



COTTON BUDS, COTTON PADS

DIMA REBUS
06.09 - 31.10.2023

Dima Rebus was born in 1988 in Naberezhnye Chelny, Russia. Lives and works in London, UK. His main mediums are watercolour paintings, installations, and sculptures, which allow him to explore the process of chemical transformation of materials. Rebus is the mastermind behind the Underground Aquarellka universe, which focuses on the anatomy of human behaviour, and the evolution of social mores.

Rebus is known for his large-scale watercolours, created using his signature components and rainwater collected from different parts of the globe. The pH of rainwater varies depending on the environmental situation in every location. Rebus uses this data when working with pigment granulation, and the finished watercolour paintings comprise comprehensive topographic maps featuring sediments from different countries and regions. Rebus's complex paintings bring together the aesthetics of abstraction, cartoon, and realism, with the principal style of the works perpetuating the general mood of suspense and unintentional mysticism. The Underground Aquarellka universe created by Rebus fills up with internal metaphysical images in line with spur-of-the-moment plot twists.

Among the key focuses of Rebus's artistic practice is exploring themes of adaptive social norms and their evolution in contemporary society. In the world he put together, alarmist sentiments are replaced by a more philosophical, detached view that accepts the facts of isolation or extinction as natural stages of the living cycle. Meticulously constructed compositions allude to the artist's passion for gaming culture and his early experiences with digital interactives.

Dima Rebus presents works from the series **Cotton Buds, Cotton Pads** (2011–present) specially for the show at LOBBY. The artworks have been selected from the artist’s personal archive and introduced to the public for the first time; some of the works have been finished as recently as 2023. The exhibition also features works from private collections and large-scale watercolours from one of the artist’s key series, Exoplanet.

Cotton Buds, Cotton Pads is a series of works from 2011–2013, which in many ways paved the way for the artist’s future practice. In the works from the series, Rebus makes one of his early attempts to grasp the concept of adaptive norms, which becomes ingrained throughout the artist’s subsequent series. The surreal scenes serving as an example of a reverse cargo cult, shape the narrative about imitation practices thriving under certain circumstances.

Why is something available yesterday no longer available today? Why is something available today was not available yesterday?



Artwin Gallery is a Russian contemporary art gallery that works with prominent Russian and Kazakh artists and maintains long-term relationships with top international private and institutional collectors.

We are dedicated to creating a space where artists can thrive and audiences can be motivated, fostering a community of love, compassion, and empathy through art. Our goal is to make a positive impact in the cultural landscape of Moscow and beyond, by showcasing works that motivate, challenge, and celebrate the human experience. We are committed to elevating voices that tackle important issues such as equality, sustainability, and human rights, and to using our platform to make a positive impact in the world.

LOBBY Art Concierge, founded in Moscow in 2020 by Christina Yetumyan and Sofya Karpovskaya, is an art consultancy that offers services focused on promoting the collection of contemporary art. The team of art concierges provides comprehensive support for art-related transactions comprehensive support for art-related transactions for both private and corporate clients. LOBBY engages in exhibition activities, such as the #LOBBYBelieve initiative, and collaborates with galleries, art projects, and institutions to develop a professional platform for transparent interactions within the art market.



