

ANDREI

ROITER



# “Open”

La galería Álvaro Alcázar presenta la exposición monográfica del artista moscovita Andrei Roiter (1960), una muestra que alberga cerca de una veintena de obras, realizadas en los últimos años, que comprenden pinturas y una escultura. Tras doce años de su exposición en la Galería Fúcares, el artista regresa a Madrid con una gran exposición que podrá visitarse hasta mediados de enero de 2024 en la galería Álvaro Alcázar.

La obra de Andrei Roiter es un compendio de toda una serie de vivencias y experiencias personales que se remontan a su juventud -marcada por el totalitarismo soviético- y se extienden hasta el actual clima político global. Cuestiones como la emigración, el exilio voluntario y la búsqueda de la propia identidad, están presentes en el repertorio iconográfico del artista, bien de forma explícita o como referencia simbólica. Así, uno de los elementos que Roiter más repite es el cuadrado con el círculo en el centro, como en *Opening #2, #3 o #4*, donde el artista nos habla de apertura y huida. Una de sus obras favoritas de su viejo amigo, Ilya Kabakov, es "Man Who Flew into Space from His Apartment" (*El hombre que voló al espacio desde su apartamento*), la instalación que incluye un agujero en el techo de un apartamento por el que el ocupante se eyectó al espacio. Roiter se relaciona autobiográficamente con la obra, ya que él mismo huyó de Rusia a finales de los 80. Roiter también se inspira en otros artistas que interactúan con los límites espaciales, como Lucio Fontana o Gordon Matta-Clark, quién utilizaba edificios vacíos como medio para abrir enormes agujeros en sus fachadas, dejando vacío en su interior. En el caso de Roiter, sus rupturas iluminan un espacio oculto y metafísico tras el lienzo.

Las cajas de cartón o de mudanza (*Yellow Tower, Spire*) son también constantes en su obra, formando a veces burdas maquetas de edificios que parodian grandes torres empíricas como el Empire State Building o el Kremlin. La arquitectura es precisamente otro de sus temas más reiterados (*Ivory Tower*), pues hay que recordar que se formó durante algunos años en esta disciplina.

Desde una perspectiva formal, la obra de Roiter se caracteriza principalmente por su dominio técnico y por la austeridad que envuelve las formas y la paleta, limitándose prácticamente a verdes, sepias, rojos y pardos. En general son colores oscuros y apagados, bajo los que subyace la melancolía del artista y donde sin embargo, persiste la presencia de una delicada luminosidad.

Los pensamientos y sentimientos que Andrei Roiter desnuda en esta exposición, según él mismo ha señalado, representan experiencias universales complejas como la soledad, la falta de fundamento y la fragilidad. Los objetos de sus cuadros son retratos simbólicos y metafóricos de aspectos humanos, brillantemente ejecutados.







# "Open"

On November 16th, Alvaro Alcazar Gallery presents the solo exhibition of the Moscow-born artist Andrei Roiter (1960), a show that features around twenty works made in the last few years, including paintings, and a sculpture. After twelve years of his solo exhibition at the Fúcares Gallery, the artist returns to Madrid with a major exhibition that will be on view until mid-January 2024 at Álvaro Alcázar Gallery.

