

It is but a single step from Utopia to the absurd – a fact familiar to the generation of Russian painters who worked in the deconstruction of Soviet ideological symbols. Alexander Kaletski began his career as a visual artist after settling in the United States, at a safe distance from his socialist homeland and its ideology. It was only natural that like his contemporaries, he experienced a passionate desire to create something radically different from the seriousness of the Socialist Realism, whose utopian aspirations were expressed in dogmatic language and the politicization of any and all subject matter. Western modernism and Russian avant-gardism were the poles of attraction and inspiration to those independents departing from the socialist realist canon. Though Kaletski fully appreciated the importance of both Malevich and Warhol in an advanced capitalist society, he decided to dedicate his creative energy to trash conceptualism while nevertheless retaining figuration.

1946 Born, Montegorsk, Russia

1975 Emigrated to United States

Education

1965-69 Theatre Institute, Moscow

Solo Exhibition

2005 “White Rain,” Spike Galley, New York, New York

2003 “Headlines,” Dillon Gallery, Oyster Bay, New York
“American Breakfast” Gomez Gallery, Baltimore, Maryland

2002 “Cardboard Museum,” Nassau County Museum of Art, New York
“Out of the Box,” Dillon Gallery

2001 “Cardboard Box,” The Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, Connecticut

2000 “Women Only,” Dillon Gallery, New York

1999 “Paper Heroes,” The Museum of Contemporary Art, Minsk, Belarus

1998 “Wallpaper Heroes,” Dillon Gallery, New York

1997 “Nude Colony,” Dillon Gallery, New York

1996 “Cardboard People,” Dillon Gallery, New York
“Split Personality,” Gwenda Jay Gallery, Chicago

1995 “Dead Ancestors,” Dillon Gallery, New York

1994 “Dreams of a Window Cleaner,” Dillon Gallery, New York

1993 “People In Boxes,” Z Gallery, New York

1989 “Rectangles,” Andre Zarre Gallery, New York

1987 “Angular People,” Schiller-Wapner Gallery, New York

1977 Princeton University, Princeton

1976 Indiana University, Bloomington
Columbia University, New York

1975 Saratoga Art Center, Saratoga

Group Exhibitions

2002 Ralls Collection, Washington, DC

1999 “Fifth Annual Invitational Exhibition,” Dillon Gallery, New York

1998 “Summer Group Exhibition,” Dillon Gallery, New York

1997 “Black or White,” Dillon Gallery, New York

1996 “Past-Post,” Dillon Gallery, New York

1995 “Flowers, NYC,” Dillon Gallery, New York

1992 Alex Edmund Gallery, New York

1991 Z Gallery, New York

Bibliography

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G Q Magazine, December 2003

Oyster Bay Guardian, “Kaletski *Comes Out of the Box*,” May, 2002

De Haagsche Courant, “Gevangen in Karton”, December 6 2000

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Nude Colony; A. Kaletski, Dillon Gallery Press, 1997.

Cardboard People; A. Kaletski, Dillon Gallery Press, 1996.

Dead Ancestors; A. Kaletski, Dillon Gallery Press, 1995.

Metro: A Novel of the Russian Underground; A. Kaletski, Viking Press, 1985.

LDB Interior Textiles, “On the Edge: Wallpaper Heroes,” October 1998

The Villager, “Russian Artist Reads it in the ‘Papers’,” September 30, 1998.

Cover Magazine, Volume 12, Number 5, October 1998.

Gallery Guide, November 1997.

Art News, “Reviews,” February 1997.

The Villager, “A Russian Explorer Tests American Freedoms,” October 2, 1996.

Cover Magazine, October 1996.

Associated Press, “Out from the Underground,” September 1996.

Gallery Guide, September 1996.

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Harpers Magazine, December 1995.

The Economist, September 1995.

Gallery Guide, Downtown Preview, September 1995.

Frankfurt Allgemeine, August 19, 1995.

La Libre Belgique, "Les Multiples Vies d'Alexander Kaletski," March 28, 1989.

Manhattan, "From Russia With Love," 1988.

Manhattan Pace, "Art In America," 1988.

Honey, London, October 1985.

The Sunday Tribune, "Metro Man," October 27, 1985.

Midweek, "Red Alert," October 3, 1985.

The Irish Times, "Beating The System," September 7, 1985.

Daily Mail London, "Durrant's," September 3, 1985.

Newsday, "From A Russian, With Love," June 12, 1985.

International Herald Tribune, "From Soviet Gray To Manhattan Glitter," June 5, 1985.

The Washington Post, "Steps Of An Émigré," May 29, 1985.

Christian Science Monitor, "Novel of Soviet Underground is Great Bear-Hug of a Book," May 29, 1985.

The Washington Post, "Style: Out of the Underground," May 29, 1985.

