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The Communist Revolution Was Caused By The Sun

Anton Vidokle

2015, DCP, black/white & color, 33 min., Russian, English. **Producer** Anton Vidokle, Sergei Gooleikov. **Written and directed by** Anton Vidokle. **Director of photography** Ayman Nahle. **Music** John Cale. **Sound design** Jochen Jezussek, Carsten Nicolai. **Editor** Adam Khalil, Meggie Schneider. **With** Kristina Isaykina.

Anton Vidokle, born in 1965 in Moscow, Russia, is an artist, curator, and filmmaker currently living in New York and Berlin. His work has been exhibited internationally. In 1998 he founded e-flux, a publishing platform and archive, artist project, curatorial platform, and enterprise, and in 2008 e-flux journal (along with Brian Kuan Wood and Julieta Aranda). Anton Vidokle was a co-curator of Manifesta 6.

Films

2010: *A Guiding Light with Liam Gillick, New York Conversations* (66 min.). 2012: *Two Suns with Hu Fang* (22 min.), 2084: *A Science Fiction Show/Episode 1* (23 min.). 2014: *2084: A Science Fiction Show/Episode 2: The Fall of Artists' Republic* (18 min.), 2084: *A Science Fiction Show/Episode 3* (22 min.), *This Is Cosmos* (Forum Expanded, 31 min.). 2015: *A Museum of Immortality* (26 min.), *The Communist Revolution Was Caused By The Sun*.

The second installment of Anton Vidokle's trilogy on Russian cosmism, *The Communist Revolution Was Caused By The Sun*, looks at the poetic dimension of the solar cosmology of Soviet biophysicist Alexander Chizhevsky. Shot in Kazakhstan, where Chizhevsky was imprisoned and later exiled, the film introduces Chizhevsky's research into the impact of solar emissions on human sociology, psychology, politics, and economics in the form of wars, revolutions, epidemics, and other upheavals. It aligns the life of post-Soviet rural residents and the futurological projects of Russian cosmism to emphasize that the goal of the early Soviet breakthroughs aimed at the conquest of outer space was not so much technical acceleration, but the common cause of humankind in their struggle against the limitations of earthly life.

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