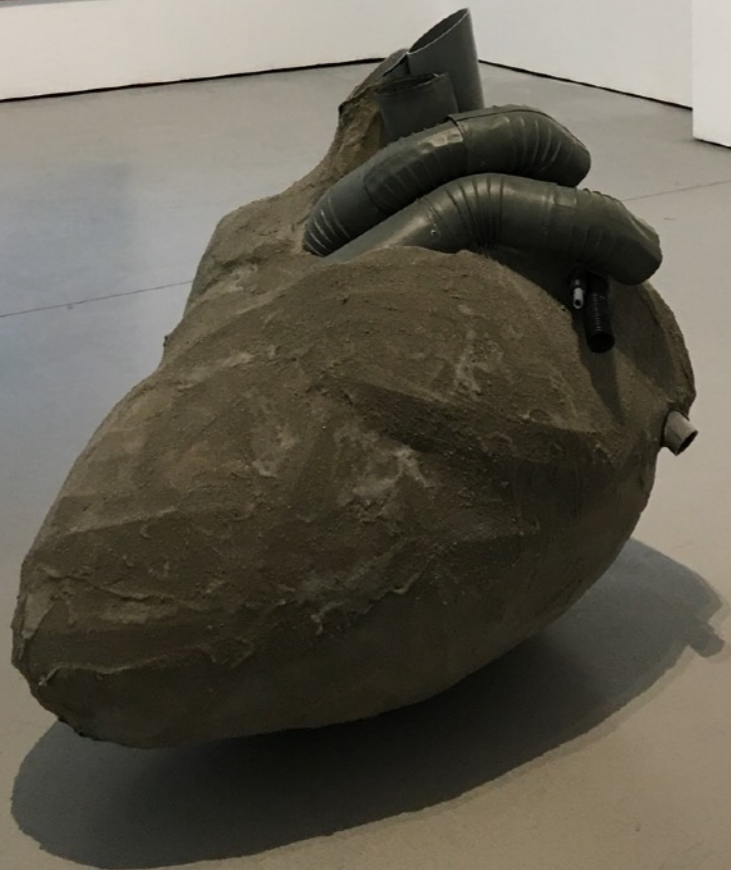
Andrei Roiter's work is a compilation of a whole series of personal experiences, starting from his youth -marked by Soviet totalitarianism- and spanning to the present global political climate. Issues such as emigration, voluntary exile, and a search for self identity, are present in the artist's iconographic repertoire, either explicitly or as a symbolic reference. Thus, one of the elements that Roiter repeats the most is the square with the circle in the center, as in Opening #2, #3 or #4, where the artist is speaking to us of openness and escape. One of his favorite works of his old friend, Ilya Kabakov, is "Man Who Flew into Space from His Apartment", the installation piece that includes a hole in the ceiling of an apartment through which the occupant ejected himself into space. Roiter relates autobiographically to the work, as he himself fled Russia at the end of the 80's.

Roiter is also inspired by other artists who interact with spacial boundaries, such as Lucio Fontana and Gordon Matta-Clark who used empty buildings as a medium to open huge holes in their facades, leaving the emptiness inside. In Roiter's case, his ruptures illuminate a hidden, metaphysical space behind the canvas..

Cardboard or moving boxes (Yellow Tower, Spire) are also constant in his work, sometimes forming crude models of buildings parodying grand, empirical towers such as the Empire State Building and the Kremlin. Architecture is precisely another of his most reiterated themes (Ivory Tower), as we must remember that he trained for some years in this discipline.

From a formal perspective, Andrei Roiter's work is characterized mainly by his technical mastery and by the austerity that surrounds the forms and the palette, practically limited to greens, sepias, reds and browns. They are generally dark, muted colors, under which underlies the melancholy of the artist. Yet, there's a persistent presence of a delicate luminosity.

The thoughts and feelings Andrei Roiter lays bare in this exhibition, he has pointed out, represent complex universal experiences such as solitude, groundlessness and fragility. The objects in his paintings are symbolic and metaphorical portraits of human aspects, brilliantly executed.



