

Mirror by Mirror – Sergei Sviatchenko honours Andrei Tarkovsky

Inspiration for a new exhibition by Sergei Sviatchenko was rooted in a meeting with the sister of legendary Russian film maker Andrei Tarkovsky

A study tour to Moscow this summer and a meeting with Marina Tarkovskaya the sister of the famous Russian film director and writer, Andrei Tarkovsky, inspired Ukranian born Danish artist, Sergei Sviatchenko's latest exhibition entitled 'Mirror by Mirror'.

As the invitation states, it was the artist's personal tribute to one of 'the dream industry's' greatest poets, Andrei Tarkovsky.

Unusually last week, cultural Copenhagen moved to Aarhus for this very special opening. Russian Ambassador, Teymuraz Ramishvili, and Cultural Attaché Marina Emelyantseva invited a large group of friends and contacts to travel to Aarhus to be present at the opening of this unusual exhibition. They were accompanied by Marina Tarkovskaya, who is, herself an author. She had been very moved by Sviatchenko's visit and abiding interest in her brother's work. Having seen his work, she describes it in the exhibition catalogue, as 'at once deeply original and at the same time in the same spirit as Tarkovsky. It strives towards the sublime and has a special sense of capturing a momentary meeting of the conscious and unconscious. She even took part in selecting some of the collages that make up the exhibition in her brother's memory.

The exhibition is structured along the same lines as the famous film from 1975, The Mirror. The film is loosely autobiographical, blending childhood memories, newsreel footage and poems by his father Arseny Tarkovsky. Sviatchenko's exhibition catalogue is a work of art in itself. It is a work with several types of paper, colours, formats and fonts from the graphic designer James Greenhow from London. Apart from Marina Tarkovskaya it contains texts from professor of architecture Viktor Antonov, Mark Le Fanu, lecturer in film history at the Æbeltoft Film School who has written a first book on Tarkovsky in English, the Danish Ambassador to Moscow, Per Carlsen and curator Irina Tchmyreva from Moscow.

This exciting exhibition is showing at **Galleri Image** in Aarhus and curator Tine Rytter Andersen, who was present at the opening, was a keen primus motor for this exhibition.

As Sviatchenko says, 'these works took me over with unlimited strength, and whirled me into a world of new images. Brought up as I was with a different view of reality, they have taken me in countless directions where water and fire have cosmic status,' For that alone it is worth visiting Galleri Image if you happen to be in Aarhus until the 16th of November.

More info on www.galleriimage.dk
www.sviatchenko.dk