Peace, 2023

Chemical solutions, gypsum, rain water and watercolour on paper
130 x 200 cm





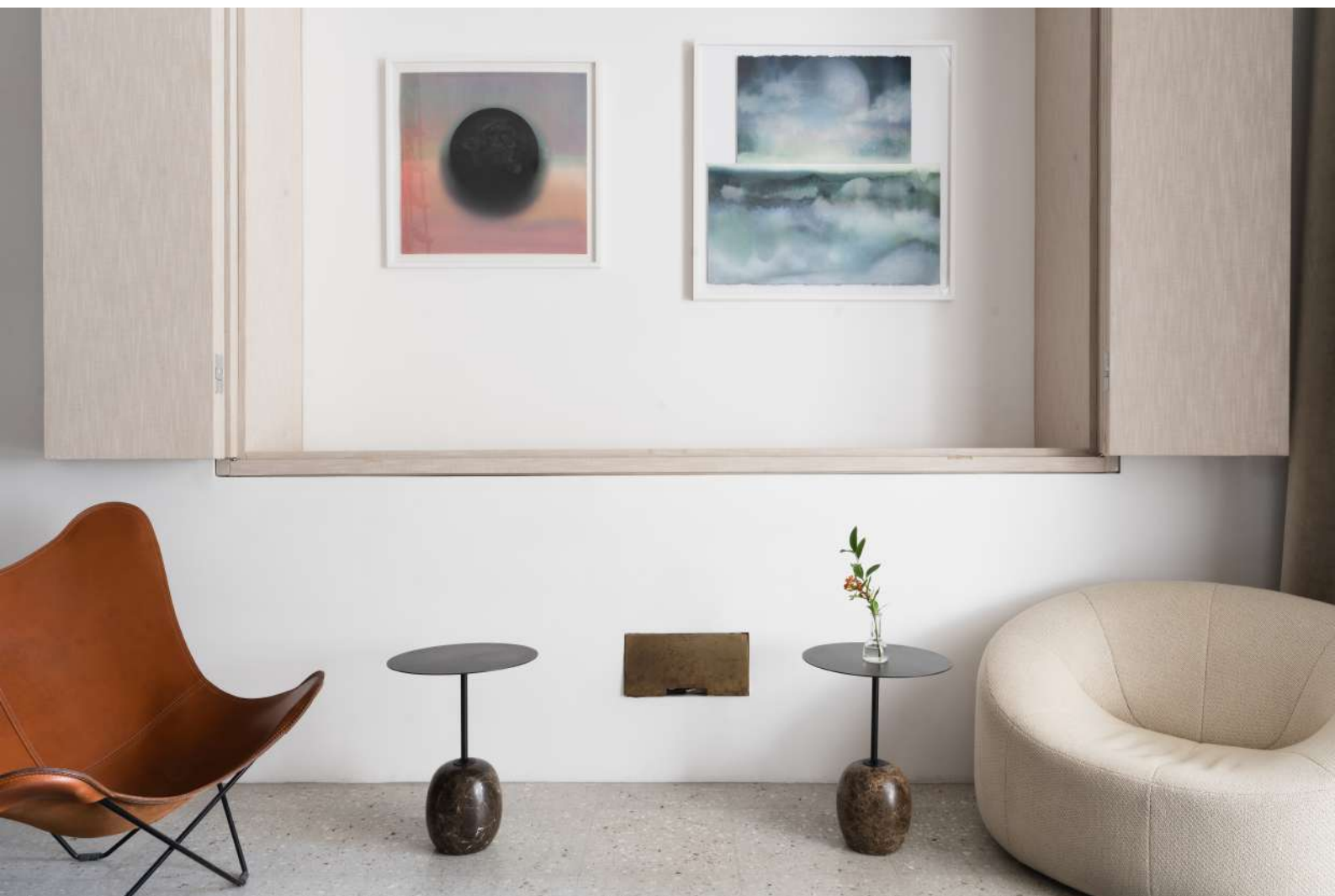
The State 18, 2022