**BRIDGE 2**  
2022  
Acrílico sobre lienzo  
200 x 150 cm





**OPENING #10**

2023  
Óleo sobre lienzo  
60 x 60 cm





**OPENING #3 (ECLIPSE)**

2023  
Óleo sobre lienzo  
173 x 126 cm





**SPIRE**

2023  
Óleo sobre lienzo  
183 x 122 cm



**OPEN (GREEN)**

2022  
Óleo y acrílico sobre  
lienzo  
200 x 150 cm





**LIVING ROCK**

2011  
Técnica mixta  
120 x 90 X 110 cm.





**YELLOW TOWER**

2023  
Óleo sobre lienzo  
200 x 150 cm





**BACKSTAGE 2**

2023  
Óleo sobre lienzo  
20 x 30 cm



**BACKSTAGE**

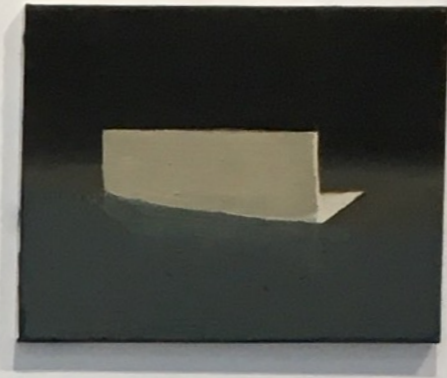
2023  
Óleo sobre lienzo  
20 x 30 cm

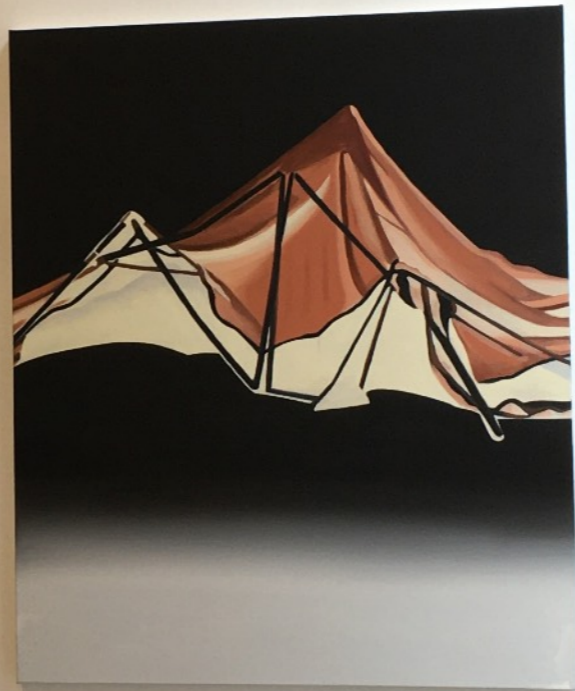




**OPENING #4**

2023  
Óleo sobre lienzo  
200 x 150 cm







**INSIDE LIGHT**

2023  
Óleo sobre lienzo  
123 x 102 cm









**GIVEN**

2021  
Óleo sobre lienzo  
150 x 200 cm

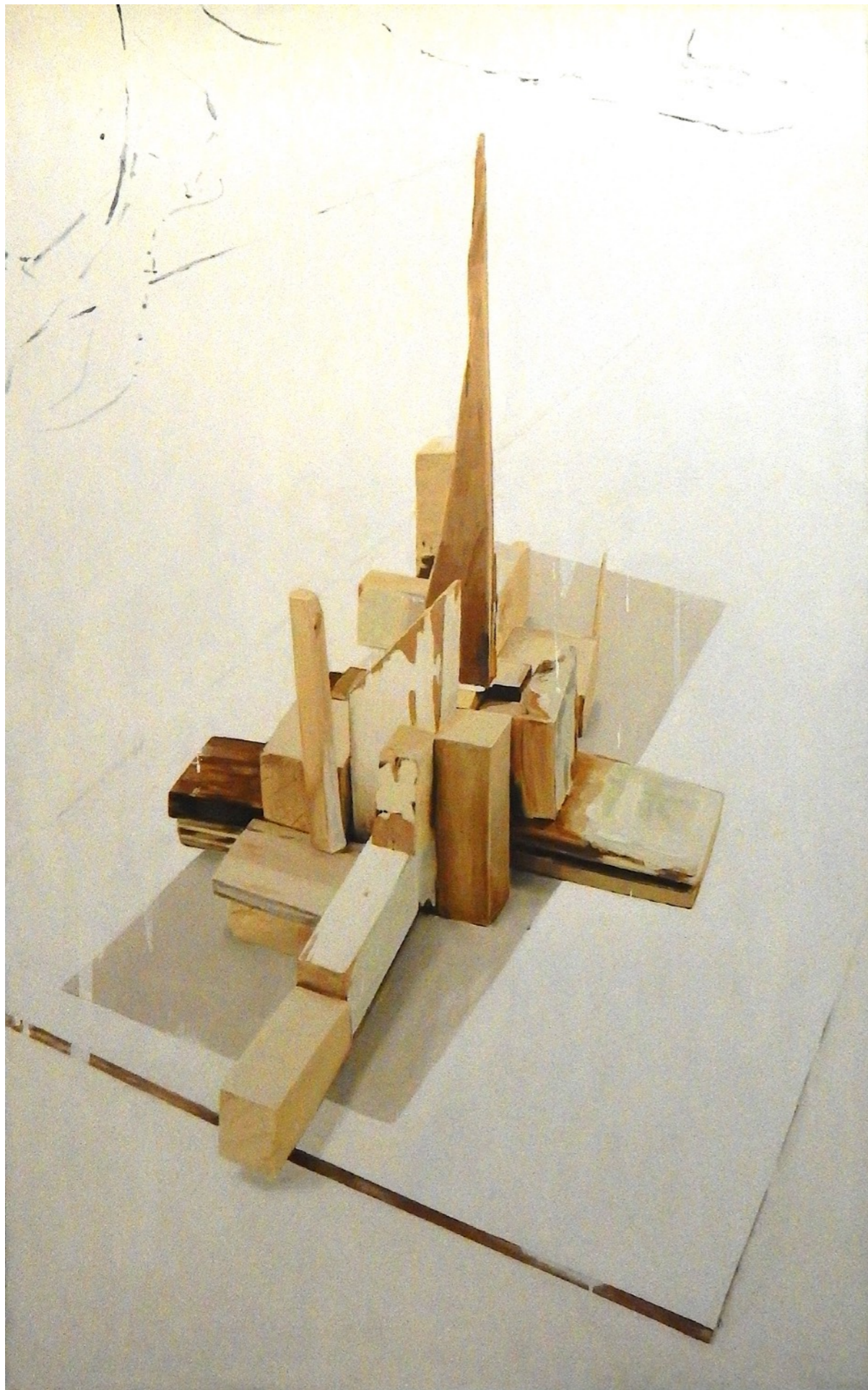




**TOTEM**

2018  
Óleo sobre lienzo  
300 x 150 cm





**TRAP (HOTEL EMPIRE)**

2015  
Óleo sobre lienzo  
243 x 153 cm

**IVORY TOWER**

2023  
Óleo sobre lienzo  
244 x 101 cm



**TRASH CONDUCTOR**

2023  
Óleo sobre lienzo  
158 x 122 cm







**CRISIS MANAGEMENT**

2016  
Óleo sobre lienzo  
153 x 153 cm



**OPEN (BLUE)**

2023  
Óleo sobre lienzo  
50 x 50 cm



**CASTLE**

2022  
Óleo sobre lienzo  
140 x 120 cm



**OPENING #2**

2023  
Óleo sobre lienzo  
153 x 102 cm

# ANDREI ROITER

Moscú, Rusia, 1962

Nacido en el seno de la Unión Soviética, sus padres se conocieron en un Gulag en Siberia, yendo a visitar a sus respectivos padres. Con 14 años Roiter manifestó su vocación por la pintura, algo que no fue del agrado de sus padres, que le instaron a dedicarse a algo "normal". En 1978 Roiter se matriculó en Arquitectura y mientras pintaba en la clandestinidad, pasó por trabajos en Correos, en una librería y finalmente en una guardería abandonada, como vigilante de seguridad nocturno.

