

The Geography of Light: Yuri Larin at Moscow's New Manege

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The exhibition at the New Manege Exhibition Hall is the largest and most complete show of this artist's works.

On April 1 a new exhibition celebrating the life and art of Yuri Larin opened at the New Manege. This extensive collection of Yuri Larin's easel art features his most well-known works as well as works that have not been exhibited publicly before. For the first time all his major works are under one roof and well annotated, making the show the most comprehensive exhibition of the artist's works to date.

This collection, which was co-organized with the GROsArt gallery, offers insight into the artist, his ideas on painting, and his attempt to delve into what he called the "active and sensual reflection of natural motifs" and "pure painting." His style, compared to Cezanne's by Yelena Murina, one of the contributors to this show, can seem somewhat simplistic and childish at first glance, as whispered by some puzzled visitors at the opening. But Yuri Larin, a hydraulic engineer by profession, understood the complex nature of light

and tried to capture it in its purest essence, rejecting to a certain extent classical notions of space.

Those looking for bold and powerful statements might not find this exhibition to their taste. But anyone who enjoys ramblings through the country but lacks the time to get out of Moscow should come in. The works are filled with the sun-kissed golds and yellows of the Mediterranean and the cool and saturated blues and purples of the Caucasus. Gazing at the works, some of them incomplete, is like seeing "fingerprints for us to follow," another visitor said. Perhaps in his art, Larin shows that it is not what is said or shown that is important, but what is left unsaid.

New Manege Exhibition Hall. 3/3 Geogievsky Pereulok. Metro Teatralnaya. moscowmanege.ru. Until April 24.

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