
Noah Travis Phillips presents

Menagerie Delegation Visits the Tower to Utopian Aspirations
Делегация зверинца посещает башню утопических устремлений

For **Plague Office** in Kazan, Russia (curated by the artist and Arthur Golyakov)

and simultaneously exhibited at **Rude Gallery** in Denver, Colorado

Spring 2023



The (*inaugural international/internet/inter-archive*) *Menagerie Delegation* is visiting the *Tower to Utopian Aspirations* on a diplomatic mission accompanied by an attaché of *Houseflies*. Noah Travis Phillips' solo exhibition *Menagerie Delegation Visits the Tower to Utopian Aspirations* (*Делегация зверинца посещает башню к утопическим устремлениям*) presents three artworks, all made of multiple parts, and installed throughout the space(s).

Tower to Utopian Aspirations (*Башня утопических устремлений*) consists of 17 parts, and is a collage of cut-to-shape GAN modules, developed by the artist, as part of their ongoing dialogue with publicly-available algorithmic systems. It is an homage to those endless (radical) dreams that the world can visibly, possibly, obviously, be better. It references Suprematism and

Constructivism, *Tatlin's Tower* or the project for the *Monument to the Third International*, as well as the geodesic domes and zones of utopian countercultural communities.

(*inaugural international/internet/inter-archive*) *Menagerie Delegation* ((*первый международный/интернет/межархивный*) *Делегация зверинца*) has its origins in Phillips' private media archive, and contains 39 individual delegates (listed below); different characters in this drama, representing the artist and their ideas and feelings as they travel to opposite sides of the globe/world/planet. The entities in the delegation form an ecology and family of referents, made found and modified images from the artist's archive.

While those two works act as a duet; the *Houseflies* (*домашних мух*) – a suite of more than fifty GAN drawings – perform a kind of chorus. Whether presented primarily as a cluster opposite the other works, or spread more evenly throughout the entire exhibition space, they sing (buzz) together. Other sentient beings trying to make it in the universe, as are we all.

Just as the individual artworks consist of multiple pieces the entire exhibition is multi-centered. Developed as a site-responsive installation for the Plague Office experimental project space in Kazan, Russia the exhibition will also be presented, concurrently, and in a modified configuration, in Denver, Colorado, at the Rude Gallery at Rocky Mountain College of Art + Design. Prints made in Russia are made on A4 size paper. Prints made in Denver are made on Letter-size paper. There is some very slight distortion in the size of the prints and in the exact dimensions of various delegates, depending on how they fit into the subtly different proportions of these dimensions. All assets/files were delivered to Russia digitally, where they were printed and cut to shape by the curator and his team, then installed according to the artist's instructions and guidance.

The delegation is sent to connect, communicate, and to relate – to explore, and to learn – art transcends, exists simultaneously; the virtual/digital/actual/international blurs. The show is a very personal collection that speaks to inter-/trans-national and universal themes. *Menagerie Delegation Visits the Tower to Utopian Aspirations* overcomes distances, in a spirit of creativity and peace, crossing borders, forming a circuit of signification(s), in a worldwide network of art(ists) and rhizomatic possibilities.

Noah Travis Phillips is an artist, educator, and scholar; BA, Naropa University, Fine Art and Environmental Studies; MFA, University of Denver, Emergent Digital Practices. They create adaptable and multicentered artworks that cultivate an anthropocene and posthuman world that is both mythic and personal by activating appropriation and digital/analog remix and collage strategies. Their artworks incorporate 2D / 3D digital fabrication, videos, publications, performance, and the internet. Phillips is Assistant Professor & FabLab Coordinator at Rocky Mountain College of Art + Design, and they have exhibited extensively locally, nationally, internationally, and virtually. They live and work in Boulder, Colorado and can be found online at noahtravisphillips.com.

Works in the exhibition (*Menagerie Delegation Visits the Tower to Utopian Aspirations*)

Tower to Utopian Aspirations
(17 pieces)

(*inaugural international/internet/inter-archive*) *Menagerie Delegation*
(39 different delegates (creatures, entities, beings. animals, phenomena))

Houseflies
(60 flies)

members of the (*inaugural international/internet/inter-archive*) *Menagerie Delegation*:

jackalope drawing	sci-fi alien chanter prayer ritual asking gods
longhair in wind (drawing for LMP PDA)	coyote
mouth speaking plant face	falcon1 (peregrine soaring)
vagina dentata mouth VVV surrealist cover	Extinct and Newly Evolved marks
the wicker man	owl berry multi arm creature bosch plant
salt crystal pair (sqr tri)	White-lemuroid-ringtail-possum_Australia white possum
monkeypaw red	woman riding centaur antique illustration
extinct freeshape	woman in dirt mud nature earth soil image_teorema
Arachne mars volta	horse cloud (windhorse) 1
tesla coil	archeopteryx dinosaur bird classic
pangaea ultima drawing for suite	architeuthis drawing
unsettled weather 1929 paul klee red shape copy	fox running on green painting with shadow
beardo free-shape (for A) Sept2021	silene stenophylla plant revived/regenerated into flowering after 32k years
noah's ark family guy meme chimera hybrid	plant and crystals weed marijuana
sun kind-faced trio	ürpflanze archetypal plant
darkpegasusvictory 000	bindweed-3
bob dylan hair cloud	tree creature woman
figure from <i>19 Necromancers From Now</i> book cover corner	chimera sphinx with sphere
eel on musk ouroboros (for tattoo)	quetzalcoatl feathered serpent - parrot python duet/pair