Esto último fue fundamental para su carrera como artista, pues junto a otros artistas como Nikolai Filatov y Herman Vinogradov, crearon el grupo Kindergarden, que fue durante un tiempo el centro del mundo de los artistas moscovitas, utilizando, el edificio abandonado que custodiaban, para centro de arte.

Así, hasta los 28 años Roiter vivió en Moscú trabajando discretamente en la pintura, hasta que el gobierno aperturista de Gorbachov hizo posible que el artista saliera de Rusia por primera vez en 1988, para acudir a una exposición en Bruselas. Un visado de 3 meses, fue el pistoletazo de salida para la nueva vida del artista, quién abandonó definitivamente Moscú para instalarse en Amsterdam, donde a día de hoy mantiene su estudio, junto con Nueva York, ciudad natal de su esposa.

Siempre que Roiter visita su Rusia natal, como él mismo señala, se siente extraño en Moscú, al igual que en Amsterdam o Nueva York, donde tiene la sensación de no pertenecer a ningún lugar. Su destino es ser un extranjero permanente y es esta idea la que impregna toda su obra.



# ANDREI ROITER

Moscow, Russia, 1962

Born in the heart of the Soviet Union, his parents met in a Gulag in Siberia, while visiting their respective parents. With 14 years Roiter expressed his vocation for painting, something that his parents did not like and encouraged him to devote himself to something "normal".

In 1978 Roiter enrolled in Architecture and while painting in the underground, he worked at the Post Office, in a bookstore and finally in an abandoned kindergarten, as a night security guard.

