



### {rodina} group

{rodina} (that means {motherland} in russian) is an artistic group making experimental political art based in saint petersburg, russia. {rodina} was found on the 1<sup>st</sup> of september of 2013 when making its first performance in a form of a school dictation titled “motherland” dealing with deconstruction of patriotic clichés. it was suggested to write down the dictation to the chance visitors of a bar, while texts compounding it were telling either about magnificent walls of moscow kremlin, or about motherland for worms and molluscs, or about loving one’s motherland with all one’s heart, all one’s soul and all one’s mind. since then the patriotic myth and the discourse of authority became central figures of {rodina}’s investigative interest. beginning with this quite poetic action {rodina} is still somehow working in the field of the language of authority, expropriating, profaning, subverting it and searching for sacrosanct places of its absence.

today it’s rather easy to deconstruct the discourse of authority: it’s often enough just to repeat that that was said already to reveal its absurdity without making any effort. that’s why the creative work of {rodina} in whole can be regarded as a form of critical realism: {rodina} doesn’t invent anything, but just says and does as it is. even more: actions of {rodina} often turn out to be prophetic: it seems that {rodina} thinks up some hell – but soon the news tell that this hell is already taking place. today it’s very easy to make prophecies in russian federation. and even more: there is no prophet in his federation, but just because the federation outruns the prophecies, as well as the patrials outrun the directives from the center in their zeal.

it seems to us that we hold a sort of strange dialogue with an absent person (society? authority?). we make something and say: this is art. but the absent person answers: no, this is not, this is just how it is in life.

we compete with reality in grotesque, incredibility and squalor

we call our art political, but it's impossible now in russia to make non-political art

now in russia it's impossible to make art at all

in russia it's impossible to work quietly

in russia it's impossible to work at all

because in russia one can make only art

that's the dialogue (or monologue?), so it goes



{родина}

since 2013 {rodina} has made dozens of performances and street actions dealing with questions of power and institutions (for example, with (non)differentiation of state and motherland), centered on such figures as war, police, sacred etc.

{rodina} on the internet:

<https://www.facebook.com/rodina.group>

[https://vk.com/rodina\\_group](https://vk.com/rodina_group)

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2N6vzm1Z5ihJrQCr1uPR\\_w](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2N6vzm1Z5ihJrQCr1uPR_w)