating in 1999, his creative interests shifted in the direction of photographic processes. Trofymov, who uses Hasselblad and Linhof cameras, develops silver gelatin prints in his own darkroom. For this exhibition, several C-prints will be on view.

His photographs are in private collections and galleries in Ukraine, Austria, Switzerland and Canada. He has exhibited in various group exhibitions including *The Odessa Biennial* at the Odessa Museum of Modern Art, Ukraine (2010) and a recent exhibition at Chair and the Maiden Gallery (New York, NY). His work was recently included in the Contemporary Photography Auction at Phillips De Pury in London.

Marina Press is an independent curator and an Associate at Bernarducci.Meisel.Gallery. She has a B.A. in Art History from Pace University and is currently working on her M.A. in Art History and Museum Studies at the City College of New York. Born in 1984 in Kiev, Ukraine she immigrated to Brooklyn in 1991 where she was confronted with the new city, a new life and a new identity. She continues to explore all these aspects in her research.

DUMBO FIRST THURSDAY GALLERY WALK EVENTS:

April 7, 2011

6:30pm – 7:30pm

Artists in Dialogue

Curator Marina Press will moderate a discussion about identity and the city with artists Andrey Borodulya, Vladimir Davidenko and Anton Trofymov. Cupcakes will be served.

7:30pm – 8:30pm

Film Screening Yuriy Gavrilenko's *Friends My Ass* (2002, 44 minutes).

"Friends My Ass" is a riveting psycho-thriller documenting the lives of seven Russian video artists in New York. The film is produced with eye-popping special effects and compelling drama of Russian tusovkas. It profiles a corporate soldier, an eclectic dancer, a Euro-trash intellectual, a fashion fanatic, a lip-syncing sensation, a thinker about buttons and a man so mysterious that even his friends wonder whether he has any women. The film ponders such issues as friendship, sex, global terrorism, garbage management, fashion, alcohol and nostalgia. It's honest, funny and pleasing to the eye with luxurious places and ravishing costumes. Producers: Yuriy Gavrilenko, Slava Solganik, Andrey Koltchanov, Igor Nourgaliev, Dmitry Povolotsky, Dmitriy Rozin and Vasily Strela.

ABOUT BAC GALLERY

BAC Gallery (111 Front Street, Suite 218) is located in the heart of the vibrant DUMBO arts district and offers artists an opportunity to show their art in an environment frequented by a host of arts enthusiasts and professionals – from collectors, artists and administrators to gallerists and community organizers. Regular gallery hours are Monday-Friday from 11am-5pm. All of the artists included in the BAC Gallery exhibition program are members of BAC's Online *Registry of Brooklyn Artists*. Contact Gallery Director Courtney J. Wendroff @ 718-625-0080 for more information.



BAC Gallery participates in DUMBO 1st Thursday. Come down the first Thursday of every month for special programming and extended gallery hours!