The latter was fundamental for his career as an artist, because together with other artists such as Nikolai Filatov and Herman Vinogradov, they created the Kindergarten group, which was for a time the center of the Moscow artists' world, using the abandoned building they guarded as an art center. Thus, until he was 28 years old, Roiter lived in Moscow, working secretly in painting, until Gorbachev's open-minded government made it possible for the artist to leave Russia for the first time in 1988, to attend an exhibition in Brussels.

A three-month visa was the starting point for the new life of the artist, who left Moscow definitely to settle in Amsterdam, where today he maintains his studio, along with New York, his wife's hometown. Whenever Roiter visits his native Russia, as he himself points out, he feels strange in Moscow, just as he does in Amsterdam or New York, where he has a feeling of not belonging to any place. His destiny is to be a permanent stranger, and it is this idea that permeates all his work.

## Exposiciones individuales

- 2022** *NOW*, Museum Helmond, Helmond, Netherlands  
*NOW, Part 2*, Akinci Gallery, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2020** *Treasure Island*, Akinci Gallery, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2017** *Made in Roiterdam*, Akinci Gallery, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2015** *Travelling Questions*, Espacio Micus, Eivissa, Spain  
*Drawings & Objects*, Galería Manuel Ojeda, Las Palmas, Spain
- 2014** *Thank you*, Galerie Akinci, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
*Inside Out*, Laura Bulian Gallery, Milan, Italy
- 2013** *Open House*, Moscow Museum of Modern Art, Moscow, Russia  
*Multitude and Solitude*, Galeie Gisele Linder, Basel, Switzerland
- 2012** *I am*, Jack Hanley Gallery, New York, USA  
*Studio Visit*, Galerie Akinci, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2011** *My Profession is to be Andrei Roiter*, Galeria Fúcares, Madrid, Spain  
*Runaway*, Graphischen Kabinett Kunstmuseum Solothurn, Switzerland (catalogue)  
*Approved Baggage*, Reina Gallery, Moscow, Russia
- 2010** *Bon Voyage*, State Museum Schiedam, Netherlands  
*One*, State Museum's-Hertogenbosch, Netherlands (catalogue)  
*Time Capsule*, Laura Bullian Gallery, Milan, Italy (catalogue)  
*Memory Cards*, Galerie Akinci, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2008** *Square of Life*, Galerie Anhava, Helsinki, Finland  
*Welcome Aboard*, Stadsgalerij Helen, Netherlands (edition)  
*Dom*, Laura Bartlett Gallery, London, UK (catalogue)
- 2007** *Suitcase Collection*, Art Strelka Projects, Moscow, Russia  
*Waiting Rooms*, Galerie Akinci, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2005** *Made in Roiterdam*, Akinci Gallery, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2004** *Inscapes*, Kunsthalle Recklinghausen, Germany (catalogue)  
*Untitled*, (BKVB) Foundation for Visual Arts, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2002** *Artist At Work I*, Galerie Axel Thieme, Darmstadt, Germany
- 2001** *Panorama*, Galerie Anhava, Helsinki, Finland  
*Kaleidoscope*, Galerie Doris Wulkopf, Lindau, Germany (artist's book) *New Optimism*, Silverstein Gallery, New York, USA
- 2000** *Normal Magic*, Aschenbach & Hofland Galleries, Amsterdam, Netherlands *New Works*, Barbara von Stechow Gallery, Frankfurt, Germany
- 1999** *Paintings, Drawings*, Galerie Anhava, Helsinki, Finland (catalogue) *Paintings and Drawings*, Galerie Tanya Rumpff, Haarlem, Netherlands
- 1998** *Models and Artifacts*, ACP Galerie Peter Schuengel, Salzburg, Austria *Lights*, Galerie Carla Stutzer, Cologne, Germany
- 1997** *My American Diary*, Aschenbach Galerie, Amsterdam, Netherlands *Potato Eaters*, Galeria Leyendecker, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain *Road Test 2*, Nordanstad Gallery, New York, USA