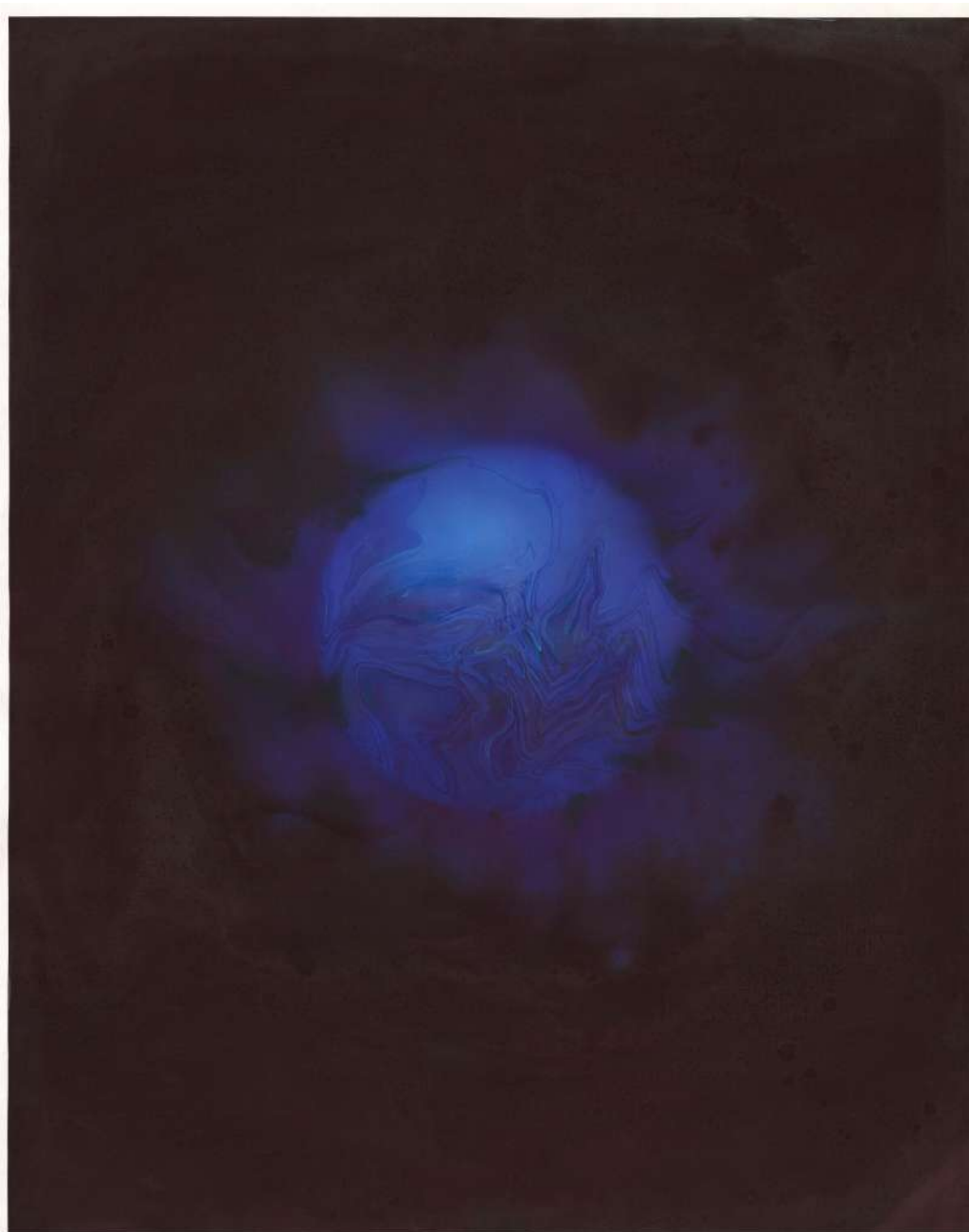
Chemical solutions, gypsum and watercolour on paper
85 x 87 cm (40 x 64,6 cm и 45 x 86,5 cm)