- 1996** *Road Test*, Blum & Poe, Los Angeles, USA  
*Friends*, Lucio Amelio Gallery, Naples, Italy (catalogue)
- 1995** *Future Movie*, Galerie Tanya Rumpff, Haarlem, Netherlands *Future*, Galerie Carla Stutzer, Cologne, Germany  
*Help Me Be You*, Anders Tornberg Gallery, Lund, Sweden *Ink Diver*, Galerie Kaj Forsblom, Helsinki, Finland  
*Library Dream*, Brooke Alexander Project Room, New York, USA  
*Potato Head*, Wesleyan University, Connecticut, USA, curated by Klaus Ottmann (artist's book)
- 1994** *Drawings, etc*, The Drawing Room, Jonker, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 1993** *Underwater Adventures*, Jack Hanley Gallery, San Francisco, USA, (artist's book) *Bon Voyage*, Elizabeth Koury, New York, USA  
*Library Dreams*, Susanne Ottesen, Copenhagen  
*Drawings*, Gallery Ham, Nagoya, Japan (artist's book)  
*12 Chairs*, Galerie Onrust, Amsterdam, Netherlands (book illustrations)
- 1992** *Andrei Roiter*, Van Esch Galerie, Eindhoven, Netherlands  
*Andrei Roiter*, Anders Tornberg, Lund, Sweden  
*Andrei Roiter*, Galerie Albrecht, Munich, Germany  
*Andrei Roiter*, Johan Jonker Gallery, Amsterdam, Netherlands (artist's book) *Andrei Roiter*, Jack Hanley Gallery, San Francisco, USA  
*Andrei Roiter*, Elizabeth Koury, New York, USA  
*Andrei Roiter*, Tanya Grunert, Cologne, Germany
- 1991** *Andrei Roiter*, Hans Knoll, Budapest, Hungary  
*Andrei Roiter*, Forum Kunst, Rottweil, Germany curated by Udo Kittelmann *Andrei Roiter*, Isy Brachot, Brussels, Belgium  
*Andrei Roiter*, Aschenbach Galerie (with Charlie Citron), Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 1990** *Andrei Roiter*, Galerie Albrecht, Munich, Germany  
*Andrei Roiter*, Kunsthalle Basel, Switzerland (artist's book)  
*Andrei Roiter*, Aschenbach Galerie, Amsterdam, Netherlands, (catalogue and artist's book)

## Exposiciones colectivas (De los últimos años)

- 2023** GIFTED EYE - International contemporary drawings donated by Tanya Rumpff, Teylers Museum, Haarlem, Netherlands  
TAKE YOUR TIME, Galerie Akinci, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2022** *DICTIONARY OF IMAGINARY PLACES*, Gregor Podnar Gallery, Vienna, Australia  
*COMMUNITY*, Galería Álvaro Alcázar, Madrid, Spain  
*SIMPLE FORMS: Thematic Exposition of Works from the MMOMA Collection*, Moscow Museum of Modern Art, Moscow, Russia  
*THINKING PICTURES: Moscow Conceptual Art in the Dodge Collection at the Zimmerli Museum*, Kumu Art Museum, Tallinn, Estonia
- 2021** *THE COOL AND THE COLD: PAINTINGS FROM THE USA AND THE USSR 1960-1990*, Ludwig Foundation, Berlin, Germany  
*RUSSIAN TEXTBOOK*, Moscow Museum of Modern Art, Moscow, Russia  
*TAUSCH ALS PRINZIP / BARTER AS PRINCIPLE: ARTISTS FOR TICHY - TICHY FOR ARTISTS*, St. Petri-Kirche, Lübeck, Germany  
*MY HOUSE*, Galería Álvaro Alcázar, Madrid, Spain *20th Anniversary*, Espacio Micus, Eivissa, Spain



- 2020** *COLLECTOR'S ITEM*, Centraal Museum, Utrecht, Netherlands
- 2019** *IMAGINARY LANDSCAPES*, Helmond Museum, Helmond, Netherlands  
*MIROSLAV TICHY ENCOUNTERS*, CICUS Cultural Initiatives Center, Univ. of Seville, Spain  
*THE FACE OF OUR TIME: RUSSIAN AVANT-GARDE ART FROM THE BEKKERMAN COLLECTION*, Lowe Art Museum, Coral Gables, USA  
*THE FRAGRANCE OF IMAGES - WORKS OF COLECCIÓN OLOR VISUAL*, Barcelona, Städtische Galerie Delmenhorst, Germany
- 2018** *NEW DUTCH*, STATE MUSEUM SCHIEDAM, Netherlands  
*THE LINE UP: The Power of Drawing*, Centraal Museum Utrecht, Netherlands  
*Winterreise*, Galerie Akinci, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
*THE MISSING PLANET: VISIONS AND RE-VISIONS OF "SOVIET TIMES" FROM THE PECCI CENTRE'S AND OTHER COLLECTIONS*, Prato, Italy  
*THE FRAGRANCE OF IMAGES - Works of colección OLOR VISUAL*, Barcelona, Art and Culture Foundation, Opelvillen Rüsselsheim, Germany
- 2017** *SOLDADITOS DE PAPEL*, Galería Alvaro Alcanzar, Madrid, Spain  
*THE JACQUES & MINY DEFAUWES COLLECTION*, Bonnefantenmuseum Maastricht, Netherlands  
*30th ANNIVERSARY EXHIBITION, Part Deux*, Jack Hanley Gallery, New York, New York
- 2016** *KOLLEKTSIA! CONTEMPORARY ART IN RUSSIA 1950-2000*, Centre Pompidou, Paris, France  
*"Thinking Pictures": Moscow Conceptual Art in the Dodge Collection*, Zimmerli Museum, New Brunswick, New Jersey  
*JOURNEY FEVER BY DUTCH ARTISTS SINCE 1850*, Frans Hals Museum/De Hallen, Haarlem, Netherlands  
*DISPLACEMENT*, AKINCI Galerie, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2015** *INSIGHT*, The Ekaterina Cultural Foundation, Moscow, Russia
- 2014** *HIGH HORIZON-BRUEGHEL LAND*, Stedelijk Museum Wuyts -Van Campen and Baron Caroly, Lier, Belgium
- 2013** *RUSSIAN ATELIER ON THE AMSTEL*, Hermitage Amsterdam, Netherlands  
*SLUIZE: CHANGE OF POLES*, Special Project of 5<sup>th</sup> Moscow Biennale, Moscow, Russia  
*I LOVE HOLLAND: DUTCH ART AFTER 1945*, State Museum Stedelijk, Schiedam, Netherlands  
*MONUMENT MONDRIAN*, Mondrian House, Amersfoort, Netherlands  
*FREESTYLE*, Fundación Cajamurcia, Murcia, Spain (catalogue)  
*SCOPE, Escape, Hide*, Galería Fúcares, Madrid, Spain  
*12+12: WINE AND DREAMS OF ART*, Van Abbe Museum, Eindhoven, Netherlands  
*IMAGES FOR IMAGES- Artists for Tichy - Tichy for Artists*, GASK - Gallery of the Central BOHEMIAN REGION, Kutna Hora, Czech Republic  
*CAUCHY HORIZONS*, SCHUNCK\* Heerlen, Netherlands  
*ZIGZAG DIALOGS*, State Academy of Fine Arts & Design, Stuttgart, Germany

## Colecciones

- Kunstmuseum Den Haag, Den Haag, Netherlands
- Rose Art Museum, Massachusetts, USA  
 Centre Pompidou, Paris, France  
 State Museum Schiedam, Netherlands
- Moscow Museum of Modern Art, Russia
- MCNay Museum, San Antonio, USA  
 Malmö Kunsthall, Malmö, Sweden  
 Duke University Museum of Art, Durham, USA
- Ludwig Forum, Aachen, Germany
- Gemeente Museum, Helmond, Netherlands
- Zimmerli Art Museum, New Jersey, USA
- Centraal Museum, Utrecht, Netherlands
- Teilers Museum, Haarlem, Netherlands
- Tretyakov State Gallery, Moscow, Russia
- Lembachhaus Museum, Munich, Germany
- Schunk Collection, Heerlen, Netherlands
- Gazprom Bank Collection, Moscow, Russia
- The Gori Collection, Pistoia, Italy
- Fundación Barrié Collection, Galicia, Spain
- Chadha Art Collection, Netherlands
- The Ekard Collection, Netherlands  
 Unicredit Collection, Italy  
 Sal. Oppenheim Collection, Cologne, Germany
- Deutsche Bank Collection, Germany  
 Goetz Collection, Munich, Germany  
 Siemens Photo Collection, Munich, Germany
- ABN-AMRO Collection, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- Akzo Nobel Art Foundation Collection, Netherlands
- The Schmidt Collection



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