The State 28, 2023

Watercolour on paper
67 x 69 cm





The State 16, 2022

Chemical solutions, gypsum, rain water and watercolour on paper
110 x 90 cm





The State 14, 2022

Chemical solution, gypsum, rain water and watercolour on paper
155 x 105 cm





Albion 1, 2011 (2023)

Chemical solutions, gypsum, rain water and watercolour on paper
53 x 40,5 cm







Albion 16, 2012 (2023)

Watercolour on paper
29 x 30 cm





Albion 2, 2011 (2023)

Watercolour on paper
25 x 25 cm





Mobile Ministry of Insolation Assistance, 2019

Watercolour on paper
30 x 40 cm



Untitled, 2023

Watercolour on paper
21 x 21 cm



Illustration for the Albion project, 2012

Watercolour on paper
36 x 48 cm



Albion 7, 2012 (2023)

Watercolour on paper
35 x 45 cm



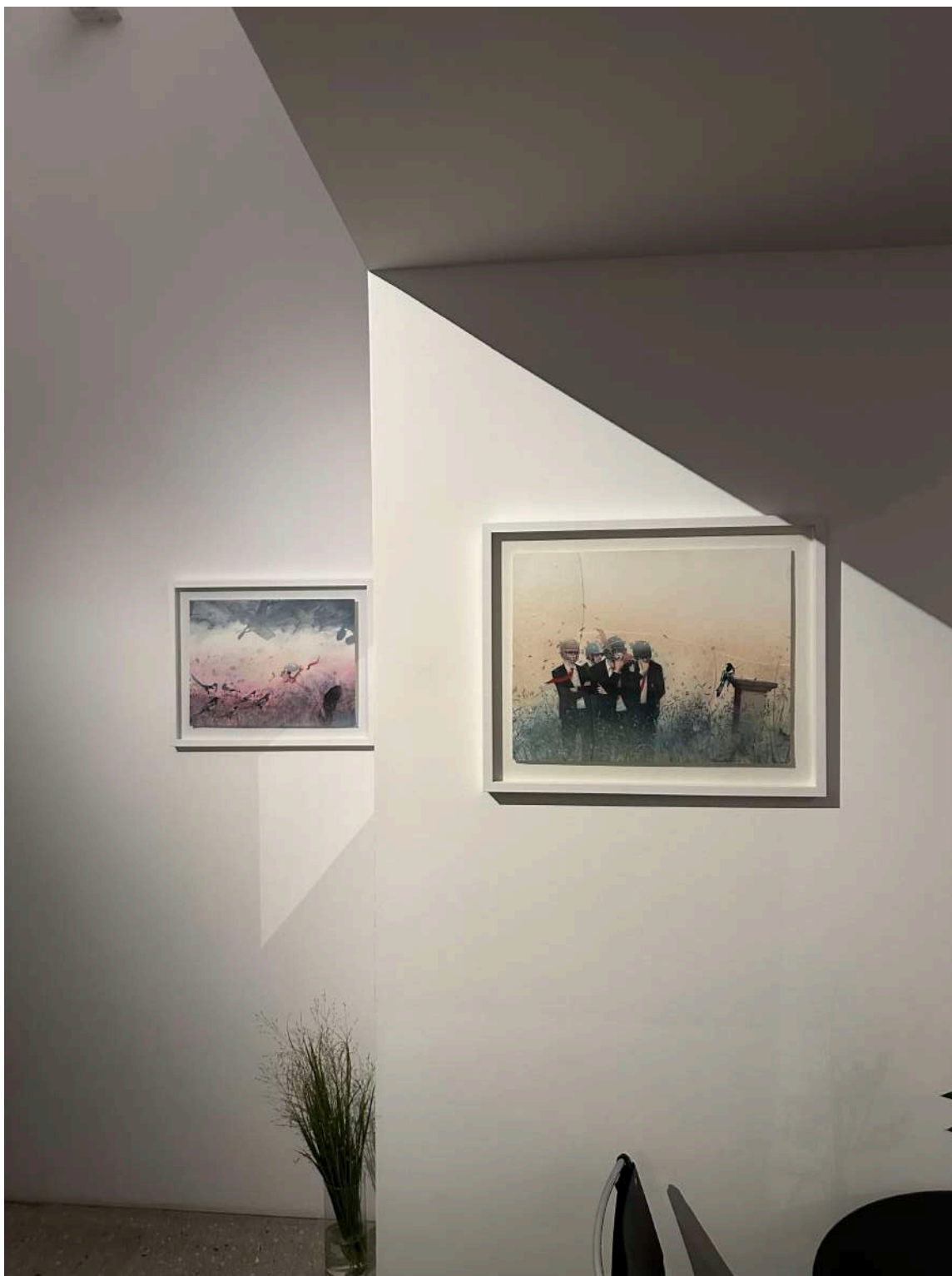
Albion 17, 2012 (2023)

Watercolour on paper
36 x 48 cm



Albion 18, 2012 (2023)

Watercolour on paper
36 x 48 cm





Albion 8, 2012 (2023)

Watercolour on paper
32 x 40,5 cm





Albion 19, 2012 (2023)

Chemical solutions, gypsum, rain water and watercolour on paper
76 x 47,5 cm





Albion 5, 2012 (2023)

Watercolour on paper
29 x 33 cm

CV

Date and place of birth: 1988 г., Naberezhnye Chelny, Russia.

EDUCATION:

Institute of Contemporary Art, Moscow

Moscow Institute of Art and Industry

PERSONAL EXHIBITIONS:

- 2021 Norms of Insolation
Center of Contemporary Culture "Smena", Kazan, Russian
- 2019 Now open
London, United Kingdom
- 2016 Advantageous offer
Parallel program of the V Moscow International Biennale for Young Art
Cultural Center «Trekhgornaya Manufaktura», Moscow, Russia
- 2014 Dima Rebus
Artwin Gallery / YawnArt, Brussel, Belgium
- 2014 Insomnia
Parallel program of the IV Moscow International Biennale for Young Art,
Memorial Museum of Alexander Skryabin, Moscow, Russia
- 2013 The End
Artwin Gallery, Moscow, Russia
- 2012 The Schtick
Center of Artistic Industries "Fabrica", Moscow, Russia

ГРУППОВЫЕ ВЫСТАВКИ:

- SOVRISK #napotoke
2021 Underground Museum "Zaryadye", Moscow, Russia
- Radiance Center For Contemporary Art
2020 Apatyty, Russia
- Un Biennale
2019 Berlin, Germany
- Recycle or die
2019 ГYM-Red-Line, Moscow, Russia
- Mad House
2018 Multimedia Art Museum, Moscow, Russia
- Feast is coming to you
2017 Goethe-Institut and Urban Nation Museum (Berlin), Museum of street-art, Saint-Petersburg, Russia
- Fresh Layer
2017 Exhibition of street art and decorative arts,
Volga branch of NCCA Arsenal, Nizhny Novgorod, Russia
- Panelki
2016 Belyaev Gallery, Moscow, Russia

CV

2014 Casus Pacis / Motive for Piece
Parallel program "Manifesta 10", Museum of Street Art, Saint-Petersburg,
Russia

2011 Festival Oh Yeah
Patagonia, Argentina

ART FAIRS:

2022 Cosmospow, Gostiny Dvor, Moscow, Russia

2019 Art Central, Hong Kong, China

2018 Art Dubai, Madinat Jumeirah, Dubai, UAE

2017 Cosmospow, Gostiny Dvor, Moscow, Russia